

LOVING ROMANIA

Sufficient Bread Ministry

January 15, 2014

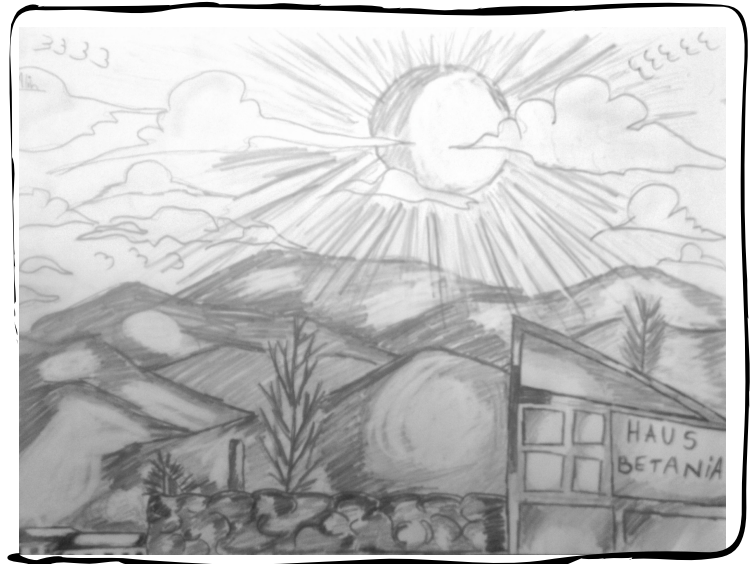
Volume 5, Issue 1

"Haus Betania"

During our last visit to Betania two of our boys drew pictures for their supporters. Alin was the first to hand his picture to Andrei. From the first day he came to "Casa Betania" he has expressed interest in pencil sketches and art in general.

The drawing on the right captures what you see as you come out of the main dining hall walking towards the front gate of the center. He drew the rolling hills and the big metal doors that welcome any visitor to Casa Betania. "HAUS BETANIA" is German for "Bethany house." The group of Germans who started the private orphanage years ago named it "Haus Betania", which literally means "House of Figs," but can also be translated "House of misery/poverty." I found it strange to put such a name on a children's home. But then I looked in the Bible. The town of Bethany is recorded in the New Testament as the home of the siblings Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, as well as that of Simon the Leper. Some entomologists suggest that the word "Bethany" comes from the word "Ananiah," meaning "Yah has been gracious" or "Yah has intervened." The city of Bethany is believed to have had a poor house that took care of the sick and destitute of the Jerusalem area. This poorhouse would have alleviated poverty closest to the holy city.

With all that to say, I see now why this name is so perfect for the Family Center. Daily we are seeing the dead in Christ become alive in Him, and seeing the bonds of family form amongst the children. With the



help of the Holy Spirit, we are alleviating poverty and creating a future for the children in our care.

I love the happiness and hope that shines through this picture. Although the gate literally means "House of Misery," God has turned it, by His grace, into a house where GOD has been gracious and intervened in these children's lives.

Nicu (our F&H boy) drew the picture below. When I saw this picture, my heart leapt with joy. The picture says, "God has three answers to our prayers: 1. Yes 2. Not Now 3. I have something better." Coming from a boy who knew NOTHING about God when he came to us just last year, this blew me away. I am excited to see him grow into a man of the Word. It's a start - and a good one at that!

We are in the process of hiring a few tutors to come to the family center to work with the children. Right now we are in the interview process to hire a tutor for physics/math, sports, and art. This would not be possible without your help. Thank you!



"Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

1 Chronicles 29:10-11

"Future and a Hope" UPDATE:

But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." Luke 18:27

The boys are still doing well. Nicu has moved to Betania to benefit from the tutoring and family atmosphere. Cosmin is still in the apartment and possibly starting his first job working at a store owned by our landlord. She has been so impressed with the boys, she offered them work.

Andreea is enjoying college and studying Communication and Public Relations. She is in the middle of exams at the moment and is asking for your prayers to do well on them. We are so proud of her and continue to wish her the best.

SMILE. SERVE. SACRIFICE.



Building a Future:

Unless the Lord builds the house...

Building anything takes a lot of sweat, planning, and design. Building a future is no exception. This is something we are implanting into these children. Like it says in the Scripture:

*Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.
Psalm 127:1*

We can give them all the tools, but unless the Lord is leading their life, we labor in vain. This week, I was pondering the story in Luke of the paralyzed man and his friends who lowered him through the roof to see Jesus.

And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. Luke 5:18-19

In that time, roofs were constructed in such a way they could not merely be repaired once broken but needed to be completely replaced! To fix the damage those friends caused would have cost A LOT!

Then it hit me. Those men were willing to pay any price to get that man closer to Jesus. Are we a people who are willing to pay any price to get someone closer to Jesus? I know

many of you are because of the diligent sacrifices you make monthly towards these "someones" in Romania.

Building a future for someone is not easy or rewarding at first, but with the Lord building it, He will be faithful to complete it. THANK YOU, Jesus!

If any of you desire to meet and experience our ministry in "living color," please let us know. Andrei would LOVE to lead you or a group of you on a trip. **These kids need to see your faces and feel your hugs.** Come, what are you waiting for? You will be blessed - I can guarantee that.

Prayer Requests and Praise Reports

- Continue to pray for the transitional youth of Romania. That they would walk in the power of the Spirit and not by their own might.
- Pray for the Saturday Bible School. That God might be magnified in the lives of the children attending.
- For wisdom and direction in ministry.

PRAISE:

- We are so thankful for the sacrifice each of you make monthly to support Sufficient Bread. With your help, these kids are experiencing a significant change in their lives. Blessings to you all in Christ Jesus! Keep up the good work!

THANK YOU, FATHER! We give YOU praise!