



Dear Partners in Prayer,

Noticing the number on this letter, sent David's thoughts back to Psalm 121, and to one incident, which left an indelible memory in his life. He had been reading this Psalm, while 'thumbing a lift' to visit a dear friend, Janet, in hospital, when suddenly a car stopped.

As soon as the car started again, the driver asked what the 'book' was about. David explained, '*It is God's Word, I am a Christian and He is my Heavenly Father.*' The driver commented that the Bible was outdated and religion was only a crutch for weak people.

Each junction on the journey that passed, the man became more accepting, but queried the possibility of a God, who had any direct interest or influence on our daily lives, as is stated in Psalm 121.

On asking David's destination, he was surprised to find they were both going to the hospital, so he could bring him the whole way.

Imagine his amazement to find that David was going to the same wing as he was, which just happened to be where surgery was performed on injured members of the Security Forces, necessitating unlocking a gate before driving through. In a state of shock, he said *I am starting to understand what you were talking about. There are only 5 people in the UK with a key to this area!*

What a thrill to look back over these years and know with Gratitude that He has always been faithful!

Again let us thank you for your continued love, prayers and support as we minister here in the needy lands of Greece and FYROMacedonia. Opportunities abound on every hand and the needs are sometimes overwhelming. In a world gone mad, with murder & mayhem flooding our broadcasts & newspapers, how blessed we are to know God is still in control – but even though people are dreaming of a 'man made utopia', God's Word has said, 'No, things will get worse' (Matthew 24:3-14). We need to get back to the Bible. In these days when the Word of God is doubted, denied and disobeyed with impunity, it is still God's Word containing the greatest message of all time, and we neglect it at our peril.

On the 13th June we witnessed something that was definitely a first in 40 years of ministry. A church fellowship, where divisions and disagreements had caused a split some years ago, reached the point where repentance was asked for, reconciliation made and they were celebrating reuniting in fellowship. We have all witnessed the destruction and hurt caused by church divisions and it was a real privilege to be asked to participate in this reunion, where we know God has commanded blessing! Please pray on that the devil will not have his way and disrupt the new found unity in this fellowship.

The next Evening, David accompanied the fellowship to an outreach with preaching, evangelism, food & aid distribution in a nearby poverty stricken Roma village. Over 200 people gathered to hear the Word of God preached and several came forward for prayer. One young lady **Sotiria** [means salvation] had recently suffered a stroke and was carried to the meeting. Imagine how thrilled she was to receive a walking aid from us and be able to walk home, smiling with joy.

When others began giving out food, a sudden onslaught of people began grabbing boxes of food, with no thought of sharing with others more needy and less able. Arriving into this situation, David took some of the boxes back from those who had taken far too much, making them pretty angry. He then refused to give out any clothing in the uproar, telling them they needed to learn some manners. Those with particular needs had their deliveries made personally and received what they required.

Later, he spent time with the leaders, telling them how this could be done in an orderly fashion and encouraging them to keep control or to tell them the charity distribution would be discontinued.

This has led to a completely different response from the locals.

One encouragement was when a young man was offered a NT, he almost wept and explained that 3 years before someone had loaned him a NT for a month. He had read it through and returned it very reluctantly – Now he was delighted to have his own copy and although not yet saved has a great love for God's Word.

David has preached a few times in Berea church, even having to stop the service once to allow a group of French speaking Jews visiting the nearby synagogue to use the toilets and to take the NT's offered to them. We have continued to help Pastor Mike as he has been in the US for the summer. During his visit, his father went home to Glory, so although a hard time for them all, it was a real blessing they were at home at this time. The ministry of the Word has been greatly appreciated by the group there in Thessaloniki.



Sotiria



Prince Philip



Samuel



Harry

At the annual day conference for Pentecost, with several speakers from Mexico, USA & Greece – David was asked to close the final meeting - and was talked to by many who were challenged through the Word.

Visits continue to FYROMacedonia with positive feedback from those in attendance. Various issues are being dealt with and there are signs of a deepening burden for the place of prayer and a longing for God to move in Revival in the churches.

