



Dumitru Duduman  
Founder

# Hand of **HELP**



Hand of Help  
Ministries

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**HAND OF HELP**

PO Box 496719 • Garland, TX 75049

**HAND OF HELP OFFICE**

1012 South Third Street • Watertown, WI 53094

 [handofhelp.com/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/handofhelp.com)

Toll Free: 866-371-7636 Ph: 920-206-9910  
[www.handofhelp.com](http://www.handofhelp.com) [info@handofhelp.com](mailto:info@handofhelp.com)

 [handofhelp.com/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/handofhelp.com)

# True Truth

There has never been a moment in time when information, and disinformation for that matter, are as easily accessed, shared, and posted on public forums. The ease with which this occurs is astounding, and there is veracity in the old adage that the lie travels halfway around the world before the truth can get its pants on. While it is good to know how to pray specifically for various situations, we can find ourselves distracted or even consumed by things we hear or read about day to day. The conflicts that arise as we are quick to comment or publically offer a dissenting viewpoint are also due to a lack of self-restraint and often go against Biblical principles. I am thinking of Matthew 18:15-17 specifically.

In these very tumultuous, dire times, I would suggest a prayerful discernment and restraint rather than getting caught up in debates on what we believe *might be truth*. The only avenue afforded to us as believers is to stand firm on what we know to be **the truth!**

2 Timothy 2:15 *Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*

John 17:17 *Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.*

Someone insisting that the Ukraine war isn't really happening, or how the globalists are manipulating everything to further their agenda on a public forum, or how so and so president has a sinful past, is placed there by the Illuminati, masons, is a puppet in the hands of the Rockefellers, funded by Soros and propped up by Bill Gates, might not be well received by the crying mother at ground zero that is just checking social media trying to find the nearest bomb shelter to which she might flee with her children while under active fire. So you can see how these

very different positions might lead to inflammatory back and forth, and understandably so.

2 Tim 4:4 *They will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.*





The Word of God says that “You will be hated by all for My name’s sake” and “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.”

We are not told that we will be blessed when we are persecuted for our ignorance, unbiblical reasoning, or unfounded working theories; we will be blessed when we are the recipients of persecution for righteousness’ sake, for His name’s sake.

As we navigate these troubled times, may the Lord grant us wisdom to choose not only our preoccupations, focus, and words carefully, but also the timing of their delivery, prayerfully and with grace, as “to everything, there is a season.”

Let us not waste time fighting and being willing to die on hills that are not to be the believer’s primary focus. Instead, let us take up the work we have been called to, fight, stand up for truth, be persecuted, and be ready to be martyred for divine truth, for righteousness’ sake, for His name’s sake.

*John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*John 4:24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.*

*John 8:32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*

*John 14:6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

Seeking out true Truth,  
Daniel Boldea



# Praises and Prayer Requests

During my trip in December, God allowed us to acquire \$2,500 worth of food for the church we purchased in Bakhmut. When I suggested that an emergency food pantry be established, the team of pastors and elders gave me a long look. In further discussion, I learned why. The main reason was that they had never had the financial support to prepare for a future need and did not believe that Ukraine would once again be at war. “Even if war does occur, we will still have access to food as we did in 2014.”

I couldn't take no for an answer. We prayed together,



and we talked about Joseph. I insisted that the money be spent on food, and if war did sidestep the area, we could readily distribute it to the impoverished during our outreach.

The above wasn't something that I had sought out to do as a rule while visiting the various ministry hubs; in fact, this was the only location where I was led to do so.

The war came, and for the first time, food was not being delivered to the area. The pastor immediately reached out to me, and together we thanked God for His provision. Of all the area churches we support,

this church is the only one still functioning at its location, the only one that would've needed an emergency food pantry. Praise God! He truly knows the end from the beginning and is Sovereign over all!

The church operates as a bomb shelter, a food distribution hub, and a soup kitchen for the area famished unable to leave.

I recently received a video from the pastor of women and children huddled in a bomb shelter in one of the villages they minister in. They were being led in a prayer of repentance. Amid this intense trial, lost souls cry out to the Lord in saving faith! What the enemy meant for evil, God would use for good!



Igor and Jania continue their bread distribution, and we have focused on getting as much money as possible to them to supply as many loaves as possible to the hungry in their area of ministry. In some areas of distribution, people are lining up 6 hours in advance under active shelling for a loaf of bread that costs 70¢ to \$1.





The Christian-owned and operated bakery that we have been working with for years has been bombed. As I write, they are looking to move the equipment which survived the bombing 6 miles west with the help of the military so that they can resume production.



The following is a conversation I had this week with Jania and Igor:  
 So the bakery will be operational next week?  
 “If Kurakhovo survives, yes. The fighting is getting closer.”  
 How far are you from the current fighting?  
 “Shells fall 1-1.5 miles from us.”  
 Are you still planning to stay?  
 “Yes, there are many people here, and they need us.”

