

She Saw God's Love

HUNGARIAN CHANGED THROUGH THE WITNESS OF MISSIONARIES

Story by Cara Denney

In 1999, Hungarian national Ágnes, a daycare worker at “Napsugár” (in English, “House of Sunshine”) in Kaposvár, Hungary, watched American missionaries as they lovingly and gently cared for the disabled children she served daily. Ágnes, known as Ági, wondered why the missionaries were there. What stood out to her was “their extraordinary love, such as I’d never seen before in my life.”

The missionaries had been led by Pastor Phil Metzger and his wife Joy, who had come to Hungary to help plant a Calvary Chapel in Kaposvár. Ági, not yet a believer in Jesus Christ, began attending the English Club at the church and hanging out with the missionaries, learning English. At the same time, God began teaching her about Himself and what it means to love and serve others from His heart. “I was learning so many new things through these people God had sent into my life,” she explained. During a Thanksgiving party with the Americans in 1999, Ági surrendered her life to Jesus and has never looked back.

She exclaimed enthusiastically, “One of the verses that especially was used to draw me to Him was Ephesians 1:6-7: ***To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.***”

“*Grace, accepted in the Beloved, redemption, and forgiveness of sins*—when I first heard these words all those years ago, it was so new to me, but it was what my heart had been longing for all along, and still it makes my heart rejoice even today,” Ági added.

In 2002, she briefly attended Calvary Chapel Bible College, which had recently moved from Austria to Vajta, Hungary. She also served as the campus nurse and later as a translator for Bible studies and classes. Ági traveled to Nigeria as part of the international outreaches from the Bible college, and in 2010 she moved there to serve at Calvary Chapel Abuja.

In Nigeria she met Solomon Ishaku, a godly, principled man of the Word with a heart and smile to match Ági’s. They married and served together at a growing church.



Photo by vivienneaomi photography

Then their first child, daughter Abigel, was born. In time the Lord led them back to serve in Hungary where they welcomed sons Levi and Nathan. She gave birth to another daughter, Hannah, this August.

After six years of serving at CC Pécs, God led Solomon, Ági, and their children back to Kaposvár. Despite the fact that life in Hungary is not always easy for a man of color, Solomon supports his family while also serving on the worship team and in men’s ministry. Ági continues with “whatever is needed in the church,” interpreting for Bible studies and helping in womens’ ministry. She also serves at an orphanage, church thrift store, nursing home outreaches, and at a sister church in the town of Vese. Much like 20 years ago, Ági juggles busy days of watching children, going to English classes at Calvary Chapel Kaposvár, and hanging out with foreign missionaries—only now the children are her own, she teaches the English class, and one of the foreign missionaries is her African husband.

“Never did I imagine when I first met those American missionaries stumbling to make a connection with me in their broken Hungarian, the radical way my life would change and the many twists and turns God would lead me on in this adventure of walking with Him,” Ági declared. Among those changes is the extraordinary love she learned from those who knew Jesus—which continues to radiate from her today. She concluded, “I will forever be a student, but now also a teacher for others who, just like me, are longing to know what it means to be ‘accepted in the Beloved’ through the Gospel.” 🙌