
Prayer Requests

Here are our quick, specific prayer requests for August 14, 2017:

- Our homework assignment for language class on Friday was to write five sentences. Both Catalina and I geared our sentences towards church words. Those sentences sparked a great conversation in class today, and we spent almost the whole time talking about religion. We didn't make much language progress, but that's ok! We found out that our teacher, Corina, calls herself Orthodox but hasn't been to church in years. She loves the tradition of the church but just considers her tradition as worshipping the same God as all other religions. She invited us to go with her to church and also said that she'd like to attend church with us. Pray that these events will come to fruition, that we will have more deep conversations, and that God would be drawing her to himself.
- The usuals - Catalina's hips and pregnancy, friends for Elin, pastor for our church. THANK YOU!

Who We Met

We love that the church here in Romania is truly a community. Those who attend don't get lost in the shuffle because there isn't a shuffle. The tremendous upside to this is that everyone is known by everyone else. Everyone pulls together for each other and it's hard to fly under the radar. While I definitely understand the desire to lay low at times, I think a tight-knit community is a great way to maintain accountability and edification.

There is a downside to this community, however. One reason there isn't much of a shuffle here is because of the religious landscape endemic to much of Romania. Our language teacher, Corina, and Emil, are perfect examples of how many consider themselves religious or believers in God, yet don't follow Him. This means that when some members of our church leave on Sunday, they don't have Christian influences speaking into their lives throughout the week. While this can be somewhat true in the States as well, my experience Stateside is that it's often difficult to get outside of the bubble of Christianity once you're in the bubble.

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learn more of his story. Ionut, a young, single guy, is one who particularly has no other Christian influences in his life throughout the week. He is about to head out to Italy to work with his brother for a few months, which will completely take him away from Christian influence. Please pray that God would hold Ionut tightly. Pray that God would bring Christian influences into his life to edify him even as he travels abroad. Pray that with our limited Romanian and his limited English that God would use us as edifying influences in his life. Pray that God would bring Ionut back from Italy a stronger Christian than when he left, and that God would build him up to be a leader in the church and a transforming force within his surrounding community.

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