



Hand of HELP

The Truth for Today



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Founder

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Thank You

Certain things the world just cannot understand. It isn't that they won't or that they choose not to, but their nature is such that until they are regenerated, renewed and reborn in Christ, they simply cannot understand them. How can a soul dripping with hedonism, selfishness and greed understand the bliss and joy of giving?

How can a soul whose only purpose is the self, the here and now, understand selflessness and giving of oneself to comfort others in their time of sorrow?

Words cannot express the joy, encouragement and gratitude felt when you are able to be the vehicle which God uses to deliver a blessing to those who have for long been praying for it.

It is humbling on a deep and profound level to realize that God has used you to be an answer to someone else's prayer, whether that prayer was for something great and seemingly unattainable, or something as benign and commonplace as a

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Thank You

cow. To some, a cow may seem as something irrelevant or unworthy of mention, but to the desperate, to those who see it not as a pet but as sustenance for their entire family it is no less than a gift from the hand of God. It is through those of you who have decided to heed the call of the Lord, and obey His urging that these blessing are possible.

When my son Daniel called to tell me that we are able to wire enough money to purchase 10 cows, thereby meeting the needs of ten families who were top priorities on our waiting list, I immediately started praising the Lord for His provision and for the fact that He, even to this day, hears the fervent cries of the desolate and the orphaned.

Oh, how I would desire to meet every need and help dissipate poverty one cow at a time, but I know that the Word of God says in John 12:8 ***“You will always have the poor among you....”***. However, the Word of God also says in Psalms 34:10 ***“The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.”***

Instead of just sitting back and letting the poor always be about me, doing my utmost to pretend they are not there, or attempting to ignore their cries, I have resolved in my heart that I will be a channel through which the Lord shall pour out good things for those who seek Him. We choose, as individuals, to be an open hand or a closed fist, to reach out or to draw back, to comfort or to upset.

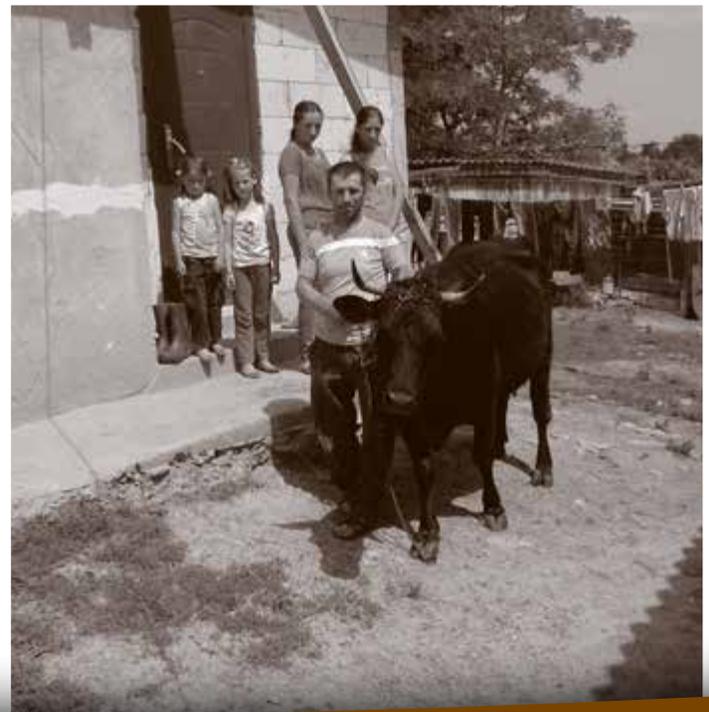
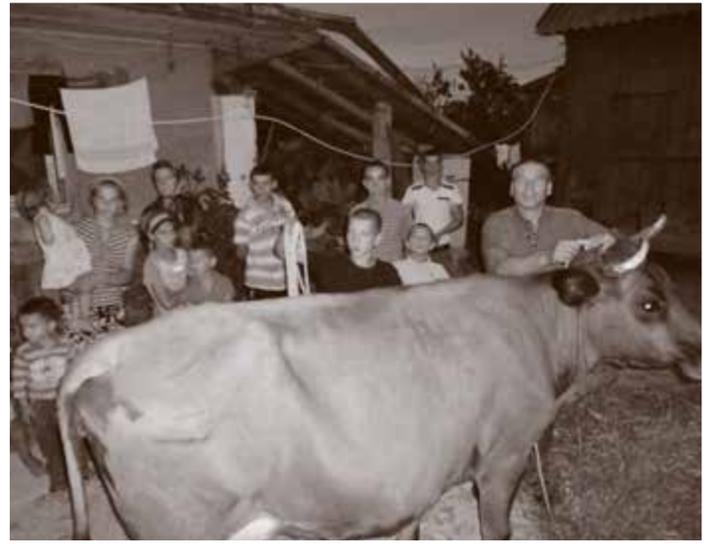
As we cross off family after family in need, and add new ones to the list, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank for your obedience, your generosity and the love that you have shown towards this ministry and those it serves.

