

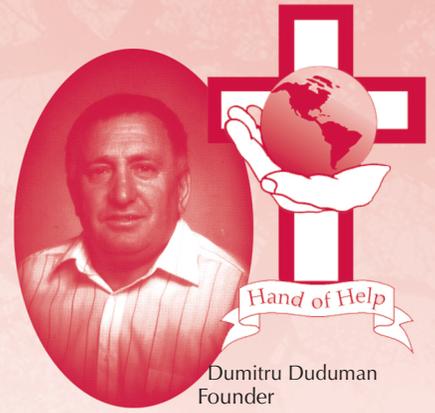
Hand of HELP

The Truth for Today

Hand of Help
P.O. Box 496719
Garland, TX 75049

Hand of Help Office
1012 South Third Street Wa-
tertown, Wisconsin 53094

Toll Free: (866) 371-7636 Ph: (920) 206-9910
<http://www.handofhelp.com> • Email: handofhelpoffice@aol.com



Hand of Help
Dumitru Duduman
Founder



Why We Labor

Nov. & Dec 2009, Jan. 2010



Being among the children again, watching their faces, seeing their smiles and seeing how they have grown and developed is a constant reminder not only of why we labor, but that our labors are not in vain. Sometimes it is easy to lose sight of why one does what they do. I've had friends and acquaintances that have started businesses that ended up doing quite well, others who have worked their way up in a company, only to lose sight of what motivated them in the first place, and subsequently lose their desire, their passion and their drive for their chosen field. Some have become disillusioned, walking away, while others just keep going through the motions, hoping to get back that spark that they lost.

I, along with all the Hand of Help staff know exactly why we labor; we know exactly why we sacrifice of ourselves, and the fire that was started in our hearts some twelve years ago when the orphanage first opened, burns brighter than ever before in our hearts. Much of the staff here in Romania has been with us since the very beginning, and most of the children who were adolescents or teenagers when we first opened our doors, are already married, with children and families of their own. Some who live in the area, still visit from time to time, because to them, the Hand of Help orphanage is the closest thing to home they have ever known. It is heartwarming to see the previous generation that has passed through our doors come and spend time with the new generation of children, telling them of their experiences, of how it was when they first came, and how their time here changed them for the better. Each child that has ever resided here, or that currently resides here has a story. They are not happy stories, they are not stories of butterflies and cotton candy, summer days or puffy clouds, but rather they are stories of heartache and pain, disillusionment and loss. All of them have been scarred in some way, and for some even after years of feeling the warmth of love from our staff, and knowing that they are safe, the scars remain.

We do not live in a perfect world, and this is painfully obvious for each of us with each passing day. It is however in a cruel world that the light of love shines ever brighter, and it is in a heartless world that people with the heart of Christ are all the more visible. We are here, each of us, to be testimonies of what Christ can do, the hope that He can give, the love that He exudes, and the peace that He brings, in a loveless, hopeless, cruel and merciless world.

We have seen the change in the lives of the children here. We have witnessed the growth both in character and in wisdom as time continues its march, and we are daily reminded of the reality that God has called us to this work, God has made a way for us to continue this work when there seemed to be no way, and through this work and your prayers and support of it, lives were not only changed and transformed but also saved.

*With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.*

The "Truth for Today" Television Show With Michael Boldea Program Guide.

Inspiration Network (Available on most home cable systems)

BROADCAST TIMES:

Tuesday:

9:30 PM Pacific Time
10:30 PM Mountain Time
11:30 PM Central Time

Wednesday:

12:30 AM Eastern Time

The web-site and contact number for INSP is:

<http://www.insp.com> • Phone: 803.578.1000

I.N.S.P. • PO Box 7750 • Charlotte, NC 28241

If you have a Christian Television Channel and would like us to contact them about airing the program please contact Gene Schmidt at <http://www.handofhelpoffice@aol.com>

The Little Things

The human heart weighs an average of ten ounces. Depending on the gender of the individual in question, it can vary two ounces to the heavier side, or to the lighter side. It is by any standard a little thing, but a necessary and vital part of the human organism as a whole. It is when one's heart beats its last that one is considered truly dead, passed from this life into that hereafter that for some is a reason for great fear and dread, while for others it is a reason for hope and rejoicing.

Besides the big projects that our ministry undertakes, it also does a large quantity of little things that might seem irrelevant to some, and can be easily dismissed by others. From the purchase of a cow or a goat, to the purchase of a refrigerator or a stove, from paying someone's gas bill, to someone's electric bill, to bringing a family a box of clothes or a food package, all these little things seem trifle and inconsequential, until you are the person needing one of them. What we might consider a little thing, is a necessity to someone else, and wisdom would tell us that when you are meeting a need, there is no such thing as a small need.

