



# LAUNCH

TWO YEARS ON MISSION IN EUROPE

## **BERLIN, GERMANY**

**with Luke Baublet,  
Rachael and Jon  
Hastings, and Justin  
and Joanne Bessert**



# Program Overview

## *Three Years to Make an Eternal Impact*

The Launch program is specifically designed to expose participants to all aspects of what is required to be an effective cross-cultural Gospel worker. It accomplishes this by deploying cohorts of three to six people for 2 years to work alongside some of GEM's most effective missionaries in a variety of strategic locations. You can expect to receive customized training in support raising, discipleship, church planting, community development, and in some cases language learning. In addition to the structured training programs and curated ministry opportunities, each cohort will be hosted by a dedicated mentor couple or team whose goal is to personalize the experience for you and help you become as effective as possible. While this program is designed as a structured 2-year missions experience, those who feel God's further call on their lives can transition to full time service at numerous points along the way.

## *Program Snapshot:*

**Year 1: Application, orientation, support raising training, and coaching**

**Year 2: Launch to Europe, cultural and language training, discipleship training, active participation in ministry**

**Year 3: Transition from training to more focused ministry in a variety of settings**

# Discover Berlin



**Berlin is one of the most influential cities in all of Europe - politically, economically, and culturally.** And yet, the population of people there who claim to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ hovers just above 1% in a city of 3.8 million.

Former East Germany, as a whole, with Berlin at its hub, **is considered to be one of the most atheistic places in the world,** making it one of the most strategic, yet unreachable, regions. T

he scars of past wars and division are still evident in this city, **full of people who need to know the hope available to them, through the love of God.**

# What makes Berlin unique?

## Diversity

Berlin is a major cultural center for diversity in both Germany and Europe, with hundreds of different countries represented including 14 unreached people groups. Riding the subway just a few stops can make it feel as though you have stepped out into an entirely different part of the world. The recent refugee crises and other major causes of human migration have led to Berlin becoming an even more diverse space, filled with people looking to build their lives in a new place.

## Authentic

The unspoken motto of Berlin is “live and let live” which has resulted in a cultural landscape dedicated to the idea of individual expression. Every time you step on a bus or a subway, you’ll come face to face with people living out their “authentic” self through clothing choices, hair styles, tattoos and so much more. Every time you get off at a station, you’ll find yourself surrounded by a city plastered in stickers and graffiti placed there by people trying to leave their mark. What’s presented on the outside points to a deeper wrestling with questions of identity, belonging, and meaning.

## Ever-changing

All the way back in 1910, author Karl Scheffler described Berlin as “a city condemned forever to becoming and never to being.” If only he had known just how prophetic his words would be as the rest of the 20th century played itself out. Berlin as we know it today would be unrecognizable to the people who lived here half a century ago, and that’s been the story of this city since its inception. We hope and pray to be a part of the next wave of transformation the city experiences as people encounter the power of the gospel to change lives.

# Program Specifics

## Program Cost Breakdown

**Monthly Support:** \$4,714.55\*

**One-Time Support:** \$27,968.30\*

*\*These amounts reflect a minimum amount needed. Cost of living in Berlin continues to rise and these numbers may change as that continues. We don't expect participants to be able to live lavishly here but we also don't want them barely scraping by as such stress would detract from the experience and work.*

- **Work alongside the Berlin Focus City Team**
- **Engage with a variety of churches and church styles**
- **Be trained in disciple multiplication practices**
- **Interact with the visual and performing arts communities**
- **Minister to refugees and immigrants**
- **Learn German to a B2 Level**

# Meet

## *The Berlin Team*



*Left to Right: Rachael and Jon Hastings, Luke Baublet (Berlin Focus City Leader), Justin and Joanne Bessert*

The Berlin Focus City Team is spread out across the city in the districts of Wedding, Prenzlauer Berg, and Lichtenberg. They are involved in a wide variety of individual ministries from the arts to church planting, outreach to Russian-speakers, and much more. The Focus City Team hopes to see the gospel move through the city of Berlin through discipleship and church multiplication accomplished by prayer, collaboration, sharing of resources, training, experimentation, and expansion.