

MIZPAH OUTREACH

Prayer Letter #115
February 2013



Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

After all that has happened since the last letter, it seems a long time from we were delivering calendars for 2013, but as we know many of you were praying, let us update you know as to how much of a blessing that time was! There were many opportunities to share the gospel with very needy people.

One pleasant surprise was when **Kriakos** approached David at our fence. He is built like the side of a house, wears a ponytail and George Michael stubble, so David was quite unsure of his intentions. He had simply come to say thanks for the calendar he had been given in the local café. While thrilled at his response, David did not yet understand how he had a calendar. Turned out, David gave a calendar to his former barber, not realising she was married to another contact for whom David had left a calendar in the café. Solon, the café owner, on finding out the man already had a calendar, gave it to the first person he thought might like to read it, and it seems it is so, as **Kriakos** was delighted to get it. God makes no mistakes! Pray for the seed to take root, remembering Ecclesiastes 11:1.

In another garage, meeting with a long-time friend **Jannis**, another man joined the conversation, his name also being Jannis. Following the customary coffee: the conversation lasted about 2 hours while Jannis [2], a policeman, who until 2 years ago had deliberately and often cursed a God he did not really believe in, poured out his story. One day, realising the folly of his actions he began to pray, and continued doing so until meeting with David. He gratefully took the calendar, some Gospel tracts and requested a New Testament. He asked to meet again and to be allowed to bring his wife along with him for further discussion.

The firm who helped fence in our camp ground are facing bankruptcy. We had tried to meet up with the secretary **Maria**, who was very interested in spiritual things. Shortly before our departure from Greece, David met her at a supermarket with her mum. She was getting ready to leave Greece for a new start in Germany because of the present crisis. Pray she will meet with other believers there and come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

Another **Maria** in our village is in final stages of cancer and was thrilled to have a visit. She is very hurt as so many of her relations don't want to come and see her so ill, and this leaves her very lonely. She still seems unclear regarding finding a personal relationship with the Lord since she is firmly steeped in Orthodoxy and sometimes religion can be such an obstacle!

Oops!!! In our last prayer letter there was an error! **George** was accused of murdering his fiancée and not his family as reported. Please pray for him as the court case should come up in July of this year. Although, God makes no mistakes, we often do!!! Sorry!

Across the Border in FYROM

Magdalena asked us to pray with her that she would come back to the Saviour after years of living in a backslidden state. She is doing well, attending church regularly and her health has also improved. The medication we brought her was perfect for her and she has recently been allowed to reduce the dosage. Actually, this young lady spoke of her need to Allyn after a meeting several years ago, so please continue to remember her, as she strives for spiritual and physical health.

Stefan from Bitola, like so many who start well, has now been having some doubts, since finding out God does not always answer just as you would like Him too. Please pray for him that the Lord would restore to him the joy of his salvation and show him that His will is perfect if not always easy to follow. Lack of sincere commitment when things get tough is a problem among believers and yet, in so many countries, people commit to Christ knowing that it could well cost them their lives! We need to get away from easy believism and realise we are in a battle! After all Jesus gave His all, How can we do less?



Greece



F.Y.R. of
MACEDONIA

Before leaving for the US, we had visits from Peter and Els from the City Bible on their way through the country. Neil and Kath also came and we were thankful for their help with the various things needing done before leaving. So from unpacking and repacking containers to clearing garages, to repairs and needlework, we were able to keep them busy. Meetings for the Youth and the Elderly Residents, took us right up to the end of our time.

When we took Neil to the station to collect his train ticket, he was given the 'Red Carpet Treatment' when they found out he was a train driver. This worked out well for us also, because Antonio, the station master, came in his own car to take us and our luggage to the station a few days later as we left Katerini. He and his family accepted calendars, introduced us to other staff members who also took calendars, and want to visit with us again.

We left from Athens with Turkish airlines and were so amazed to meet a fellow missionary from N. Ireland while passing through Istanbul. We had worked with Brian over 30 years ago in Eastern Europe and afresh realised the world is a small place and as Christians we know God has it in the centre of His hand and holds us close to His heart!

