

SnapsHots

Lawrences'

July - August
2010



An Open Window

Next to the church we attend is a psychiatric hospital. A few Sundays ago I was taking Sienna outside. I noticed a lady in her early twenties leaning up against the fence. There were several parents with young children outside and I assumed the young lady was there watching them play. But later as I passed back by, it hit me; she was listening to the preacher's message which could easily be heard through an open window. The speaker was preaching on the grace of God and salvation. I immediately felt burdened to pray for her. I stopped and prayed that God would open her heart to the Gospel.

It is refreshing to see that God is certainly at work. There in a dark hour of her life God brought her near that fence and saw to it that a window was opened for her, so that she might hear about His wonderful grace and the gift of the Lord Jesus.

Sola Fide Sola Scriptura

Our language professor had been reading a book about religious history in France and came across the story of the Albigensians and how the Catholic Church slaughtered them during the Albigensian Crusade. During class one day she asked me, "How can the Church condone and even justify such actions?" We discussed if the Pope or Catholic Church was infallible. She said that she must not be a very good Catholic because she could not believe that the Church is not guilty of grievous crimes against humanity, which they would prefer to overlook. That was a great opportunity to talk about things like the Reformation and faith in Christ vs. trust in a church or traditions. We discussed that only the Bible is unchanged and the one trustworthy source of truth. Pray for her, God is definitely working in her heart.

Financial Support

Over the last few months we received letters from a couple of churches that have hit times of crises and are no longer able to provide financial support. In both situations it is due to circumstances beyond their control. Between the two it will comprise nearly 10% of our current promised support level.

Visas

Once again we are in the yearly process of applying for visas. We have already received approval for one year. Now we just have to jump through the hoops with the Immigration Offices and several other institutions to finish the process. In the end it will cost us over \$1000 for all the taxes and fees (read more on our website).

Bible Study

While we have been in language school, we have been praying for the Lord's leading in our next ministry step. One ministry we'd like to start is a home Bible study. Several individuals are interested and we are hoping to start in September. The university students have just begun returning and are preparing for the new school year. Cluj is a major crossroads in Romania and Eastern Europe. We have been told around 200,000 students move to Cluj each year, nearly doubling the population. What a great opportunity!

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