As you have allowed yourself to be a vessel in His Hands, may you always be full to overflowing, filled with every good thing that He has for His children.

1 Peter 1:2 “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.”

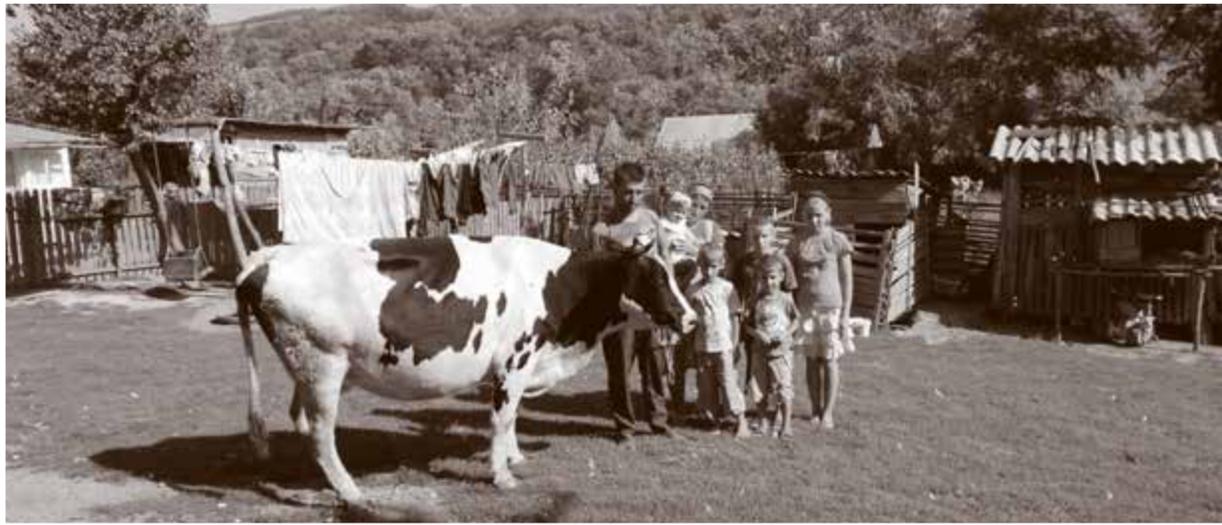
In Christ,
Pastor Mircea Boldea Sr.

Multumesc





1 Peter 1:2 "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord."



Perfect

Moments

I am a father. Even two months in it still sounds strange on my lips, but I am a father. On June 12, 2014, Victoria Belle Boldea came into the world kicking and punching and screaming, and though the screaming has tapered off, the kicking and the punching have not. She is a very active, emotive child, and we wouldn't have it any other way. Every day is a wonder, watching her facial expressions, the way she is slowly beginning to see the world around her, and the reactions she has towards new places, faces or things.

It has been a long time coming, we've wanted a baby for many years now, and in this late hour, the Father has seen fit to grace us with this beautiful gift.

