



1,000 / 40 for 40: Day THIRTY FIVE



Atti at the park. He had a pajama day, compliments of daddy!

If you haven't noticed yet, Elin wears pants on her head as her hair. She'll

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can imagine how ecstatic she was when we came home from language school and her babysitter Hannah had been able to make four small braids in the back and a tiny ponytail on top of her head! She even slept in it because she didn't want to take it out! Haha!!

Prayer Requests

Here are our quick, specific prayer requests for September 1, 2017:

- As we near the end of our 40 days of prayer, we are already trying to think ahead of how to be intentional about building community in Romania as well as communicating with those back in the States. Please pray for wisdom on our time management and intentionality.
- The usuals - Our visa to come quickly, Catalina's hips and pregnancy, car, friends for Elin, decision about Kindergarten and which one, pastor for our church. THANK YOU!

Who We Met

Once again, we met someone at the park. It isn't really surprising that the park has become a normal meeting place. We have always said that kids are a great way to meet others. Nevertheless, when theory becomes reality, it's far more exciting.

Today we met a grandmother and her grandchild. The grandmother's name is Verica. We chatted for a good bit in Romanian, as the older generation rarely speaks English. It was one of the first times I felt like conversation in Romanian was fairly smooth. Verica said they came to the park often, so we will hopefully meet again.

It isn't at all surprising to meet a grandmother with her grandchild in the park. In fact, I would guess that half of those we see at the park are grandparent/grandchild relationships. While this grandparent involvement is fantastic, it is sometimes indicative of problems within Romania. Time and time again Romanians tell us how hard it is to live on Romanian salaries. Teachers are making 250 euros a month or engineers for Caterpillar are making 500 euros a month. Romanians can't afford to have more than one kid, and

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grandparents with grandkids is always beautiful, in Romania it is a bittersweet sight as we know that separation and hardship are sometimes the reason for seeing this sight with such frequency.

I am not sure what the situation is for Verica. Please pray for her family and for the family structure and cohesion in Romania. Pray for their material provision, but also pray that this provision will not bring with it materialism, as it is often apt to do. Most importantly, pray that God would be drawing Verica and her family to Himself, and that he might use our family and our church in their edification.

SPECIAL NOTE: We are planning on doing a Facebook live video a week from Saturday. We are shooting for 2:30 Eastern on Saturday, September 9. If you are interested, please send us your information so we can add you to the private Facebook group where you can either join us live or watch the video later. We'd also love for you to send us any questions you might like us to address on our video. You can email us questions or post them in our group once we add you. Since we don't have time to contact everyone individually, we're hoping that this will be a good way to answer questions that many may have. Thanks so much for all of your prayer and encouragement!

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