

ROMANIA MISSIONS

Grace Bible Baptist Church
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Dear Pastors and Churches,

Mission work: Our meetings and missionary endeavors continued on all fronts last month. We are thankful for all the opportunities the Lord gave us to preach the Gospel and His truths. Aurel Munteanu is spending a few days every week in Bucharest, where he distributes literature on the streets and meets with people. I will go back to Bucharest toward the end of this month. A special prayer request is for an opportunity I may have to have a public, but informal debate with a "Christian" rock band that's very famous here in Romania. It is still not settled and probably will be more like a Q&A session on different topics. It seems that there will be some in attendance too and the meetings could be televised from what I understand. I was invited to discuss and defend our positions on the doctrines of grace and music. I am praying and seeking the Lord's will in this respect and I ask you to do the same. I believe this could be an opportunity to proclaim the Gospel, the doctrines of grace and church truth to people who have nothing to do with them (a lot of them are Charismatics). Please remember this in your prayers.

Lord willing, in a few days we will have a baptism service. Bro. John and sister Mariana, who live near Bucharest and my Brother, Michael, will stand before the church to ask for baptism. Please remember them in your prayers. We planned to have the baptism earlier, but the river was dangerously high after some heavy rains. We are looking forward to this baptism and to rejoice with them around the Lord's table afterward. Bro. John is a great help for us in the missionary endeavors in Bucharest and has a great desire to distribute literature on the streets and talk with people about the Lord.

Trip to USA: I want to thank all of you for praying for my possible visit to US in August and September. I am waiting for one last letter of invitation and once I get it I will schedule a visa interview with the US Consulate in Bucharest. By next month I will let you know if I am granted a visa or not. I wish to thank all the churches that invited me. When I remember the time of fellowship I had with the churches I visited last time, (6 years ago), my heart is filled with joy. It is such a blessing to be among the Lord's churches. We have no churches nearby with whom we can fellowship as a church. The only other sister church we know is in the opposite corner of Europe, in Cork, Ireland. You are greatly blessed in the U.S. to have sister churches with whom to fellowship. I hope you treasure this blessing. We long for it!

Literature work: We are still waiting for the new equipment to arrive so we can resume printing. We ordered ink and masters and will be ready to start printing as soon as we have the equipment. The distribution of literature continued and we will have a lot of work ahead of us in the following months reprinting several titles. The *Trail of blood* will be our first priority as we ran out of the 3,000 copies we printed before. But soon we will need Gospel literature too. The new equipment will be a great blessing and help in this work: it will help us produce more faster.

Printing equipment: The new printing equipment was supposed to have arrived already, but the transportation was delayed because of some transport restrictions in Hungary. We should have it next week and then the print shop will be fully operational again. We praise the Lord and thank all of you who prayed for this need and to those that contributed to this equipment. It is truly above and beyond what we thought possible. I will send you pictures once it is installed and operational.

Thank you again for your prayers and faithful support!

Encouragement along the way: It is so amazing to see the Lord working. It is overwhelming and humbling to see that He chose your person as a means, as an instrument to bring the Gospel or any life changing truth to some one. Every once in a while, we receive a phone call, a letter, an SMS or an e-mail from people that receive literature which is a real encouragement for us. And I want to share one with you. Last week, Aurel Munteanu was in downtown Bucharest distributing Gospel literature on the streets. An elderly man called me (my phone number is on the tracts) and told me that he just came out from the hospital and had sat on a bench catching his breath and meditating when a man approached him offering him literature. He took it and read one piece right away (my Gospel article, *The Way to Eternal Life*). He was crying when he called me and wanted to thank me for writing it and Aurel from bringing it to him. He wants to meet us when we are there. Later that evening he called me to tell me that a young student that sat on a bench nearby also received the literature from Aurel, but after she finished her cigarette she left and threw the literature away. The old man saw that and picked it up and offered it to a sales lady who was glad to receive it. He wanted to share this with me too. I am mentioning this episode as an encouragement for you too to continue spreading the Gospel. You may not see immediate results, but don't give up! Be faithful in proclaiming the Gospel of the grace of God!

Thank you again for your earnest prayers and faithfulness in supporting this work. *Bro. Raul*