

June 9 to 15

Reutlingen District

Neither by power, nor by strength, but by my spirit, says the LORD of heavenly forces.
(Zechariah 4:6)

Foolish

“Anna, can you tidy up your room, please?” “Oh not now Dad, I’m really too tired.” “Yes, now Anna, you know we are going away soon.” Aaah Dad, cool down, I’m just on Skype with Lilli!” “Anna, if you don’t tidy up now, I’m confiscating your mobile, is that clear?!” “Oh man, you’re just so mean, you arse!”

It can happen so quickly, and the argument just escalates. One word leads to another. The pressure then brings retaliation. That can happen when one shares a house with a teenager, but also in the workplace and in politics. In the end, it comes down to who is the stronger. It shouldn’t happen through strength or power, however. But in today’s world, these words of God sound almost crazy. What is needed here? Doesn’t it surely require a word of authority from God? How else can right be achieved?

As Christians we believe in an almighty God, who helplessly hung on a cross. Paul called that the “foolishness of the cross”.

God doesn’t force us. He would rather die than take away a person’s freedom to choose. Only the defenceless love of God has the power to conquer hate, evil and death itself. Change doesn’t occur through power, but rather through God’s spirit of love. For this reason, we have Good Friday and Easter – and Pentecost. That’s what I want to hear. That’s what I want to believe. That’s what I want to guide me.

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LET US PRAY

- for all who sometimes feel they have no strength or power
- for the victims of violence and terror
- for churches in which the unfortunate struggle for power arises
- for each one of us, that we never lose faith in God’s power of love

Reutlingen District

The Reutlingen District covers an area which stretches from the northern Black Forest into the Allgäu and from Heidenheim to Schwenningen. The Black Forest, Alps and Lake Konstanz typify the District – as does the business activity around Reutlingen. The District has 27 circuits with around 65 churches.

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