go peace Building Bridges

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english

## Say good words!

Say the word, and my servant will be healed! (Lk 7:7)

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## Dear friends of go4peace,

"I'm thinking of you! You're not alone!" Such words are a real encouragement in difficult times – before an exam, before a medical procedure, at the beginning of an uncertain future. It acts like a rock in the surf that gives support. You remember the person who told you that word. Maybe you'll say it again quietly. You can feel how good it is for you and gives you hope.

Every word that is said has a certain effect. Good words make you strong, bad words or even "fake news" unsettle and hurt. A roman centurion at the time of Jesus knew the effect of honest words. He wanted to help a sick person from his household and trusted in the effect of Jesus' words. But he also didn't want to put too much strain on Jesus. So he let him know: "Say the word, and my servant will be healed!"

After years, it was time for a young student to say goodbye to our city. I had been able to support her and give her strength in some difficult situations. It was not easy for her to say goodbye. So I offered to take her to the train station in the neighboring city. She gladly accepted. When we arrived at the train station, we still had time for a cappuccino. We didn't say much. It was enough just to be there. Then I accompanied her to the platform, carrying her suitcase. There was a lot of hustle and bustle in the station area. Then came the farewell. "Thank you for your deep trust. My prayer will accompany you," I told her. I stayed and waved until the train left the station. Later I received a WhatsApp. "How nice that I was able to spend the last hours before my departure with you. This has given me so much strength and hope. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You've become like family to me!" — Say good words!

for the go4peace team

Meinolf Wacker