

## How We Found a Treasure

### Testimony from Estonia-outreach in summer 2016

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This testimony is from a mission trip to Estonia that took place in summer 2016. Apart from programs for children and adults we also did an activity called 'Treasure Hunting' - many of us for the first time (including me). The goal is to find specific people to whom God literally sends you and you offer them a prayer, share gospel, bless them or encourage them. So how do you 'Treasure Hunt'?

Firstly you need a map. Everyone in a small group has a paper with the same categories (e.g. place, name, problem, special feature/attribute..). Everyone prays shortly that God would show them some specific clues for any of the categories mentioned. It is not a goal to fill the whole paper but only to write down specific clues that God will show you. The group then gathers together all the clues and goes out to find 'treasures'.

How it went for us? (*I'll mark our clues in italics*). As we gathered our 'maps' together we found out that we had a lot of same or similar clues. We went out full of expectations. But for the first thirty minutes we did not even catch a glimpse of anyone also being in the places matching those from our maps (*shop, park*). There was one young Estonian lady in the group and she had an idea to go to another place with a shop and a park. On this square was also *an orange house* in front of *the shop*, but we didn't have a lot of time left. All of us kind of felt we are in the right place and we didn't want to go anywhere else. After a few moments *lady with a stroller* came out of the *shop*, she also had *a skirt* so we addressed her with the last hope that she might be the 'treasure'. During the conversation we also noticed that the stroller had *an orange-green color* with *a flower* theme all around it! What an accident, isn't it?

During a short conversation the lady told us she used to go to Jehovah's Witnesses but she doesn't seek God any more now. She also had a problem with *'chesty coughing'* - that was also a funny moment, because when we mentioned this clue the lady immediately started to cough badly so everyone laughed. On the other hand she also had a tear in her eyes during the conversation. Girls prayed with her for a short time, invited her for the next program in the church and we all said goodbye encouraged in the end. I personally think that for the lady this could be a real reminder from God that He didn't forget about her and neither should her.

For me this was one of the moments when 'heaven touches the earth' - God seeking concrete people using His church in many different ways. I know that this might sound like a 'common phrase' but Jesus is alive and a lot of times He works in ways that might be 'weird' or 'unacceptable' for us (like this kind of was to me). But when He works it's always eternally meaningful and it's worth being part of it!

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