A Balkan prayer conference was held recently in Skopje, but some people attending were from other European countries. The Emphasis was on Repentance, Reconciliation & Revival and we met some very sincere people during that time. As a Representative of Ireland, David was asked to pray for and get others to pray for the needs in our country. What a special joy to join with **Prince Philip of Prussia**, born again when he was 18, pouring out his heart for Ireland. He is married with 6 children and preaches regularly in his fellowship in Berlin. What a difference would be in our country, if the figureheads lived out their faith.

As a representative of the Jewish community, a cardiologist was invited to attend the conference. Prince Philip apologized to him on behalf of the German people for what they had done to the Jews. **Samuel**, stood and told us that, when invited he did not want to come as, 'in 70 years I have never met anyone who wasn't a Jew who did not hate the Jews.' How sad, but yet exciting when he said God had told him in a dream, he was to come along and even what he had to wear. He was deeply moved at the love he experienced there. Pray that Samuel will have a life-changing experience with the risen Saviour!

While in Skopje we met a group of Austrian business-men doing a fact finding trip. They had brought medications for Montenegro, but were disappointed it hadn't worked out, so they asked if we could use them. It was a joy to see it being distributed within an hour of delivery to people who really needed it. We were able to recommend a good church to the Austrians and have since been in touch about the delivery of the medications.

Looking back at some of the encouraging notes you sent us over the years, we are so thankful – not only for you taking time to encourage us – but also that you personally have been drawn closer to the Lord by the answers to prayer for us. Please pray on – God is still on the Throne!

We never cease to be thankful for the God-incidents when we know someone has prayed!!

Driving in Katerini, David stopped and indicated his desire to park. One irate lady didn't like this and tried to force us ahead with her car. As she yelled and gestured she realized it wasn't going to work and rammed her car into reverse, which, but for the quick thinking of a mother, crossing the road with her baby would have caused a big tragedy! So close!!! David parked and then talked with the shocked mum, while the [now subdued] lady drove off.

Northern Irish people are accustomed to fire on July 11th, but in temperatures of over 40 C, David was operating the gas grill as we had a large number of people coming to eat. After cooking, he left the grill for a bit to burn off and then remembered his shoes were on the balcony. The BBQ was out of control, in flames and the fire was almost as far as the cylinder. Thanks for your prayers, it could have been so different!!

An **Evangelist from England** is arriving next weekend for a week and we hope to get many opportunities to witness during that time. David is also going to speak to the over 200 teen kids at the camp in Leptokarya and he, of course, is very happy to be doing that.

Then at the end of August we have a **team of lads from Fermanagh** coming for both physical and spiritual work. The team will be led by **Harry, David's nephew**, making it an extra joy for us. Please pray for safety and effectiveness in all they do.

Wilma's Aunt Sarah, Uncle Nat and Cousin Pat are all coming in the last week of September so we trust they will have a good time and enjoy seeing the work here.

One burden we face at this time is trying to *help the poorer young Christians in FYROMacedonia to have the opportunity to attend university.*

At the moment we have several teens with excellent grades, prepared to study, but their parents will have huge difficulties to find a way to pay for tuition and accommodation in the area of the college. One particular girl is a gypsy, and there is no chance her parents can send her. If we were to help her attend college she would love to become a nurse and would be one of the few gypsy children to receive further education.

The more Christian youth we help to train, the more Christians end up in the professional workplace, and to this end, we have thought to set up some kind of Student Sponsorship Program.



David

Bryan & Tiffany will move house this month to a bigger place, much more suitable to their large family. All the children are doing well and settling into family life.

Iain & Tanja continue their work in the church and we look forward to a team of experts in the Spring, 'coming over to help us' with work in the Camp site.

Jon Marc & Jennifer have recently moved to Florida and Jen has a Job in a Cardiac Surgery dept in a hospital there. Jon Marc continues with his web design work from Florida and they have found a new church plant in the area to become involved with.

Alyn is as busy as ever and with the many new tragic situations in the world he has more and more to be involved in bringing the message of hope and help to the people. Recently, he sponsored a child in Myanmar, in honor of his mother as a gift for Mother's Day. We trust that *David* will one day come to know the Lord as his Saviour and serve Him in his own land.

We look forward to seeing them all nearer the end of this year in the US, and getting to know the grandkids we have till now only seen in pictures.

Many of our close friends and family are unwell at this time and we pray on for their healing and for the many other issues we have been entrusted to pray for. We may not physically meet so often, but we can meet around the throne, remembering each other!!

Your servants in Christ,

David & Wilma

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