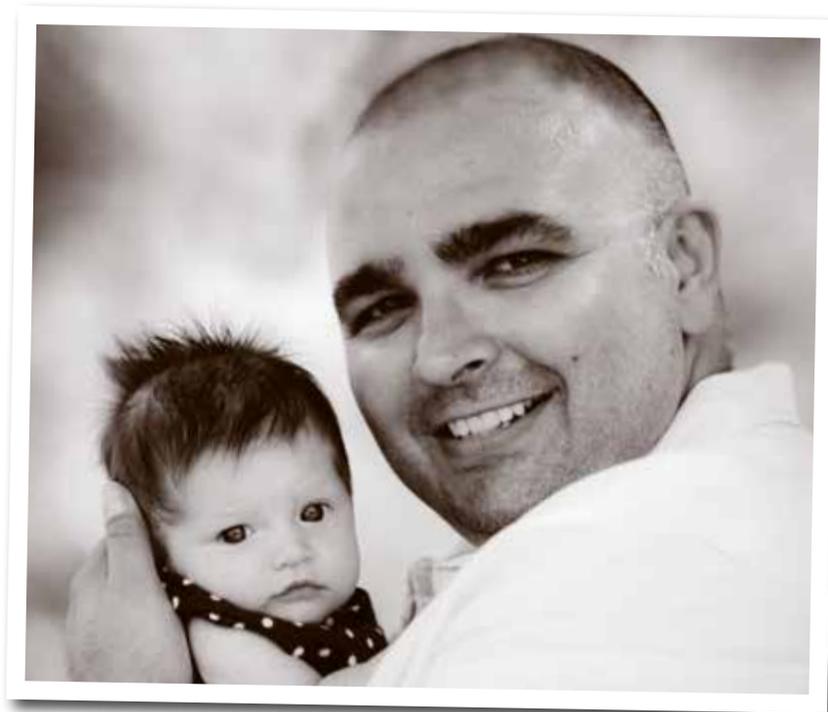
I've talked to many a man who has spoken of fatherhood to me, but I didn't quite understand what it all meant until the first I held my daughter in my arms. I am a man comfortable with words, I use them readily, but for the first time in forever I was at a loss for words. I was holding my daughter in my arms. The world became a very small place, in fact the size of a hospital room, and everything else buzzing around my head, the worries, anxieties, concerns, and apprehensions melted away in an instant. I was holding my daughter in my arms.

There are few perfect moments in life. In my opinion if a man is granted one perfect moment he is blessed, if more than one then he is highly favored. Within the span of a handful of weeks I have lived perfect moment upon perfect moment, from the first sight of my daughter as she came into the world, to the first glint of recognition in her eyes, to the first full smile she smiled at me. These are moments you can't buy with money because they are priceless. They are moments you will remember for long and long, and the emotional impact is so deep and unexpected that it simply takes your breath away.

Some of you I've known since I was a teenager, and all of you are like family, so I would have been remiss if I did not share this joy and blessing with you. Even in the midst of all that's happening, even with doing our utmost to preach the gospel ceaselessly, to help the poor, and care for the widow and orphan, God allows us these precious moments of personal joy that just go to show how good and wondrous a God we truly serve.

To those of you, who knew already and sent gifts or notes, thank you from the bottom of my heart. We received the clothes, the swaddling blankets, the mittens, and all the other gifts. They were greatly appreciated. Thank you for your well wishes and kind words as well. They warm our hearts and let us know we are loved.

With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.



The Holiness Conundrum...

A Teaching Essay

Seeing as truth is becoming a rarer and rarer commodity, we've decided to include a teaching essay in this issue of the newsletter. It is something new that we feel is both timely and necessary, and would love to hear your opinion on whether you would like to see more such teaching essays in future issues of the newsletter. Your input is important to us.

To those who subscribe to extra biblical teachings on the topic of holiness, whether or not it can be attained, or whether or not we ought to pursue it, the entire thing can be a real head scratcher. Because men would rather believe the words of other men than the Word of God, there are entire passages of Scripture individuals conveniently avoid, or refuse to read, because to do so would mean to be confronted with the reality that what they believe is contrary to what the Bible says.

Today's modern, sophisticated, open minded, all inclusive, all embracing, tolerant Christians do not like the notion of holiness, nor do they take kindly to the idea that the Bible tells them they must be holy in all their conduct. As such, they've taken it upon themselves to put forth the idea that holiness is either that elusive, unattainable thing, that we can get within reach of but never quite acquire, or that man has no input or contribution when it comes to the notion of holiness in his life.

To those embracing the new doctrine, holiness is not some restrictive thing wherein we are called upon to embrace such antiquated practices as self-control, mortification of the flesh, or self-denial, but in a mind-bending feat of mental acrobatics, they insist that we are simply made holy without ever aspiring to holiness, and in spite of any habitual sin we might still be clinging to in our day to day lives.