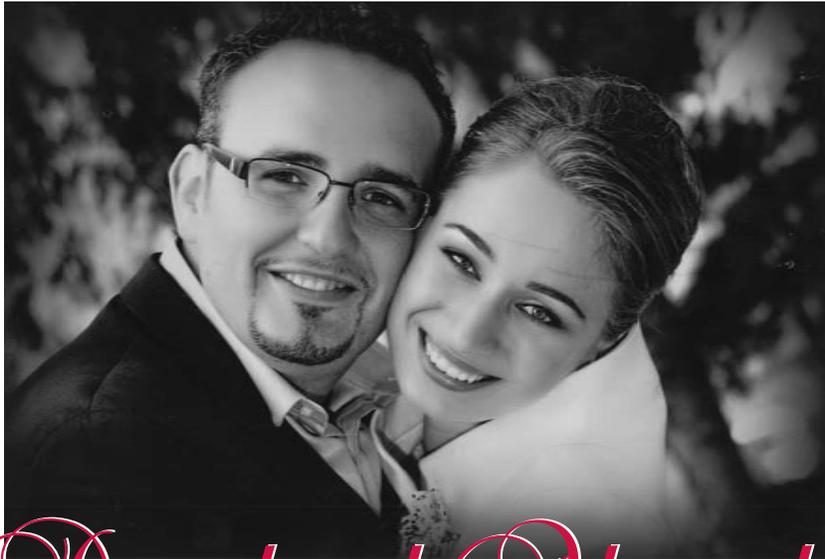
We know that God does not see us, or treat us as a collective, but rather as individuals, and as a ministry we have adopted the same mindset when it comes to meeting needs. We investigate each case individually, and help in such a manner wherein a prayer is answered, and what we do really does make a difference in a life. If I am in need of water, as benevolent as being offered a steak dinner might seem, it still doesn't deal with my need for water. As such, small blessings make a big difference in many lives, because their need was met on an individual basis.

As times continue to become more uncertain for a larger portion of the population than ever before, requests for basic necessities such as food packages and clothes have grown exponentially. We help as we are able, praying always for the opportunity and possibility to help more tomorrow than we did the previous day. Each new day comes with its own new challenges, but also with the opportunity to be a ray of hope in someone's life, and to be the means by which God answers someone's prayer.

It is in times of great distress that God's power becomes more evident in the lives of His children, as does His ability to provide supernaturally. We are ever thankful to God for those of you, who have opened your hearts, and have by your generosity and obedience, allowed us to keep doing what God has called us to do. Our prayers are with you, and we ask that you remember us in your prayers as well.

*Sincerely,
The Hand of Help Staff*



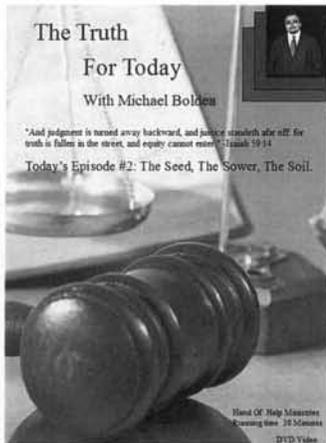


Daniel and Alexandra

Congratulations are extended to Daniel and Alexandra Boldea who were united in marriage on Oct. 31st 2009. The couple exchanged their vows in the serene, picturesque, Romanian village of Suceavita, located amidst the Carpathian Mountains. The couple met in the Messiah Church when Alexandra was visiting the fellowship. Both Daniel and Alexandra are finishing their studies and plan to reside in the suburb area of Bucharest. Please pray for them as together they embark on this journey together.



New Resources From Hand Of Help



The Truth For Today Television Broadcast
(Suggested Donation) \$15.00

1. Episode 1 Triumphant Faith.
2. Episode 2 The Seed, The Sower, The Soil.
3. Episode 3 Waiting On The Lord.
4. Episode 4 What Jesus Did.
5. Episode 5 Foolish Choices.



These are 50 minute programs in DVD format which feature one broadcast of "The Truth For Today, 3 Truth In A Nutshell 10 minute teaching programs, and a final video and song featuring the ministry of Hand Of Help.

Heirlooms and Tapestries Music CD

This is a 40 minute music CD featuring new songs by Gene Schmidt. These songs portray the journey of faith and hope we have as Christians.

Gene Schmidt/Writer-Composer.

