

Hand of HELP

July - August 2018



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FOUNDER



Blessed Be the
Name of the Lord!



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Blessed Be the Name of the Lord!

Throughout our years in His service, one message rings clearer than any other: “Blessed be the Name of the Lord”. We find strength and encouragement in the words of those in the midst of the storm who, with Job-like faith, persevere, and in spite of losing everything, wouldn’t dare sin or accuse God of wrongdoing.

JOB 1:21-22 – *And said, Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.*

Certain seasons of life are easier to get through than others, and for some even the difficult seasons seem like a mere bump in the road, but I believe we can all relate to life’s moments of anguish and despair. Whether it’s losing a loved one, watching one’s spouse suffer in the grip of an illness, losing our entire life’s savings in an instant, watching the destruction of our dwelling or even seeing our prodigals drifting further and further from truth and from our Father, we’ve all known pain to varying degrees, and not one soul walking the earth today has been spared from it.

I believe that it is those very moments which define us, which reveal where our faith has been placed, and ultimately determine

where we stand. Having lost my mother when she was only 47, I too have struggled with the “why”. Watching our God take home a mother to over 100 orphaned children ignited a six month period of questioning in my life. Peace was nowhere to be found and the Lord seemed further away than ever. After half a year, I vividly remember the minute when I could do nothing else but fall to my knees and accept His Sovereignty. Blessed be the Name of the Lord forever!

I do not know who this is for, but stand firm, our God is in control! He is Sovereign and He is carrying you right this very moment!

The last 48 hours of our trip to Romania were the hardest to take in. The city of Botosani, where the orphanage is located, was hit by historic monsoon-like rains, inundating the area with what is normally our annual average in less than 48 hours. With the city’s sewer system being as old and unkept as it is, our orphanage started flooding on June 29th.

To say I was disheartened would be an understatement. I felt as if someone had punched me in the stomach, knowing far too well the damage that the sewer water would do to our basement and to a children’s room that had just been renovated.

Even in the turmoil of making sure all of the children were safe, having the older ones help with removing sewer water one bucket at a time, we could see God’s Hand of protection and His Grace shine upon us.

As water first started pouring through one the electrical outlets, I was called and asked to come back to the orphanage. I had just left but was still in my car right in front of the orphanage gate answering some emails. As I jumped out, the orphanage electrician pulled up in his vehicle, he had come to pick up his wife who cooks for the children; the orphanage administrator was already in the building because someone accidentally turned on the heater in the kitchen and the plumber was filling in for the guard on duty. Within 30 seconds of imminent danger to our children, everyone that needed to be there, was present and accounted for. Happenstance? Not one bit! God’s blessing and protection over our children’s home.

The following morning, when the city sewer could no longer keep up with the volume of water,



Blessed Be the Name of the Lord!



an employee of ours discovered 15 inches of sewer water in the orphanage basement. We put in an urgent call to the fire department (in Romania they are delegated to help with emergency water removal) and we witnessed yet another miracle. The dispatcher knew of our orphanage and immediately sent firefighters to come to our aid, giving us priority over the 200 institutions that had already reported damage and requested help. Within 5 minutes of placing the call, the teams of firefighters were both pumping water out of our basement and clearing the neighboring sewer of debris.

Our flesh would first like to ask,



why? Why would God allow an orphanage to flood? It is a good thing that we have a Biblical precedent to glean from and we don't have to allow our thoughts to wander. Job had it right! God is in control, blessed be the Name of the Lord!

If you are going through something right now, please rest assured that God has already prepared a way for you. Though you might feel that His resolution tarries, find peace in knowing that He is Sovereign and His timing is perfect.

As frustrating as it might be to see a newly renovated space affected by water damage, I know that the Lord of all is in control and He will speak and compel those who can help carry this burden and lighten the load.

COLOSSIANS 3:17 - *And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

The verse above says the same thing thrice, because God knew we might not get it the first time.

-whatsoever ye do

-in word or deed

-do ALL in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

We give thanks for the storm, the flooding, the trial, the unity created amongst the employees and the children working hand in hand, and in faith, we give thanks for the resolution of the repairs that are needed as a result of the damage. We give thanks to God our Father, in the precious Name of our Lord Jesus!