“Many of the ministers left, and people come to us crying and asking, ‘Are you going to leave us?’ We cannot leave people at such a time. It is easy to serve when all is well, but we are called to serve in times of pain and need.”

How can we not pray and do whatever we can for these missionaries?!



John 15:13 *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.*

1 John 3:16 *Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*

Jania and Igor have four children; the youngest is a newborn delivered prematurely and is currently in the hospital. Please keep them in your prayers!

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# The Clandestine Bible-Printing Press and the Nailless Believers

This title is not metaphorical. It is not about believers clawing their way to the top of the latest church popularity contest. On the contrary, this article is about believers literally being left without fingernails as they diligently labored distributing the Word of God, all while risking hefty fines and even years of jail time.



I had heard of brother Grisa from many of our mutual friends in the “old guard” of Christian brothers in our area of the world that went against the communist regime, stood firm, and labored for the Lord.

Known for his courage, boldness, and some might say stubbornness, brother Grisa served during a time when being a Christian implied great sacrifice.



During my last trip to Ukraine in December, I had the privilege to meet with and interview our brother Grisa.

He ran a clandestine communist era Bible-printing press in the basement of his home in Chernivtsi, Ukraine. The picture is of one of the tens of thousands of copies of the New Testament that they printed.

He shared with me how every page had to be individually hand-fed into the press, turned over and fed again, hand-folded, and hand-bound. During this labor-intensive process, those working on the Bibles were left without fingernails, but everyone served with great joy. No sacrifice was too great to get the priceless Word of God into the hands of those hungry for it!



He shared how the volunteers worked without speaking to each other. Information was only given to the core group of believers that could carry the responsibility without breaking under torture and giving up their method of producing and delivering the Bibles.

“I value that time. You knew exactly who you were and what your purpose was. There was no ambiguity with being a Christian. We knew we had to get as many Bibles as possible into the hands of the people, and we were ready to risk everything doing so.”

Brother Grisa continued sharing that he would much rather return to that time and do it all over again than witness how the Bible is neglected in this generation.



The team of dedicated servants sent Bibles to Siberia, over 6,000 kilometers away by rail. You can see some of the crates pictured. While the Bibles were free, they included a letter to the recipient requesting that money be sent back for the shipping expense. This

was done to confirm that the Bibles were making it to the final destination and that the recipients treasured the shipment enough to cover the cost, which was no easy task in Siberia.



Our brother reported that 75% of those they sent Bibles to returned the shipping cost to them!

Though undergoing open-heart surgery over 15 years ago, brother Grisa is more involved than ever in distributing emergency relief to our brothers and sisters trapped in various pockets of Ukraine.

“This window is short. There will come a time when helping will no longer be an option. I need to do everything I can while I can. What else might I live for than serving our God, His people, and proclaiming the Gospel?”

As the world unravels, may we too be found laboring in our Father’s harvest field.

Daniel Boldea

*“Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!”*

Isaac Watts



# Praises and Prayer Requests (cont.)

The picture below was not randomly taken off the internet; it is the apartment building where one of our pastors lived. Unfortunately, his home was destroyed along with over half of their city.



We praise God that their entire congregation has been safely moved west and are praying on how to proceed.

The pastors have been driving over 20 hours each way, evacuating refugees and going back to far eastern Ukraine with carloads of food and medical supplies for their communities. We were able to provide immediate fuel assistance for their long-haul trips. They are exhausted and in need of our prayers.

Pastor Vadim has been drafted as a war chaplain and sees the gruesome war casualties. His family stayed with us in Botosani so that he could minister the Gospel without worrying about the safety of his wife and children. Please pray for his protection and that God would use Him to preach the Gospel to many!



The day after the war had begun, we called an emergency meeting with the orphanage leadership and moved to prepare for the influx of refugees. As we were looking for beds and mattresses in preparation to receive the refugees, someone called and asked if we could use some beds and mattresses. The Lord provided the exact number needed!





Pastor Mike Boldea Sr., after sharing the plight of some of the refugees we welcomed at the orphanage, said something to us that still resonates in our ears: “I would much rather be the one helping those fleeing than be the one having to flee.”

We are also grateful to God for those who reached out, as things were escalating in the region and provided the money necessary to purchase a large amount of food to have on hand at the orphanage, both for the children and the refugees.



Our hope and trust are in the Lord! We see His hand guiding and providing for us each step of the way!

We have teams of volunteers on either side of the border, housing, feeding, and aiding refugees as they make their way to their final destination.

At the orphanage, we have set up 45 beds and, so far, have had the privilege to provide a temporary home for over 300 individuals. Most of them are on their way to other countries and just transiting through, but we have had some guests stay longer.

We are currently hosting an older family traveling with their elderly parent. They cannot go elsewhere as the mother is too frail to be moved.

Our youngest refugee was only seven days old, his mother having had to flee Ukraine the day he was born.



Pray for them! The time will come when others will have to pray for us.

In prayer for the hurting in Ukraine,  
Hand of Help Staff



# It Has Begun

We will never forget the exact place we were sitting when we saw the first tower struck on 9/11. Our reaction, gasp, the first person we called, and the first words we uttered in prayer will be engrained in our memories forever.