You can live however you want, do whatever you want, conduct yourself in whatever vile manner you want, and you're still holy, and nothing you can do can take away that holiness that you've done nothing to acquire, or changed nothing in your life to attain.

It's basically the best of both worlds, wherein you can roll in the mud with the rest of the hell-bound masses, and still sit at the King's table pretending to have the whitest of garments on, enjoying the benefits of being called a son or daughter of the most High God.

Granted, we've become a generation which subsists on a steady diet of platitudes and one-liners, and have boiled intellectual discourse down to the 140 characters allowed by Twitter. Hence the reason things are going so smashingly in this country, and why so few are bothering to stir from their slumber to see the train nearing the brick wall.

I have no great expectations of the world. Those in darkness will live as those in darkness, but I do have some expectation of those calling themselves redeemed and sanctified, and one of the expectations I have is that they be diligent when it comes to the Word of God and God's expectations of them as His bondservants.

We can't play it fast and loose when it comes to the Word of God, because there are eternal consequences and ramifications to deal with. We cannot embrace a certain doctrine or teaching just because it pleases the flesh, because there will be a day of reckoning for every lie we embraced as truth, and every truth we rejected as a lie.

The church today has a real problem with holiness. Mention it and you're quickly branded an extremist, someone to be avoided and rejected at all cost, because to insist upon holiness

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is to turn our back on progress and the new libertine gospel we've all come to love and embrace.

Holiness has become a dirty word, something to be snickered at, derided, and maligned, even though it is something the Word of God insists we ought to pursue, and can rightly attain as obedient children of God.

Would God be so petty as to tell us to pursue something He knew we could never acquire? Would God be so small as to make us seek after something we had no hope of ever attaining? Did He just include certain passages in Scripture because He likes to watch us fail, and chase our own tails endlessly?

1 Peter 1:13-16, "Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'be holy for I am holy.'"

So here we are. Three verses, from the Bible, in their entirety, not taken out of context, insisting that it is incumbent upon us to actually do something, and not just sit there picking our belly button lint, or making ear wax sculptures to pass the time.

'Heresy, I say, heresy! Are you actually saying what I think you're saying? Are you actually putting forth the argument that Christians have to do something more than just raise a limp hand in a stadium and walk the aisle in order to be forever and irrevocably saved? I've heard of people like you, you and your works salvation, you and your arrogant belief that man can actually do something, anything in order to facilitate holiness in his life!'

But it's in the Bible! Right there! Didn't change it, didn't add to it, I quoted three verses from the first epistle of Peter that tells us we have to do more than one thing, and even more than two or three things.

1 Peter 1:13-16, "Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'be holy for I am holy.'"

First, we are instructed to gird up the loins of our mind. Granted, the meaning of this instruction has been somewhat diminished by history, but it is nevertheless understandable for anyone willing to take a breath and meditate on it. Sure, I can go into the whole Hebrews wore tunics, and they had girdles into which they tucked their tunics explanation, but what this expression actually means is to be ready, to prepare oneself, to be focused and to be equipped.

One who has girded the up the loins of their mind will never be a reactionary. They will have prepared themselves for every eventuality, they will have steeled themselves for the attacks of the enemy, they will have equipped themselves for the fiercest of battles, and they will have disciplined themselves mentally wherein the distractions the enemy attempted were to no avail.

One who is uncertain as to what they believe, and why they believe it, one who jumps from denomination to denomination as though they were playing religious hot potato, does not have the loins of their mind girded up. They are not settled, they are not focused, and they are not prepared.

When I have done as instructed and I have girded up the loins of my mind, the enemy will never again catch me off balance or on the wrong footing. I will learn to anticipate his attacks, I will learn to anticipate his tactics, and through prayer, supplication and perseverance the fiery arrows of the enemy will be quenched before they are able to do any damage.

The second thing we are instructed to do is to be sober. In this context, being sober does not mean sober from alcohol – although we should be sober from alcohol as well – but rather to be sober minded or fully aware and alert. One who is sober is able to evaluate and assess things correctly. One who is sober is not easily swayed by phony arguments or half-truths, because he is alert and can deduce the truth from the lie.

Once again, it is incumbent upon us to be sober. It's not up to you to make me sober, it's not up to me to make you sober. We are each, individually, called upon to gird up the loins of our minds, and be sober.