Blessed be the Name of the Lord!
Daniel Boldea

God's Specific Calling

Time and time again we meet people that seem lost, wandering and frustrated, not understanding the calling that the Lord would have for their life. We all understand the general call unto salvation, and the admonition to be holy, but there are genuine believers out there in complete disarray, wanting to serve, but who have not a clue where they might be called to do so.

We have also been blessed to see laser-focused ministers of the Gospel, knowing exactly where they are called to serve and doing so unwaveringly. One such family are the Tileas – full time missionaries from Romania, in the Ukraine.



Their calling, and the people they serve, are very specific in nature: children with disabilities and their families.

I am certain that when God calls us into an area of ministry, He also equips us with the tools needed to do so. I, for one, would not be able to minister to these children, as every time I hear of their plight or see a picture, I am reduced to tears and a state of profound introspection. Being a parent myself and having raised 3 healthy boys, I can't



God's Specific Calling

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God's Specific Calling



imagine the pain one must wake up to every morning, ready to tend to their child who, unless the Lord miraculously heals, will never be able to function independently.

Raising a child with special needs in Eastern Europe is even more challenging, not only because of the lack of accessibility ramps or specific accommodation for those in a wheelchair, but from the stigma that is carried by those with disabilities in this part of the world. Society's character flaw toward those with special needs in the area is inherited from the communist era when those with disabilities were marginalized and often hidden away in order to avoid the judgmental glances of a passer-by certain that one was stricken by God.

The lack of genuine sympathy or even acceptance leaves the families that are already dealing with their child's affliction without a support group and in utter desperation.

This is where the ministry of the Tileas begins. They are impacting society by giving these families a respite, a time where volunteers can

lighten the load of taking care of their loved one during an extended weekend camp, while the parents are immersed in the life-changing message of the Gospel. God's love in action, not just words! Oh, if the Church would only understand how effective the Gospel is in action!

The cost for the camp is \$50 per person, with 100 people in attendance at a time. Volunteers are exclusively used for staffing, keeping the costs as low as possible. Families are encouraged to bring their entire families for a time of rest and getting in the Word. Their desire is to have 3 camps per year.

Gabriel and Irina Tilea thank God for the opportunity to serve the least of these and ask that you would remember them and their outreach in your prayers.



Regarding your specific calling, start somewhere for the Lord. Your hand will never meet the plough if you never even make it to the field. Until the Lord gives you divine revelation on what He might have you do, get involved in any good work, pleasing to the Lord. It doesn't have to be world changing, it doesn't have to be monumental, it

only has to be sincere, selfless, and sacrificial. In this swirling mass of humanity, it's easy to overlook a kindness, or minimize bringing a smile to someone's face, but for the individual in question, there is nothing small or irrelevant about it. Our heavenly Father might not give you your own ministry right away, but He does expect us to be diligent with our time and fruitful for the Kingdom, coming alongside others or other good works until it is further revealed to us what specific calling He might have for us.

ZECHARIAH 4:10 - *For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.*

JOHN 9:4 - *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 - *Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

**In His Work,
Pastor Mircea Boldea Sr**

The Return of the Prodigals

LUKE 15:24 – *For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.*

Not one event in life, not a single special occasion, absolutely nothing can compare with the joy a parent feels when their child decides to follow our precious Lord Jesus Christ.

LUKE 15:7 – *I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.*

Any event that has heaven rejoicing must be acknowledged and celebrated by those on earth as well. Rejoice with us for the orphanage children that have “returned home” and committed their lives to the Lord. As with every Christian believer, we would love to see our children dedicating their lives and being baptized before leaving the homestead, but that is rarely the case. It often takes life’s circumstances, while on their own, to work in the seed that we plant during their years in our care.

In lieu of a child on the month, we are sharing our joy regarding Ema Banu and Iuliana Babiuc who were baptized this past spring along with their husbands.

Nothing gives us the strength needed to continue the work the Lord has trusted us with more

than seeing their lives turned around and following the Lord. It reminds us that we are not just raising children, or saving lives, we are saving souls. We are winning precious souls for the Kingdom. To God be the Glory!

