

NEWS

Jesus Christ is the ANSWER

We send you many greetings from Romania in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

GOTTLOB

After having the tent set up in the town of Varias, we then moved the tent to the town of Gottlob that was about 15



miles away. The local Christians from Varias and Gottlob really came to help, both to take the tent down and set it up again. We actually took the tent down on a Monday, having finished the meetings on Sunday, and then had the tent set up once again by Tuesday evening. A local businessman from Gottlob sent his truck at his expense, and one of the local Pastors from Gottlob, who is also a farmer, sent his farm tractor with a trailer to help in the move. And when we put the tent up in Gottlob, which means God's praises, both of the Pastors, one Pentecostal and the other Baptist, were, there, working side by side. It was really hot in Gottlob, the opposite kind of weather that we experienced in Varias

The meetings in Gottlob started in a very interesting way, in front of the city hall. The local Pastors were able to



involve both the Mayor and the local Orthodox priest. They also brought in from Timisoara, from a church there, a 40-person brass band. This is something very popular here in Romania, in the churches. So, I gave a little speech to the believers gathered there from the two local

evangelical fellowships, as well as thanking the Mayor for permission to set up the tent. Then the Mayor gave a short speech thanking us for coming to Gottlob with our tent and mission. After that each of the local Pastors as well as the Orthodox priest said some words of greeting and thanks. Then together with the local Christians and the brass band playing contemporary Christian music we marched to the tent. To say the least we got the attention of all the folks of Gottlob especially as the brass band had been marching and playing through the town before we met in front of the city hall. Arriving at the tent again brief all made speeches and then both the Mayor and the Orthodox priest dismissed themselves sighting that they had other responsibilities to attend to.

We stayed in Gottlob for two weeks having a meeting



every evening. Once again we shared the ministry with the local churches. We had visiting preachers and musicians both from the counties of Timis and Arad. And we even had visitors from the USA! We were blessed to have with us Dr. Paul Gaehring and his wife, Karyl from Redemption World Outreach Center located in Greenville, SC. Dr. Gaehring is the president of Redemption Ministerial Fellowship. Both Dr. Gaehring and his wife ministered /powerfully under the tent. It was their first time in Romania and for Karyl it was a special time in particular because she is a decedent of Romanians who immigrated to the USA. To say the least local Christians in Gottlob treated both them and us in a fantastic way. In fact a local farmer butchered one of his pigs on our behalf. Now, we do not eat a lot of pork, but this time we could not resist such fresh meat! By the way, the fellowship was great as well.

PERIAM

From Gottlob we then moved to Periam, a larger town only



about 10 miles away. Once again the local believers really rallied both in Gottlob and Periam to help us take the tent down on a Monday, and have it set up again by Tuesday afternoon. Once again the weather cooperated with us, and still it was very hot. And once again we worked together with both Pentecostals and Baptist in sharing the ministry. We did not have a march to begin the meetings, but another brass band was present, as well as having a short speech from the Mayor of Periam. One of the things that was very unique there was the fact that our tent was set up right in the center of the town, in the city park. In all of the years that I have worked with tents I do not think that I have had a more strategic location for evangelism.

I can say that in each of the three towns we were in this summer were evangelized either directly or indirectly. We

got the attention of every person in those places. I can also say that many people responded to the gospel. One of the highlights of course is the fact that unconverted people will come to the tent to hear the gospel. This is the biggest joy for us. Another highlight is the fact that we can encourage the local believers to minister in a venue that is right out there under the eye of the public, outside of the four walls of their church buildings. We were especially encouraged as well by local believers, as they received us very well. And in each town there was at least one family that especially helped with the tent work. It was great to work together although it was not always easy. And I am not going to hide the fact that at times there were tensions



between the different denominations. We tried to be a middle ground for them, and in to a great degree, succeeded.

SARAJEVO

Once again with the help of the local believers we took the tent down in Periam, and loaded it into a truck to be set up the following week. This time, though, we put it up for a local Baptist church from Arad. This was the fifth year that we loaned out tent to them, to be used for a youth camp. We help each other as we store the tent in a 40-foot container that this church owns. And this time they had to take the tent down without us, which they succeeded in doing! We, after setting the tent for them, traveled to Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina. In Sarajevo we worked together with the church where my daughter and son-in-law serve the Lord on a full time basis. What a joy it was to work together with them and with the pastor of the church and his wife. His name is Slavko. Our program consisted of street evangelism: passing out invitations and actually doing some preaching in the streets. We then had meetings in the church both for believers and unbelievers. On Monday through Friday at 5 PM we gave teaching to the believers, and on the Sunday morning. We studied what the New Testament teaches about salvation, that: salvation is from sin; after repentance; by grace; through faith; with assurance; to holiness, and for eternity.

This of course is very basic teaching but was very useful and all who attended were blessed.

Then at 7 PM we held a seminar for the unconverted using the format of asking and answering certain questions. The questions were: what is God like, what is wrong with the world; which religion is the right one; why does man exist; is



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there life after death, and how can a person face death with confidence. Again we saw several people touched by God's word. I have to take my hat off to my son-in-law, Sasha and my daughter, Vanessa as well as to Slavko and his wife Sanja as they labor for the Lord in Sarajevo. Before the war Sarajevo had a very mixed population. Forty some percent was Serbian, thirty some percent was Moslem and the rest were Croat. Now eighty-five percent is Moslem, only perhaps two percent Serb, and the rest Croat. Of course in the minds of many Moslems, Christians, meaning Serbs and Croats were killing the Moslems just ten years ago. So, it is not easy to overcome these mental barriers as true believers share the good news. . So, I admire the zeal of my son-in-law and daughter as well that of Slavko and his wife, as they are dedicated to preaching the gospel in Sarajevo. Please remember them in your prayers and all the believers there, perhaps altogether only about one hundred, in a city of more than five hundred thousand people.



ARAD

Since being back in Arad we have begun to do some follow up on the work that we did this summer with the tent, as well as begin to organize future evangelism. We want to set up meetings in medium sized towns, where we want to preach the seven lessons



on salvation, which I mentioned above. We believe that these lessons are very valuable both for people in the church here as well as those not. There are many people in the church here that grew up there, and are really nominal Christians. We also want to set up meetings to use the format of the six important questions of life, which I also mentioned above. We will do this without the tent using public halls or church buildings.

We also are just beginning to organize a seminar that we are calling, Renewing Our Zeal for the House of God. This will take place at the beginning of October. Our target of this seminar is the leaders of God's people in and around Arad.

We are still in need of a better vehicle. Every time that I get in the van and drive some place near or far I wonder when it will break down next, and where. I hope not in the middle of nowhere!

So, we ask you to keep us, our plans, our needs, and work in your prayers. Please feel free to contact us about your needs. We would be happy to pray for you. May God continue to bless and keep you in His grace, and mercy!

Your brother in the Lord,

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