Yes, I know, this flies in the face of the do-nothing Christianity, and to be perfectly honest, we've just scratched the surface of all that we are instructed to do by the Word of God. If you disagree, well, feel free to argue with the Bible.

Having girded up the loins of our minds, and having become sober, we are then instructed to rest our hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ. No, we ought not to rest our hope in our own abilities, or in our pastors, our denominations, or in our evangelists, but rather upon the grace that we receive at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

My hope is in Him. It is not in me, it is not in my abilities, my hope is in Jesus and in what He accomplished on Calvary.

'But what about your whole holiness kick, and the things we are instructed to do? How does that fit into the hope we ought to have upon the grace we received at the revelation of Christ?'

Simply put, I know without doubt, that if I do all that I am instructed to do via the Word of God, His grace is sufficient to carry me, no matter how far it must. I must obey the Word, and do the things it instructs me to do, knowing that in and of themselves the things I do will never get me to heaven, but also knowing that the grace I received through Christ Jesus, will.

It's like someone with a heart condition going to the doctor and the doctor telling him he must eat better, start exercising, and watch his stress levels in order to improve his heart, and the individual saying to the doctor, *'no I don't, I don't have to do any of those things, it will just get better on its own.'*

The Word of God tells us to gird up the loins of our mind, it tells us to be sober, it tells us to be holy that we might be able to rest our hope fully upon the grace that was brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ, and many believers today are simply responding, *'no, no we don't, we don't have to do any of those things!'*

to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ..."

How is it that these selfsame individuals are beside themselves when the emptiness gets to be too much, and no one answers when they call out in their time of distress?

How can you hope to have God's favor, how can you hope to rest fully in the grace of Christ, if you did not do what you were instructed to do by the Word of God in the first place?

Another thing we are called upon to do, another thing we are instructed to do, is not conform ourselves to our former lusts, as in our ignorance, but rather to be holy in all our conduct.

'But how can this be when we've been told time and again that we can just keep on sinning, and that grace will cover it up every time?'

How can we possibly be expected not to conform ourselves to our former lusts when preachers today don't have the wherewithal to call even the most vile of practices sin anymore?

'Be holy? But that would mean stop sinning wouldn't it? That would mean not returning to our own vomit like dogs so often do. That would mean actually pursuing holiness in all our conduct wouldn't it?'

Yes, yes it would, and that is exactly what God expects of each and every single individual who calls themselves a son or daughter of His. His expectation is that we not conform ourselves to the former lusts, whatever those former lusts happened to be, but rather to be holy.

So can holiness be like a part time job? Can we be holy half the time, and then do what the flesh wants the rest of the time? Can we be holy only when we're around other Christians, or when we're in church but then let our hair down when no one's around?

I will let you decide what the word 'all' means, since we are instructed to be holy in all our conduct. Finally, as to why we ought to be holy, it is pretty simple: because it is written, *'be holy for I am holy.'* Anything more would be superfluous.

With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.

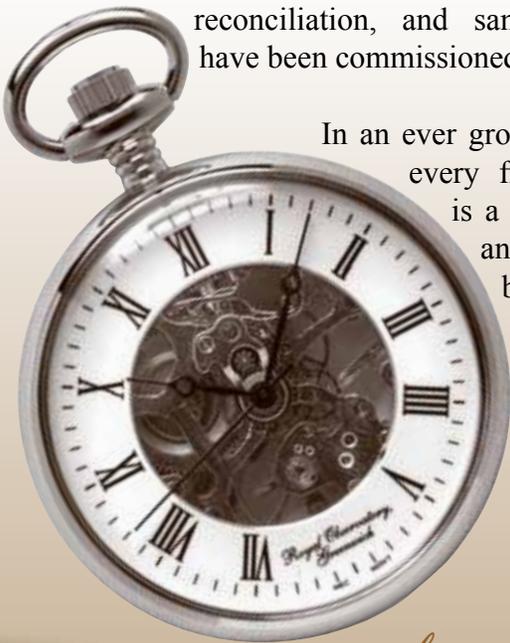
While

We Are Able

You rarely, if ever hear of senior citizens wasting days on end playing video games. Perhaps it has something to do with their aversion to technology, but I would like to think it also has something to do with the fact that they've learned the true value of time, and refuse to waste it on something futile and of no lasting merit.