We petition you to continue in fervently praying for the salvation of the Hand of Help children, whether currently at the orphanage or on their own. We ask that you would continue to pray about supporting the work that is plucking children out of poverty and sin and offering them the abundance of eternal life spent with Him.

Thank you for being a part of such a miraculous work in the lives of Ema and Iuliana.

**In Christ,
Pastor Mircea Boldea Sr**



Good Stewardship

As a ministry, we have been sending containers of relief goods for over 25 years. While in previous years shipments have been fewer and further between, there were many years when we would send multiple loads.

However daunting the task of sorting, categorizing goods, packing and inventorying piece by piece, we have never steered away from what we have felt was the best solution to meet the needs of the orphaned and impoverished of Romania, Moldova and Ukraine.

We thank God for all those who have self-sacrificed and taken the time to make quilts and knitwear

for the Romanian people, as well as those who have given of their money and time to shop for or pack and send personal goods to the ministry.

In light of ever-changing customs regulations and fumigation requirements, and increased shipping costs, we are announcing that the items that we currently have in our warehouse represent the last shipment that will be going over to Romania, for the time being.

If you still have goods that you would like to be included with this shipment, please get them to us no later than August 20th, 2018.

We praise God for the doors that have opened up in the E.U. for acquiring clothing at a cheaper cost than paying for shipping of goods from the US.

Please join us in praying for the \$8,800 needed to ship our final container to Romania this fall.

Thank you again for partnering with us through the years in clothing thousands. We pray that you would consider continuing being a part of this project as we plan on sourcing locally, in Romania.

**Blessings,
The Hand of Help Staff**

A Safe Place

Iwish this were the typical story, of the typical poor family, still not able to make it no matter how hard working and industrious they might be. It would be easy to share it. It would not be a difficult task to convey how a family of five children needs a place to live, and a roof over their heads, but some situations are darker than others, and dark as they might be, some of them still need to be told.

It's not as though he changed out of the blue; it's that he got a lot worse upon his return from working in Spain. This is not a love story. Far from it. For some the brutality of the relationship we are about to share with you

might seem otherworldly, but unfortunately such cases are prevalent in Romania, as well as many of the Eastern European countries surrounding it.

How men can become monsters is difficult to fathom, and it is doubly difficult to answer why, but we know that they do, and the evidence is incontrovertible. The darkness of men's hearts truly knows no limits when the light of God is absent.

Even before going off to find work, Catalin Pojar physically abused his wife from time to time. As is often the case she always ended up staying, justifying it in her head somehow, and not



A Safe Place



wanting to leave her children without a father. As horrible as it was for her husband to lay hands on her, oftentimes unprovoked, it was somehow manageable.

That all changed when he returned from working in Spain, and what had been occasional outbursts of violence became all too regular. Not only had the frequency of violence intensified, so had the brutality and severity. Finally, when they could no longer stand



by and watch what was happening, Mirela's family attempted to intervene, only to be attacked by Catalin with a pitchfork. They saw no other option but to call the police, and Mirela, along with her five children, were removed from a toxic situation that would have likely ended with her in the hospital, or in a casket.

A fellow believer who is working abroad but owns a home in Tudor Vladimirescu was moved by Mirela's situation and is allowing Mirela, Ruben, Benjamin, Rahela, Samuel (who is only six years old and diagnosed with Down's Syndrome) and Tabita, to stay in his house, until she is able to raise enough money to purchase it from him outright.

One thing is certain: Mirela cannot return to the home she and Catalin shared, not only for her own safety, but for the safety of her children as well.

The home they are currently living in is beautiful. It has an orchard, and is big enough to accommodate Mirela and her children. Between her siblings and some local believers, Mirela has been able to raise twelve thousand of the thirty thousand Euro she needs to purchase the home, leaving her eighteen thousand shy of her goal.

The brother who owns the home is very understanding, and is allowing Mirela to live there until she is able to come up with the entire sum.