(Suggested Donation) \$10.00

I would like to order Episode number 1 2 3 4 5 (Circle which program you would like to order) of the "The Truth For Today" broadcast with Michael Boldea.

Suggested Donation \$15.00 each program.

I am enclosing a gift of \$ _____ towards this item.

I would like to order the music CD Heirlooms and Tapestries by Gene Schmidt. Please send _____ number of Copies. Suggested Donation \$10.00 each CD.

I am enclosing a gift of \$ _____ towards this item.

Name: _____

Address : _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____.

Items may also be purchased at <http://www.handofhelp.com>

Romania Reflections

As we approached the airport in Iasi, Romania after a grueling 20 hours of in transit time, I physically found myself struggling. Severe allergies to dust make a long trip over the ocean in poorly ventilated, over crowded airplanes, downright miserable. Knowing custom's were on alert to be watching U.S. passengers for swine flu symptoms because President Obama had just announced the U.S. was at the state of a National Emergency for H1N1; I had all I could do to give the appearance that I was fine. Making the escape by a narrow margin, as a Nurse actually assisted me in filling out the form that checked off, no I do not have any symptoms etc. . . .As I walked away to greet my Romanian friend, I found myself in a moment of despair thinking to myself, in all my lifetime, when have I ever had to be concerned about a plague or epidemic? Indeed I felt in my spirit a confirmation to what I've been suppressing, like most other discerning Christians, indeed we are living in times that have not been yet known to man, end times.

‘And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.’ For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in diverse places. *Matthew 24:6-7*

I looked up the definition to pestilences and found **pestilence**, pes'ti-lence (pes'təl əns), noun, any virulent or fatal contagious or infectious disease, esp. one of epidemic proportions, as bubonic plague.

Putting aside my observations and conclusions, I embraced the change in culture, the beautiful Romanian countryside, and the people I've grown to love as family, the Boldea's, the worker's at the orphanage, and the adorable children whose faces I've recognized from many an email announcing their arrival and biography of their life's venture that led them to us.

Upon entering the gate at the orphanage I heard laughter from the children playing in the courtyard, I listened to the adults making their way to attend the evening service in the Messiah Church, also located on the grounds. A sense of overwhelming contentment flooded my soul as I realized I was, in a small way, a part of this. Suddenly the old warehouse, with the ugly carpet, with the desk by



with the cold breeze coming through the window in Wisconsin, didn't seem to matter. Lives being rescued, souls being saved, provision for the widows and the orphans, that mattered, it matters to God.

It had been over 7 years since I had last been to the orphanage; many of the young children now were teenagers, where did that time go? The once white and institutional looking walls were now painted with character's from well known bible stories, cartoon characters, Disney characters, and other joyful scenes. As I walked up the steps of the orphanage to explore more fully, I heard giggling and playing coming from the teaching area. There I found 20 young children, all between the ages of 2-5. What a joy!! As I walked into the room, immediately reaching hands were extended for me to pick them up, and pick them up I did, giving each of them as much love as I could knowing this time would end and then have to become a memory to carry me once again.

Observations of continued hardship remained obvious as people continue to come to the gate at the Orphanage entrance to plea for help. Prices for food and clothing are comparable to the US, yet their income, if there is one to be found, is a mere fraction of what is needed to live on. Example taken from 2005 data;

A professor would make 2,168 lei per month, which would equal \$511.00

A Nurse would make 1,105 lei per month, which would equal \$268.00

A Car Mechanic would make 714 lei per month, which would equal \$161.00

Now to make that income stretch when gas is over \$5.00 per gallon in Europe, and food prices like that of the states. Is it even possible? I pray this gives your heart a greater burden and understanding of the hardship the average Romanian person endures. A bigger problem I perceive, as I see a massive exodus of youth fleeing the country to seek employment elsewhere, is leaving the older generation with no fiscal means of supporting the care they need. In fact, a great majority of the children we care for are from those who have been abandoned by parents who left to earn money for the family, but never returned. God our Father is faithful. As with the help from those who know His voice clearly, His sheep, they are tended to. Thank you for being faithful sheep, indeed the flock has grown because of your faithfulness to this work.

Hand of Help Staff: Anne Schmidt



Dear Brethren

One need only look at the history of the church within the last generation or so, to see that our resolve has been weakened, and is almost nonexistent when it comes to defending the truth, or standing up for what we know to be just and right. For most people, silence and retreat is more acceptable than the defense of truth, because chances are very slim that one will get wounded while retreating. We weigh the matter judiciously, conclude that it's too small a thing to get worked up about, and back away slowly as to not stir the attention of the enemy. We don't like making waves and the enemy knows this. We have an aversion to being marginalized, to being mocked, to being ridiculed, to being persecuted, and so we would rather slink away in the middle of the night than confront the enemy. We have taken it upon ourselves to become negotiators, when we have been called to be messengers, to be spectators when we have been called to be soldiers. We have become passionately passionless, and purposefully purposeless for fear of offending the unregenerate and unrepentant.

