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english

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

(Matthew 2,10)

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Set off!

Dear friends of go4peace,

He was young and dynamic - full of ideas. His life and the world lay open before him. The young man lived 2000 years ago, during the time of the nativity story, as a stargazer. At night he would dream about life on distant shores. At the same time everything around him felt small and narrow, dull and monotonous day to day life. Work and stress during the week and then trying to escape at the weekends. Chilling, relaxing, chatting, dancing, partying, playing, exercising, visiting... but deep down in his heart he still felt a lack of peace and fulfilment. There was a deep longing in his heart. He felt a strong inner urge. There must be more to life. He had to escape!

Something bright – like a star. He found two companions. Together the three of them – the three wise men - dared to make their escape. They let go and set off. They dared to enter life, guided by a shining light in their hearts. They followed the star of their longing. Then – after a long an arduous journey- they found a child. It lured them out of their shells. They fell to their knees and prayed. In this moment God touched their hearts. Their longing was fulfilled. A deep joy overcame them. They met Jesus without a wish list; all they asked for was to be in his presence. Face to face, harking, listening and praying, they got to know his appearance. God is no longer an idea to them. They had met HIM on their journey.

Christin too had dared to escape. After she left school, she let herself be sent to her family's country – to Russia. For one year she delved into a world that she did not know, vigour and expanse, hardship and poverty. "I often cried at night. It was too much for my young soul! But again and again there were people that cared for me!" While she was telling me this, I could see the joy of the stargazers in her eyes. She had dared and had escaped. She had found! "**Set off!**"

for the go4peace-Team

Meinolf Wacker