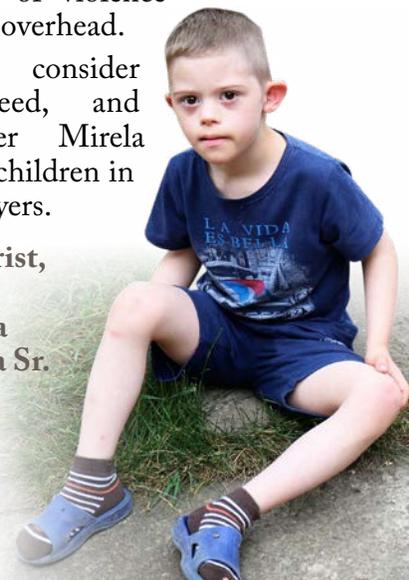
As I said, this is not the typical case, but I believe wholeheartedly that it is a project we were meant to



undertake, so that Mirela and her children might have a safe place, a place they can call home, without the fear of violence hanging overhead.

Please consider this need, and remember Mirela and her children in your prayers.

**In Christ,
Pastor
Mircea
Boldea Sr.**



Dear Brethren,

I don't often indulge in thoughts of what could have been or what might have been. For the most part it is a fruitless exercise rife with supposition and speculation that in the end leaves one with more questions than answers, and an eerie feeling that things may have turned out better, if only.

It's strange that when contemplating what might have been we never allow for the reality that things might have turned out worse. For some strange reason it's always better. I know with certainty that there were moments in my life when things would have undoubtedly turned out worse rather than better, but there were also times when the situation didn't seem so clear.

I am certain that had I not stopped at a scenic overpass in Vermont to stretch my legs back in 2012, things would have turned out far worse seeing as the car that was immediately behind me, as I was pulling off the highway, hit a moose head on, then was rear ended by the car following it. As I drove past the accident scene, with ambulances and emergency vehicles painting the evening sky red, I knew it was providence that nudged me to pull off the highway. It had been nothing short of the the Hand of God protecting me from something tragic.

By the same token, I'm not so certain that things would have turned out worse for me had I held on to the Taser stock I bought at \$1.25 and sold at \$2.80, which then went on to hit over \$100, split two times, and hit \$100 again.

I have to allow for the undeniable truth that God knew best, even if in the physical it's difficult to see how,

exactly.

As I said, some things are strikingly clear, while other things, not so much.

Upon hearing that the current administration is about to name another justice to the Supreme Court, I allowed myself a moment to consider what would have likely been had the other side won the election in 2016, and what will likely be, given what we know of the two men who will be filling the vacancy, one already confirmed and sitting on the bench, the other yet to be confirmed.

No matter how many voices insist upon the notion that it doesn't really matter who won the election, and who subsequently gets to nominate Supreme Court justices, I can't see the fact that my wife won't have to explain to my daughters why daddy is being arrested for calling homosexuality a sin, as anything less than a good thing.

No matter how many individuals choose to sit on the sidelines and perpetually criticize without offering any substantive alternatives, I can't see the fact that, for the first time since its passing, there is a real and viable chance of overturning Roe Vs Wade and actually saving the lives of defenseless, unborn babies, as anything less than a noble step forward.

We know that all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution, but the Bible never says we have to yearn for it, or hurry it along, if at all possible. If we are given a window to work, then work we must. If we are given a window to preach, then preach we must. Being as Jonah and whining about God not judging a nation fast enough for

our taste is nothing but a waste of time, and a squandered opportunity to reach lost souls.

While we're on the topic, and since it will likely be another election cycle before I delve into anything even adjacent to politics in my letters to you, don't you find it odd that the same people who are beside themselves about the notion of families being separated at the border are the selfsame people who are apoplectic and inconsolable at the thought of ending the wholesale murder of unborn babies?

I realize it's a tall task indeed to insist upon intellectual consistency, but being intellectually inconsistent is one thing, and being an outright hypocrite is another. These people are hypocrites, and the propaganda they force upon the multitudes is being seen for what it is: an impotent attempt at convincing the silent majority to snatch defeat out of the hands of victory and to not push back against the darkness with the same intensity and ferocity it has pushed against us for all these years.

As I write these lines I close my eyes and picture what could have been, and without a moment's worth of hesitation, I can say it could have been, and likely would have been, much, much worse.

Our duty remains the same, and the war for the souls of men rages on. The fact that we don't have to worry about being taken away in shackles for speaking the truth, for a little while yet, ought to embolden us to double our efforts and strengthen our resolve so that we may one day stand before our God and declare that truly we redeemed the time.

**With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.**