

The Toc Family Newsletter **Your Missionaries to Romania**



”Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Matthew 25:40)

Dear Pastors, Prayer Warriors and “Family:”

Covid-19 "negative" so far, but "positive" God is at work

We praise the Lord for protecting us from the virus thus far. Though our exposure is high, God’s hand is upon us as we carry out His ministry in spite of the unprecedented challenges we face. The situation here has gotten desperate with infection rates 40 times higher than before, suicides increasing, and no beds available in ICU in any other hospital. Almost 50 doctors have died, about 25% of the medical staff has been infected, our November death rate was the highest ever, and our morgues are full, with bodies being stored in freezer trucks until burial. Moreover, one ICU hospital wing caught fire, and ten people died in their beds in untold agony and pain. The only bright spot in this pandemic is that when the situation grows desperate, people are more willing to hear what God has to say. Christmas also is a season when the hearts of many are softened toward the Lord. Since our mission is to invest our lives in fulfilling the Great Commission in Romania and beyond, the pandemic and Christmas taken together provide a wonderful opportunity to powerfully and practically make Him known. During this challenging time, God has directed us to take Him to the least of the least. These are families whose desperate spiritual and physical needs make them more ready than ever to listen to the gospel.

Recently, while asking God for another family to reach and invest in, we meet Mr. C and his family. During the pandemic they lost everything, including their apartment, and had to move into a shack in a field by the side of a railroad. When I found them they had no food, medicine, or help of any kind. He told me the apples pictured in the photo which follows were the very last thing they had to eat. On the next day he had planned to begin stealing from nearby stores to feed his family. Quickly we brought them groceries, a propane cook stove, and wood for heating. Truly people aren’t ready to hear the gospel message until they know you care for them personally. We all began to pray that God would touch their hearts. As we witnessed to them, I noticed that their youngest son was weak and sad, so we took him to the hospital. It was found that the child had many intestinal worms and bleeding. Though he was not admitted, we got meds and treatment for him as well as the entire family. Many prayers were offered, and soon the boy got better and stronger. At that point I was able to pray with them and give them a *Bible* as a special gift. The mother already has made a decision for the Lord, and we are praying that Mr. C will be next. He does not know how to read well and cannot go to school for more education, but he promised to improve his ability by reading the Bible to himself and his family. I am counseling Mr. C in many areas, especially to answer his questions as to how God can work in his life through Jesus Christ. Our desire and prayer is to see him and his children saved and planted in a solid gospel-preaching church. We pray that God will use them to reach others in their extended family.

Here is what Mr. C says about our witness to him: **“You must be an angel sent from God.”** **“I had been praying for God to send someone to us, and then you came.”** **“I feel so different and so good when you come and visit and we talk, not like others who are mean and judgmental, but as friend-to-friend.”** **“God is using you in our lives and our family.”** When I visit this precious family we always end in a circle, holding hands together and praying out loud. I wish I had photos to share of our prayer time. Even more, I wish you could be there to feel the presence of the Spirit at work. Now when I visit the baby boy jumps into my arms and the first thing he says is, “Let’s pray together.” I believe this family – ***“one of the least”*** - has a special place in the heart of God. None of this would be possible without folks like you who believe in the power of prayer, in giving and investing for eternity. Without you we could not be here reaching lost and hurting souls like the “C” family. Would you pray and consider making a gift before the end of the year so we can continue ministering to them and others? The physical needs are great, but the spiritual opportunities are even greater. We will not cease to ask God to help us so we can give to others what we ask for ourselves. Please be steadfast in prayer for the salvation of this family and others to whom we minister. In addition to their salvation please pray for our and their physical needs: food, personal support, and more firewood for the winter. Our desire is to be a conduit for the blessings we request for ourselves. Thank you for being part of our lives and ministry. May God reward you tenfold.

In His Service,

Daniel and Daniela

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