

PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE OF AN INTERNSHIP

Our philosophy concerning an internship may be different than most, so please allow me to explain it.

Most interns go to DO something as their main goal. Although in some cultures this may be possible, in most of the European cultures it is not. The language barrier is to be reckoned with and until it is, much meaningful service is impossible. Therefore, service (at first) as the number one goal is most unrealistic.

Whereas at least half of the missionaries sent throughout the world never complete two terms of service, it appears to us that the intern should concentrate on preparation for the rough settling years. Most "service" interns only experience an established, working church. Thus, they never experience the effort it was to set it up and if they return, they are often not prepared to do this ground work. Without this solid foundation a lasting work is unlikely.

We believe that an internship should include some service but it should, more importantly, equip the intern to 1) make an intelligent decision concerning future permanent foreign work; and to 2) be prepared to face the first few years of settling and beginning church work. With this goal / philosophy in mind we would like to present to you the following requirements and programs.

REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Sponsoring church: We need one specific church which will recommend you and take responsibility for you. You should be well known in this church and should have served there. This church will act as a forwarding agent and help in accepting funds and forwarding those funds on to you.
- 2) Insurance: We need the name of your health insurance company. You need to check with them to make sure that you will be covered in Europe for the length of time you plan to stay.
- 3) Practical church work: This may be teaching Sunday school, youth group, children's church or serving as a minister in some capacity. If you are doing nothing for the kingdom where you are now a change of location may not change that.
- 4) 20 years old: Exceptions to this may be made (but don't hold your breath).
- 5) One year of a foreign language either in high school or college. This can be any language. English grammar in college and a year of phonetics in college may be substituted for a foreign language.
- 6) Completed application, 3 completed reference forms and 30 Euro. American dollars are not acceptable. You might as well start now learning to exchange money. You can exchange money at your bank if you give them advance warning. This is for postage and other expenses that we will have here in Germany.

PROGRAMS:

3 Months

- 1) It can be any three months agreed upon by both the on-field mentor and intern.
- 2) It includes:
 - 2 months of language school as needed.
 - 2 or 3 week-trips to observe established works.
 - Orientation to Peine, Hannover and Germany.
 - Some sightseeing.
 - Possibly helping in an English Bible study or conversation group.
 - Work in Peine Church as possible according to your gifts and German

7 Months

- 1) It can be any (6 or) 7 months agreed upon by both the on-field mentor and intern. Preferably summer and either spring or fall semester.
- 2) Christmas will be spent in Europe. This is for 2 reasons:
 - a) to see how the intern can handle being away from home during a family-gathering;
 - b) The Midwinter Rally is usually around this time and should be attended.
- 3) It includes:
 - 4 months of language school.
 - 2 months working in established works.
 - 1 month of travel to visit other church workers in other countries or to research other areas for future work.
 - At least one of the European conventions: the Midwinter Rally in English or a German language retreat.
 - Possibly helping in an English Bible study or conversation group.
 - Church work

1 Year

- 1) This can be any 12 month period agreed upon by both the on-field mentor and intern. It will consist of an unbroken 12 months in Europe.
- 2) It will include:
 - 4 to 6 months of language school.
 - 3 to 4 months of working with an established church.
 - 2 months of travel visiting other church workers in Europe and research for future work.
 - At least one of the European conventions: the Midwinter Rally in English or a German language retreat.
 - Possibly helping in an English Bible study or conversation group.
 - Church work

In all three programs the intern will be expected to visit various churches and keep a journal of observations. Also, he will be expected to try to develop contacts by meeting people in language school and other possible ways.

The intern will be expected to complete the entire period of the chosen internship. Leaving early will be possible after discussion with and the approval of the on-field mentor.