

ROMANIA MISSIONS

Grace Bible Baptist Church
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Dear Pastors and Churches:

Mission work: Last month was a fruitful and blessed one regarding our missionary efforts. The regular meetings continued as usual here in Bocsa, as well as in all our mission points. The brethren have been active in evangelism and also spent many hours on the phones and on Skype discussing Bible truth with those that are interested. I was able to make a one day trip to Timisoara. It is the largest city nearby and home to many university students. There I made several visits to people that are close to us in truth. I took them our latest publications and we encouraged one another. So far God has not opened a door for regular meetings in that city, but we do what we can.

Trip to Moldova: The highlight of the month was the week long trip that Bro. Dumitru and I took to Moldova (Eastern and N.E. part of Romania) and to Bro. Dumitru's city, Bucharest, Romania's capital. We drove about 1,800 miles, holding meetings in 10 locations. All these people contacted us after being given our literature. I had never met many of them although they have been in touch with us for several years. We received invitations to start mission works in several of these locations. The bad roads in that part of the country and the limited finances we have for these mission trips won't allow us to start such works right now, but we will stay in touch with all of them, will send them literature and we invited all of them to come to our Bible conference next spring. The people we met come from all social classes and educational backgrounds: some live in dire poverty, others have a good situation; some have minimal education while others are very well trained. One person we met is a member of the Romanian Academy (Romania's educational elite in scientific, artistic and literary domains). All of them have a great interest in the doctrines of both grace and church truth and want us to return.

Trip to Bucharest and the possibility of a work there: In several of the past prayer letters I mentioned our burden to start a mission work in Bucharest. The Lord has answered prayers and opened new doors. Many of those whom I met expressed their interest in attending such a group. After all the meetings I had in Bucharest, we believe a Bible study group could be started right away, but we need about 3 months to rent a place near the subway and accumulate a small cushion fund. In order to start it we need to plan ahead as it will require constant expenses in money, time and energy. We don't want to start something and drop it later. Bro. Dumitru, Bro. George and Bro. Aurel Munteanu are ready to start the work (spreading the Gospel on the streets and from home to home, but also they can each take turns teaching the group). I plan on meeting with the group once a month while the rest of the meetings would be taught by these brethren. Once they start the work on the streets we will need to provide them with a lot of Gospel literature. We have funds to cover that cost right now and also my monthly trips there. What we don't know is if we can right now pay the rent for a small apartment (\$400) for meetings and the travel expenses for Bro. George and Bro. Aurel. They live 2 and 4 hours away from the city respectively and will need to travel at least once a week as they will lodge in the city, either with Bro. Dumitru or at the rented meeting place. So please join us in prayer that the Lord will grant us all that we need for such a work. This would be the greatest mission endeavor we have ever undertaken. We know that it is not our work, but the Lord's and He will use it and us for His glory just as He has until now.

Trip to Rome, Italy: Another prayer request is for a mission trip I expect to make to Rome, Italy. My contact there arranged the meetings. I will fly to Rome on Dec. 11th and return the 14th. It will be a busy weekend with several meetings. With clothing in a backpack and a suitcase filled with literature, I am going there to meet primarily with a group that want us to teach them on a regular basis (once a month or so). This first meeting is about knowing one another face to face and seeing exactly where they stand doctrinally. Pray for this group too and for the safety of my trip, please.

Literature work: We are low on or out of many titles and we continue to receive requests for literature. We are reprinting the main titles and also printing new ones. We now have the first copies of Bro. Mark Fenison's *Baptism in the Spirit*, which is the newest book we have printed. We are still waiting for a set of springs for the paper cutter to make it fully functional again. The final process of making books (trimming the edges) is slow right now, but we're glad we can still use it while waiting for the parts. Our translations of Gospel booklets into the German language are progressing. We are preparing the fifth title now. We also have good news about our Russian literature project. I met a man in Bucharest who was trained in Moscow: was formerly part of the Republic of Moldova's diplomatic corp and also worked for years in Kazakhstan. He has the language skills, the knowledge and the desire to translate our materials into Russian at an affordable price. He asked for half the usual price and told us that after he gets better financially he will translate for us free of charge. So we're looking forward to have some materials on grace and church truth into Russian soon. We plan on making these available in electronic format.

I wish to thank you all for the part you're taking in this work by your financial support and by bringing us and our needs to the throne of grace. May the Lord bless you all! **Bro. Raul**

Just a note from Oklahoma: Praise the Lord for thrilling news from Romania! People wanting to be taught the Bible – a rarity these days. Brethren, keep praying that God will supply both strength for the preachers and travel expenses - and raise up more men for the work! Thanks! **Bro. Curtis**