

Report on the October 2017 Blending in Europe

During the month of October, an unprecedented experience of blending took place throughout Europe. Beginning on October 5-7, 2017, the International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (ITERO) was held in Leipzig, Germany. Over 1,900 brothers, including almost 500 European brothers from 27 European countries, attended to receive the Lord's up-to-date speaking on the recovery of the church.

Following the ITERO, over 1,200 saints travelled to 21 countries across Europe to participate in one of 30 different blending trips. More than 40 local churches were visited during these blending trips. The local churches were greatly strengthened by the flow of life brought by so many visiting saints, who were joyfully received by the saints in the many cities visited. One local brother from the United Kingdom expressed that these blending times were truly seasons of refreshing for himself and for his locality. Another local saint from Latvia shared,

This blending in Riga was an amazing opportunity to be with the saints from other places yet feel the oneness in the Spirit. All the saints are so precious! When we see so many saints enjoying the Lord together, we start to realize the meaning of the Body of Christ!

For both the local saints and visiting saints alike, the blending trips left a deep impression concerning the reality of being members one of another.

In the blending of the churches we receive nourishment, we receive revelation, and we receive a vision of God's eternal purpose concerning Christ and the church. Such a blending is not only for our own mutual spiritual benefit but is also for the mutual building up of the Body of Christ. (*1993 Blending Conference Messages concerning the Lord's Recovery and Our Present Need*, p. 48)

A visiting sister mentioned that she has been praying for Europe for many years but actually seeing and being with the local saints changed her prayers from being abstract to real and full of burden and love. Another local saint from Hungary testified,

We cannot thank the Lord enough for this wonderful blending time He arranged; it was almost too good to be true! Having so many visiting saints, full of the Lord's supply, was incredibly shepherding and encouraging. We cannot wait for more saints to migrate here! We also really sensed the prayers of the Body. There has been an incredible flow of life here in these last few weeks. Unprecedented!

During the blending trips, saints also distributed over 35,000 Recovery Versions of the New Testament as well as thousands of pieces of literature. Many seeking contacts were met, and continued prayer is needed that the local saints would have the capacity to shepherd and care for these ones. In Germany alone over 31,000 Recovery Versions of the New Testament were distributed. Almost 60 German cities were visited, including over 50 university

campuses. We thank the Lord that He is answering our prayers to revive His work in Germany.

The blending trips across Europe concluded with nine regional conferences on October 14 and 15. Originally, only eight cities were holding conferences, but because of the large number of registrants in the French-speaking world, a conference in Brussels was arranged just a few weeks before the conference date. Over 4,300 saints attended the nine conferences. The conferences were a respeaking of the rich messages from the ITERO, and it was clear that the Lord was taking another major step to recover His church and the church life in Europe. During this time, we are happy to report that the saints enjoyed the first Lord's table in both Copenhagen, Denmark, and Kraków, Poland. In the Balkans a brother testified of the impact the regional conference had on the local saints:

For the regional conference, we really felt that the Lord was taking several important first steps. It was the first conference or large setting that many of the newer saints had ever attended. It was the first time many of the saints throughout the Balkans have been with each other. On Saturday evening there was a meeting of the brothers from the Balkans, in which most of them met each other face to face for the first time. Our prayer is that the Lord would continue this among us in the region after such a glorious beginning.

First Corinthians 12:24b says, "But God has blended the body together." In a continent with a population of over 740 million people representing so many ethnic groups and languages, it is truly remarkable that an expression of the Body of Christ is being manifested in Europe.

Concerning blending Brother Lee says,

Without the blending, the Lord has no way to go on with us. Blending is the Body, blending is the oneness, and blending is the one accord—it is all these things. (*Fellowship Concerning the Urgent Need of the Vital Groups*, p. 88)

May the Lord continue to gain the blending He needs for His testimony throughout Europe and all the earth.

For further detailed reports on the blending in each of the regions, please visit: amanatrust.org.uk/reports.