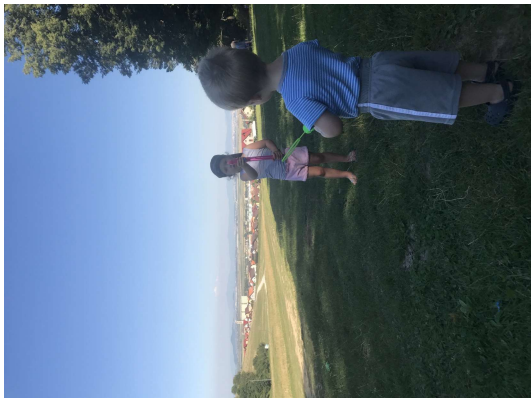




1,000 / 40 for 40: Day FOUR



These are the flowers Nicolae brought to me!

Prayer Requests

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- Derek said that his back felt the teeny tiniest bit better today and we tried hard to let him stay home and lay for as much as possible. So that's so positive. Please keep praying for him!
- I wept for the first time today. Elin has mentioned several times recently how much she misses her friends back home and keeps asking when we're going back to Georgia. And yet any time we try to talk on the phone with our friends and family back home, she is completely silent as I watch grief and confusion flood over her face that she doesn't know how to process. For as much as she wants to talk to her friends and grandparents back home, each time we try it just is too much grief for her to handle, so she shuts down. I know we promised to keep these emails short, so I will. But please pray for her little heart and ours. It doesn't matter how much I KNOW that the Enemy will use this to attack me, it still hurts so badly to hear and see your three-year old experience deep grief that she doesn't know how to process and somewhere deep down struggle to remember that God called her, too. We did not "do this" to her. She is exactly where he Lord planned for her to be, but I have to constantly remind myself of that and fight against guilt because it's so hard to see your babies hurting.

Who We Met

We met Nicolae's wife, Constanta (pronounced almost like Constanza). It's hilarious to us that this tall fence our landlords built still doesn't seem to keep out our elderly neighbors. Nicolae sent Constanta up the ladder to talk to us. We were eating dinner and had the Ebbers kids over so that they could translate for us, which was awesome! She invited us - and specifically the kids - over to their garden one day to see the chickens and the rabbits. Elin is very excited for that!!

Please continue praying for our neighbors, Nicolae and Constanta. Pray that we would be able to develop a relationship with them that bridges this huge fence. But also pray for our patience. We have no doubt that our landlords built the wall for a reason. These neighbors may prove to be very tiring and eventually feel like they're invading our personal space. Sometimes you just want to play in your backyard with your kids and eat dinner without having another tiring (because every conversation with someone in Romanian is exhausting for us!) conversation. Sometimes you just want to relax. So please