In the end, time is the most precious commodity you have, and how you manage your time, what you do with the time you've been given, and if you live with the knowledge that time is a finite thing for us while on this earth, all play into how you live your life, and what you dedicate yourself to.

I have lived with the knowledge of the fleetingness of this present life for many years now. Before I was old enough to enjoy my adolescence, it seems I was made aware that the river of time flows endlessly, and once the moment passes it is gone forever. As such, I have strived to dedicate my life and the time I've been given to things that matter, and in my humble opinion nothing matters more than the truth of God's Word, and the message of salvation, reconciliation, and sanctification we have been commissioned to preach.



In an ever growing darkness,
every flicker of light
is a precious thing,
and though we are
by no means a
multi-national
ministry, and
we cannot
boast of our

own studios and dedicated satellites, we do have a radio program that is currently being broadcast on seventeen radio stations throughout the United States, and though it is only fifteen minutes long, you would be surprised how much truth you can pack into fifteen minutes if you are so inclined.

This article is not intended to take away from the support we send overseas, but I realize full well that not all who receive our newsletter are called to help the people of Romania. Some have it on their hearts to support the spreading of the gospel locally, in their city or nation, and if you happen to be such a one, I would ask that you pray about supporting our radio program and helping to keep it on the air. We are receiving good feedback, there are many who have come to repentance, and who have come to see the need for Christ through it, and seeing as the fruit is tangible, we would like to keep the programs airing if we are able.

Speaking of time, the Word tells us we must redeem it, and work while it is day because the coming of the night is a certainty, and once the night comes no man can work. The night is approaching, we can see it clearly, but there is still enough daylight to work by, and I for one do not want to be counted among the many who will lament not having labored while they could.

If the Lord leads, help. No prosperity handkerchiefs in return, no holy water from the Holy Hand, no crystal crosses or autographed portraits, just a heartfelt thank you for helping to keep a little light burning in spite of all the darkness surrounding it.

With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.

*...work while it is day
because the coming of the night is certainty...*

Mission Field

After spending two weeks at Hand of Help Orphanage, I have a better understanding of the love Jesus Christ calls us to.

Loving God with all of ourselves and loving our neighbors as ourselves isn't easy. It is counter-cultural and hard to find in today's world. But at Hand of Help, they truly demonstrate this love in their work both at the orphanage and in the community surrounding Botosani.

I am a 24-year-old from Texas and I have been backpacking solo around Europe for three months now. I've seen the canals in Venice, relaxed in the cafes in Paris, and hiked the mountains in Austria, but the place I have enjoyed most is Romania, and that is because of the people at Hand of Help.

Everyone – the staff, the cooks, the children – made me feel like a part of their family, even though I had never met them before. After arriving at the orphanage my first day in Romania, the kids welcomed me with open arms, asking me my name. The staff greeted me with smiles, and the cooks prepared generous meals for me. I came ready to serve and teach but I quickly realized I was the one who would be served and taught.

Everything I was worried about before my arrival – the language barrier, the uncertainty of being in a new place, trying to relate to kids I've never met before – simply wasn't an issue. That's