I will never forget the evening of February 23rd, 2022 (the early morning of February 24th in Ukraine), when breaking news came on and reports on the beginning of a large-scale Russian attack were coming in. At that moment, I was overwhelmed with two emotions: grief for the people I have come to love and intense gratitude for Providence in establishing channels through which we can continue to help those in the hardest-hit areas of Ukraine.



1 Cor 12:26a *If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it.*

As one who has been to the area three times, I dare not offer up my opinion regarding military strategy, geopolitics, who or what President

Zelensky is or isn't. Instead, I hope to rally the people of God to pray for our brothers and sisters going through extreme trials.

I cannot excuse myself from doing what I can during this time by what may or may not be happening in the shadows. Unfortunately, I see a lot of that. I cannot control the misinformation thrown at us from all sides, but I can spend time with the Author of Truth Himself.

I genuinely believe that this war will be discussed for generations if the Lord tarries. Children will be asking their parents and grandparents, "Were you around for that?" I pray that we can look our grandchildren in the eyes and say, "Yes! We prayed for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine; we prayed for the lost that they might come to saving faith; we prayed for the Russians' eyes to be opened to the truth and come to the Lord, and these are the testimonies that arose!"

This is a moment when history will be unforgiving to those who do nothing.

Let our prayer be that God would use what the enemy meant for evil for good!

Let us cling to the truths of Scripture and proclaim, "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

We can only do what is in our ability to do; nothing more can be asked of us.

In His Service,  
Daniel Boldea

# Child of the Month

Genoveva was born in 2007. Her story is sadly one we have heard so many times before. Since her birth, Genoveva has lived with her mother at her grandmother's house, her father unknown. A few years later, her mother married and left Genoveva in the care of her grandmother.

When the marriage fell apart, the mother moved abroad, searching for work, and met her future husband. Years later, the new family moved back to Romania and took Genoveva into their care. However, this situation only lasted a short while. Before long, Genoveva was back living with her grandmother.

Without a parent figure in her life and due to numerous tensions in the household, the young girl soon fell into the trap of dangerous online activities. After two attempts to run away from home, the local Child Protection Authorities intervened and decided that it was unsafe for Genoveva to return to

either her grandmother's or her mother's house. Hand of Help was asked to get involved in helping Genoveva.

We welcomed her warmly, thanking God that He has given us the chance to guide her steps, share the Gospel message with her and help her navigate through this stage of life. She is grateful to have finally found a welcoming, loving home. She is striving to study hard to recuperate for the times she neglected her education and is also going through much-needed medical and spiritual counseling.

Please join us in praying for Genoveva! Only God can open her eyes to the truth and give her a new heart. We pray that God will strengthen her as she tries to overcome the barriers of her past. We might have a short while to help her, but we know God can bring about a complete change with just one touch! May He draw Genoveva unto Himself and be her firm foundation.



# Dear Brethren,

The longer one walks the journey of faith, the more cemented one's trust in God's omnipotent, divine hand to make all things work together for the good of those who love Him. Of course, even the most seasoned believer has moments of hesitancy, moments when clarity is not forthcoming in the fullness thereof, but in those moments, they have the fallback of experience to keep them from stumbling.

Having gone through the valleys more often than they'd like to number, having seen the hand of Providence guiding them through the waters and the flood, the children of God know that nothing is impossible to Him. Even in the worst of times, He is still effortlessly holding this fractured world together by His will alone.

This doesn't mean we will no longer see the vivid reminders of what atrocities man can visit upon his fellow man; it has been thus since the beginning. The only thing that has changed is that we've gotten better at it and more creative when it comes to delivery methods. Cruelty, wanton destruction, and yes, even senseless death are woven into the fabric of this fallen world, and until heaven and earth are made anew, we will continue to hear of them.

The news of war and rumors of war ought not to surprise us. The only action the children of God must undertake when they hear of these things is to assess whether or not there is anything they can do to help, and once they've determined that there is, do so to the utmost.

We can pray that peace might win out in the end, and we should. We can hope that the situations that arise throughout the world ameliorate independently. Still, when they don't, we must be the outstretched hands, the comforting embrace, the encouraging word, the shoulder to cry on, and yes, the hot meal, the warm bed, the change of clothes, and the pair of shoes.

We can hope, but we can also plan, because as a friend of mine is fond of saying, "Hope is not a strategy!"

Long ago, I came to a strange land with nothing to my name. Six other family members were along for the life-altering journey, and they too had very little as far as earthly belongings go. We had no money, didn't speak the native tongue, and had to count on the kindness of strangers to keep us from sleeping under an overpass. To this day, I remember how the smallest act of kindness made us feel, whether it was someone buying us groceries or showing us how to use public transit. At that young age, I learned that one man's little is another man's plenty, and ever since, doing something, no matter how insignificant in my own eyes, was what mattered most.

With love in Christ,  
Michael Boldea, Jr.

