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"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf:

Be reconciled to God." – 2 Corinthians 5:20



# **Apologetics and Theology in Romanian**

Do you agree with this monk's view of Biblical "anti-parenting?" Why does the Protestant Church only recognize two sacraments? What is the Protestant Church's view on saints?

Does it matter if someone is "dunked" or "sprinkled" when baptized? What about when the Spanish Conquistadors baptized whole groups of people - did that "count?"

Does a person need to be married to receive special grace from God? How is God's Old Testament law different from torturous punishment practices in other faiths?

What is the story of the Prodigal Son?

What is the connection between a person's will and submission?

Our language tutor and friend, lonut, was a history major and was baptized into the Orthodox Church. We finished the course workbook last semester, so being the great teacher that he is, he recently asked us what subjects interest us that we could discuss in our class time to help us practice our language skills. From then on, we've been given the questions above - and many others - as our homework assignments and conversation starters in class!

These conversation topics have been incredibly interesting to us, and thankfully lonut says that they are interesting to him, too. (Thank goodness he was a history major!) This has been a difficult exercise for us to attempt in another language, so we enjoy knowing that apparently his preparation for each class is stretching him, too. It has been an awesome way to practice Romanian, discuss the Gospel, and enjoy interesting conversation with a friend. We pray

that the Lord will use these conversations to grow all of us closer to Himself.

Our language class schedule has changed since Denton's arrival. Now Derek goes three days each week and I only go two days. But we are so grateful for the Lord's answer to our prayers for a language helper who could come to our house to help me. Cătălina (yes, the same name as mine only pronounced slightly differently) comes over twice a week to snuggle Denton and talk to me in Romanian over a cup of tea. She's a wonderful friend, and I've learned so much from her. Derek is staying out more often to accomplish different tasks, study the language, and volunteer at a friend's carpentry business to get more practice, while I'm maintaining the home.

Although we still have a long way to go, we've been encouraged as several people have recently said that our accents are good for being foreigners!

#### PLEASE PRAY...

- THANK YOU for your prayers for us while Denton was in the hospital. He's
  doing much better! We've continued having rollercoaster health but at the
  moment are all doing relatively okay and are anxiously awaiting Spring to
  come and hopefully get rid of all of our health struggles. Please continue
  praying for our health.
- Pray for the church here in Codlea. We're hearing a great sermon series on 1Peter, and it is well-timed as it seems that most of us are facing some sort of trial right now. Pray for our church community that these trials will produce in us God's promised perseverance and faith.
- Please pray for us through these next few months of continued language school. We are still planning to focus mainly on language until the Spring.
   Please pray for the Lord's guidance as we begin the research process into how He wants us to best serve here in Romania through university and mercy ministry.
- Please pray for Alexa (not her real name), a local Roma lady. The Lord has brought her into our lives, and she has some significant mercy needs. We have both written about our experiences with her on our blog post and would really encourage you to peruse those posts to get a better understanding of what is going on. (See below)
- Elin is continuing to improve with her anxiety and adjustment here, and we are so very grateful! But please continue to keep her in your prayers.



lonut and his family joined us for dinner and games one night over winter break.

Derek has been on several weekend outings with lonut, and we've been invited to have lunch with them at their home. They are becoming dear friends to us, and we are grateful for them.



Denton has a real affinity for my friend and language helper, Cătălina!



We really want to share more information with you about what God is teaching us as we work with Alexa and her extensive mercy needs, along with some other information about our life here in Romania. We will be doing a Facebook Live event **this Sunday, March 3rd at 3 pm EST** to update you on some of these things. Please feel free to let us

know any questions you may have for us that you'd like us to talk about this Sunday.









Winter in Romania is beautiful. Despite getting a good bit of snow, it has actually been a pretty mild winter. It's really been a nice year to ease into the climate change.









## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

12/31/17 - The Death of Death by Derek

1/04/18 - Those People by Derek

1/27/18 - The Argument for Infant Baptism and Sprinkling by Derek

2/08/18 - My Burnt Offerings by Catalina

2/17/18 - Scary Grandpa's Legacy by Derek

2/22/18 - When Not Helping Hurts by Derek

Check us out on Facebook! We post on Catalina's "From Dacula to Transylvania" album so that you can stay up to date with us. You can also follow our photos on instagram. But best, of all, you should let us know if you want to join our secret Facebook Group to get more updates!













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## Kreiders in Romania: February Newsletter

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Want to send us something? Check out this link for more information on how to get it to us!

Using iMessage or WhatsApp, you can contact us on our Romanian phone numbers:

(Yes, the +40 is necessary!) Catalina: +40 (771) 272 908 Derek: +40 (771) 036 084

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