



October 2009

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ from Eastern Europe,

We are nearing the end of 2009 and already we begin to reflect on the goodness of the Lord toward us in accomplishing what He called us to do together with you. Your prayers, giving, and all of the things done for the Kingdom of God in the Name of Jesus will not be lost. *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* Matthew 6:19-21. As you participate in this Kingdom work you have already laid up this treasure. Thank you for your heart as you continue to lift up our hands to make a difference in the lives of the precious people in Eastern Europe.



Ghiorghi comforts one of the elderly ladies, who devoted her life to praying for a church in her village and was blessed to see that prayer answered.



120 youth in the Ukraine heard the word of God at an evangelistic meeting held by GMI supported national missionaries.

You are caring for the orphans and the elderly widows. You are reaching the lost through evangelistic meetings. You are reaching the youth. You are visiting those in prison. You are planting churches. *“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’”* Matthew 25:37-38. Through the national missionaries supported by GMI, 500 children, youth and staff received the Word of God at a summer camp in Romania, Moldova, or Transnistria in 2009. Half of them made a commitment to serve the Lord at these camps. An additional 120 youth in Ukraine heard the Word of God at an evangelistic meeting. Churches are being built in Terebna, Carpenini, and Drochia. Pastors and their wives received encouragement and training on marriage. Women received training on ministering to other women. Men and women in prison received the Lord and have a place to go when they get out of prison. Orphans are being raised up in Christian homes. The Kingdom of God is advancing in new territory, and all this is being accomplished as we co-labor together with the Lord.

Taking new territory and holding what we have is a spiritual battle fought on our knees. Godlessness is described in 2 Timothy 3:2-5 *“People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.”* We see it is the reality of our time. May the Lord help us to be faithful to Him even in these difficult times around the world. The national missionaries, our brothers and sisters in Christ, are praying for the church in the United States. They pray for your strength and encouragement and that the love of God will be present in your lives every day. Our faith can overcome the obstacles and the things in this world we are going through. *“For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power,*

of love, and self-control.” 2 Timothy 1:7. May the Lord help us to live a life of love toward those around us. It is much needed in these times.

We pray that the Lord give us a mind to understand His will and purpose so that we will not act in fear but will act in faith. These times were spoken of two thousand years ago but it is taking place in our generation. We are waiting

for the greatest event of our lives, the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. If we will focus on his ultimate plan and his return, we can go through anything. We pray that the Lord will help us all to *“throw off everything that hinders and the sin which so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, ignoring its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Hebrews 12:1-2. Whatever we do for him we know it will have everlasting value.

One of our national missionaries, Nicu Bodea, now fights the battle of his life. During the Communist years he smuggled Bibles through the port of Constanta into Romania. The KGB was after him. On one of his distribution trips, a blanket covered the Bibles in the back seat of his car. If caught, he could have served 25 years in prison. At a Communist check station, instead of inspecting his car the guard asked him if he could give a ride to a colonel who needed to get to the city of Brasov quickly. He agreed, and his pastor laid on top of the Bibles in the back seat while giving his front seat to the colonel. The Communist officer was unaware of the precious cargo, but he was used as God's personal guard because no one stopped them.



Nicu Bodea, shown here with his wife, now fights the battle of his life.

Nicu Bodea was an honorable worker, and his Communist boss warned him that he was in danger and urged him to flee the country. In 1989 he escaped into Yugoslavia. He was there for six months and he established a church and baptized 10 new converts in the immigrant camp. The paperwork had been approved for him to come to Chicago. But God gave him a vision that freedom was coming to Romania and he did not get on the plane. In December 1989 he heard the news that freedom had come, and he chose to return and serve the Lord in Romania. He has been a GMI sponsored national missionary for six years, faithfully serving the Lord alongside us. This summer we held a Vacation Bible School with him.

Recently Nicu learned that he is in urgent need of heart surgery. Government-provided healthcare requires a long waiting list and the quality of care is often poor. He can get the surgery done at a private clinic in early October if the payment of \$3000 can be made. His children are working to raise funds. Please pray for the funds to come in. The Lord may place it in your own heart to help him during this challenging time and it will be greatly appreciated.

He is one of 55 national missionaries supported through your continued giving. There are still thousands of villages in Eastern Europe with no evangelical work. Others are trained and ready to be sent out. Please come into agreement in prayer with us that the Lord will enable us to reach new areas.

In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25), we learn that some invested what they had been given and were

called faithful and trustworthy. More was given to them and they shared in the joy of the Master. But one allowed his fear to control him and thought he could hide the money and be safe. In the end what he had hidden was taken from him and given to those who understood how to invest for true riches. Our charge from God is to do good, to be rich in good works, to be liberal and generous of heart, ready to share with others. (1 Timothy 6:18-19). By laying up the riches that endure forever, our future is secure. This is the life we were created to live. May the Lord help us to be found faithful. We love and appreciate each of you and pray for you daily.

Grace, divine favor, and blessing be with you all!

Ghiorghi, Cristina, Nicoleta, Hadassah, David, Leah, and Daniel Cazacu