United States of America

Our time with the boys, spouses and grandkids was amazing. We shared all the special family celebrations, were able to babysit, enjoy the children and do a little bit of practical work from Bryan too. We visited the Billy Graham centre in South Carolina and it was wonderful to see how the Lord has and still is using this family for soulwinning. The boys were an amazing help in getting us online, fixed up with all we needed and a lot more and the church provided us with home and car so we were well spoiled and are really grateful!

Bryan and Tiffany have been accepted to be adoptive parents of Summer their little 2 yr old. What a joy to see the love and trust shine from eyes which had once looked towards a very bleak future. In the course of time, she will become a legal part of the family she already belongs to as a sister to Catalina and Charlize. All the kids are growing up so fast and this meant the time passed very quickly!

Jon Marc's wife Jen has done well in her studies and will graduate as a nurse this May. Although they have family around to help out with babysitting etc, it is a lot of work for both of them to care for the children and hold down such a schedule, so she will be glad to be done!

One amazing experience, was that Allyn gave us a 5 day cruise to the Bahamas as a Christmas gift. He, along with Iain's family and ourselves, all enjoyed this undreamt of holiday. We had loads of luxury meals, and plenty to keep us occupied while on board. We saw Nassau and Freeport which we thoroughly enjoyed. Yet, even in the midst of all the luxury, the emptiness of many lives was apparent and there were opportunities to share in witness or about the work. It was sad to meet with 'believers', who after being delighted to hear of the work, when talking to unbelievers could boast of the huge number of whiskeys they had consumed the previous day! Where is the call to separation?

There were also opportunities to preach/share in the USA and in one church, Jean asked prayer for her son (49). This man shared of his delight at purchasing a grave in a lovely location, popular with many preachers. Pastor Dave, almost as tactful as David, asked him why he wanted buried there when he was going to Hell with his lifestyle! Soon after, the man had a heart attack and his wife managed to keep him alive until he was in hospital where the pastor later led him to Jesus!! Thankfully, he has had surgery and pulled through, but it was close. Pray for this small country church, with Dave and Marilyn as they labour for the Lord! Wilma's mum used to say Marilyn was an amazing woman as she coped with her arthritic joints and still continued to work on!

All in all, it was a great time and not easy to say goodbye. Yet the work here is always on our hearts and we also look forward to being with those we have left behind.

The situation in Greece has definitely not improved since we left the country and so many more people are out of work, prices are even higher and indeed it has not been an easy winter for the people. This is the reason so many young folks are leaving Greece in search of work and a better future.

Indeed, at the time this letter was written, we were sitting in the port of Igoumenitsa, where we ended up for two days [among many others who had been there for 5]. The Greek



United States of America



Summer



Cruise to the Bahamas

transport companies were on strike due to many issues, not the least the fact that many more road toll stations have been opened up, added to the already extortionate fuel costs, making it impossible for business people to keep going.

As we journeyed to the boat, we 'felt' we should get the tyres checked and discovered that the inside rear wheel was burst. A local service station, although on strike, came to our aid and we were thankful once again that someone was remembering to pray for us.

We will not be in GB for long, as it is not our regular deputation year, but in Scotland for the couple of weeks of February and in Ireland for March to get van MOT'd and refill trailer. We will see a few of you and take some meetings if the dates suit for you. We hope to spend the Greek Easter in Greece this year and look forward to celebrating His resurrection with the believers there.

Thanks again for your love, support and prayer, which help so much in the work.

Prayer is needed for:

Greece and MK:

1. Kriakos
2. Janni, policeman
3. George, fiancée killed
4. Maria in Germany
5. Maria in Sevasti [sick]
6. Antonio, stationmaster and family
7. Magdelena
8. Stefan
9. Bore, quadraplegic, not doing well

USA

1. Our family: for His wisdom in all decisions they have to make and His guidance in their daily lives.
2. Ronnie: a self-confessed atheist who can't understand why all her friends are believers.
3. Betty: Walmart worker with a Roman catholic background
4. Jean's son in his new found faith
5. Dave and Marilyn as they serve the Lord

Praise the Lord for:

1. A wonderful time with family and friends
2. Calendar contacts and great response to the outreach
3. Daily provision in spite of rising costs
4. Summer's adoption procedure
5. Journeying mercies and a temporary end to the transport strike

Yours for a great harvest of souls,

David & Wilma Lyttle

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All checks should be written out to TRBC, but place 'For Mizpah Outreach' on the memo line.