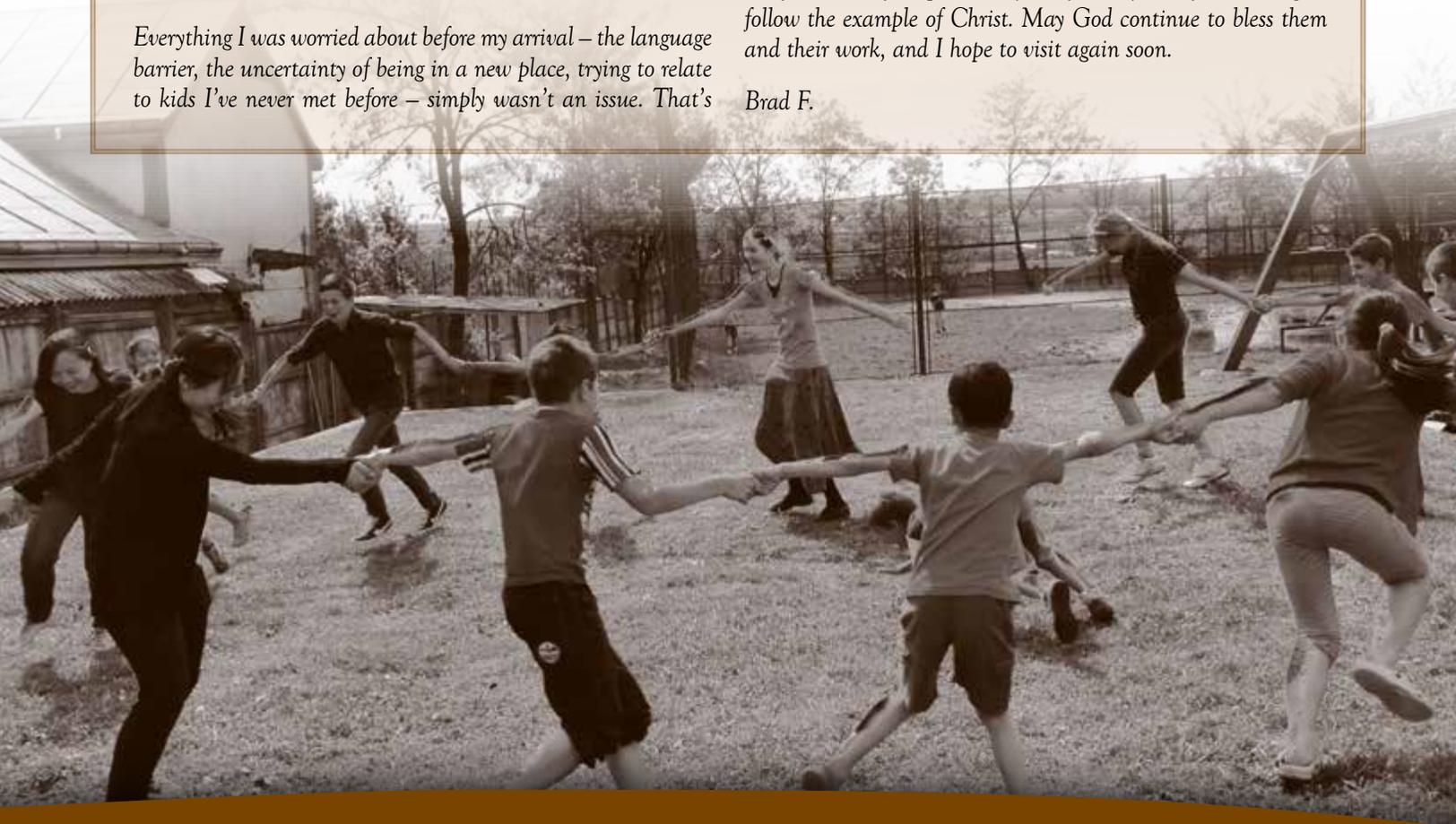
what the love of Christ does – it overcomes all barriers and obstacles.

Spending a lot of time with the children was an incredible blessing. They tirelessly wanted to be with me and play with me and always made sure I had enough to eat and drink. A few of the older kids even knew English and talked to me and translated for me. They all taught me a lesson in love and joy, and I developed a few close friendships.

I also had the chance to visit a few of the villages surrounding Botosani. I saw the large needs of some of the families, many of which struggle to have a roof over their heads and food on their tables. I thank God that He allows Hand of Help to be His hands and feet in these areas.

I will continue to keep in touch with and support Hand of Help. They have truly inspired me for my own journey in seeking to follow the example of Christ. May God continue to bless them and their work, and I hope to visit again soon.

Brad F.





Dear Brethren,

1 John 2:18, “Little Children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.”

The world is on fire. Even those who until recently told themselves their eyes were deceiving them, have come to terms with the reality that wherever you look, whatever continent you happen to focus upon, there is either turmoil, unrest, war, rumors of war, pestilences, earthquakes, or varying degrees of all manner of schisms. These are the days of which we have been warned for long and long, and to their detriment many chose to ignore the warnings, or shrug their shoulders and think to themselves it didn't really matter what would happen because they weren't going to be here for it anyway.

It is happening, and they're still here, and for many today this proposition is terrifying because they did not take the time to cement themselves in the promises of God, to root themselves in the Word of God, and to know beyond doubt that come what may, God would keep them, protect them, and shelter them.

Throughout the world nations are readying themselves, drawing lines, forming alliances, and preparing their citizenry for war, because they now see what we've been seeing for many a year, and they realize it's all coming to a head.

Closer to home the church is groping about trying to find its spine, and every denomination seems to be in a race to the bottom to see which one can embrace more sin, more readily, and with wider arms. From what the leaders of said denominations are saying, none of them want to be *'on the wrong side of history'*, never mind the fact that in this case to be on *'the right side of history'*, is to be on the wrong side of God.

Nobody seems to be concerned with what God says anymore, nobody seems to lose any sleep over the warnings of God toward His own children, that if they do not repent, and return to their first love He will thoroughly remove Himself from their midst, because everyone's too busy building sandcastles in the middle of the hurricane to even wonder at what God has to say.

Why does every generation believe itself to be the exception? How is it that we can look at the history of human existence, see ourselves making the same grievous mistakes those who came before us did, see the end result of said mistakes, and still say to ourselves that our end will be different?

Some are grudgingly beginning to realize certain age old truths, such as edgy dulls, and witty sours, but they have yet to come to the inevitable conclusion that the only thing that matters is the foundation upon which you have built your edifice, and whether or not you've built a true and lasting home, or just a haystack for the flames to consume.

We are still grappling with whether we want to be liked by the world or by God, when this matter should have been settled long ago, and because as yet we are undecided to whom we will surrender our affections, we are playing both sides against the middle, bidding our time, and hoping that we won't have to choose, that the guy with the hipster glasses and the twenty years too old for skinny jeans look is right, and God will just sweep all the dregs into heaven with a giant mop at last call, sans repentance, sans obedience, sans holiness.

We praise men who give us license to sin, and mock, ridicule, and downright persecute those who would still insist upon holiness unto the Lord, or something as unheard of in our day and age as sanctification. There is hatred and vitriol

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Dear Brethren,

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coming from without and from within the church, all geared toward those who will not go along to get along, who will not compromise the truth, and here they are, the last handful of souls clinging to Christ, surrounded, and buffeted on all sides, told by the godless and those they consider brothers that their insistence upon a Biblical standard is foolish and antiquated.

If it sounds like I am venting, I do not mean to be, and I apologize. It's just that the hour is so late, the darkness is so profound, and the danger so palpable, that one would think the church would have stirred to full wakefulness by now, put on its armor, arranged itself on the battlefield, and prepared for the imminent battle.

Instead, much of the church is still asleep, its convictions are nonexistent, and other than paying God a little lip service from time to time, it is doing absolutely nothing substantial. Even the godless are shaming us. At least they stand by their convictions, and men have given billions to baby murder emporiums and other dastardly enterprises, while some believers seriously contemplate asking for change when shakily throwing in that dollar bill, having had no qualms about shelling out twenty thousand dollars the week before for a motorcycle they will likely ride less than a handful of times throughout their life.

No, it's not about money, but where you put your money, your time, and your resources is a good indicator of where your heart is, and though many might say their hearts belong to God, their actions prove beyond doubt that they are lying through their teeth.

I'm tired of being told I have to play nice, and pull punches, and tailor my words in such a way wherein their primary purpose is to be of no offense to anyone. I'm not being told this by the world, but by well-meaning believers, who

sincerely want to see this ministry grow. The only problem, is that the purpose of this ministry is not to grow this ministry but to speak the truth even if it means doing to so an empty room. If ministry is an end unto itself and we sacrifice truth for that end, then we are of all men most pitiable, on the same plain as those who have hope in this life only.

If some, or all take offense at my words, so be it. As long as my words are in harmony with God's Word, then I will assume the risk. Yes, I will risk your friendship, and even your support of this ministry for the sake of truth, for to do anything less in this late hour is to be in open rebellion to God.

You see it, I know you do, and you know that we have very little time left before we can no longer work, before the day is spent and darkness covers the land.

I and this ministry will continue to do what we can, as we can, to speak the truth of God's Word unashamedly, to stand for Christ even if others have long abandoned Him, and all I can do is thank you for standing with us. Thank you for your prayers, thank you for your support, and thank you for considering truth important enough to give of yourself, your time, and your resources.

John 14:6, "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'"

John 14: 21, "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.