With every retreat the enemy gains more ground, with every omission, with every act of cowardice on our part the enemy gets that much bolder, and continues his steady march.

For some reason we've come to believe that the enemy will simply stop short of our citadels, that he will stop short of besieging the towers if we just give up enough ground. Surely the enemy will be content with a partial victory, surely his desire is not to overrun the entire house of God. If this is what you believe, if you believe that the enemy will stop short, than you don't really know the enemy we face. His desire is the utter destruction of God's house, and he will not stop short of his goal. This is why we must stand, this is why we must boldly proclaim the truth and defend even those things we consider as insignificant or of little importance.

There is a passage in first Chronicles that details what I'm attempting to convey. At the beginning of David's reign, the Chronicler of the time took a census of David's mighty men, and among them was a man named Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite.

1 Chronicles 11:13-14, "He was with David at Pasdammim. Now there the Philistines were gathered for battle and there was a piece of ground full of barley. And the people fled from the Philistines. But they stationed themselves in the midst of that field, defended it, and killed the Philistines. And the Lord saved them by a great deliverance."

Here was David and Eleazar, defending what amounted to a piece of ground full of barley. It wasn't like they were defending a city, it wasn't like they were defending Jerusalem, it was just some barley in a field. All of the people had fled, the Philistines were on their way, and they came to the conclusion that it was easier to let the Philistines have the piece of ground full of barley, than to risk their lives in order to defend it. David and Eleazar however, decided to stay and fight, they decided to make their stand for a piece of ground full of barley, and even risk their lives in order to defend it.

What we must understand, is that it wasn't the barley they were defending and risking their lives for, it was the principle of giving up ground to the enemy. David's principle was simple. We leave nothing to the Philistines. Whether a patch of earth or a handful of barley, David and Eleazar decided and purposed in their hearts, that they would give nothing to the enemy.

The spiritual principle that we learn from this exchange is as simple as it is profound. We must not be willing to leave anything for the enemy. If it comes to it, we must be ready and willing to go to war with Satan himself, even over something small, something that the world would look at and mock us for defending. Leave nothing for the enemy to exploit!

The sad and lamentable truth, is that the church in our modern age has given up allot of ground. Those who ought to have been mighty men, those who ought to have been warriors, decided it wasn't worth fighting over a patch of earth, it wasn't worth defending a handful of barley, so they simply retreated, and gave up ground. We refused to defend the small things because we thought them unworthy of our efforts, and the more ground we gave up, the bolder the enemy became. Soon enough, here the enemy stood at the castle walls, and now the church has gotten so used to running it has gotten so used to giving up ground, that it is having a difficult time mustering up the courage to defend the city itself.

Those of you with spiritual eyes and ears know exactly what I am talking about!

The last part of the verse we read is also worth repeating, because it reveals a second essential spiritual truth. When we stand our ground, when we defend the truth of God's word, when we are willing to put our reputations on the line for the sake of Christ, and suffer the mocking and scorn that will surely come from the godless, it is the Lord that will fight alongside us; it is the Lord who will ensure our victory.

reputations on the line for the sake of Christ, and suffer the mocking and scorn that will surely come from the godless, it is the Lord that will fight alongside us; it is the Lord who will ensure our victory.

All they had to do was stand and fight, all they had to do was be determined that they would not retreat, that they would not back down, that they would not give up ground to the Philistines.

The Word is very clear as to who gave David and Eleazar the victory.

“And the Lord saved them by a great deliverance.”

It’s not that the church is continually suffering defeat; it’s that it hasn’t even made its stand yet. Between those who prefer to be mere spectators, and consider that taking a stand for the truth isn’t really for them, because well, they just want to preach a positive message, and be positive and create an atmosphere of positivity, and those who surrender to the enemy before the first sword is drawn or the first bow is strung, the number of true warriors, the number of those who are willing to defend the truth and make their stand is small indeed.

I’ve said it before and I will say it again, I do not trust men who call themselves warriors yet have no scars. I do not trust men who call themselves warriors yet their armor is in pristine condition, as though they had it pressed for a military funeral rather than scarred and worn as though they were standing on the front lines.

Make no mistake, we are at war, and this spiritual war is one in which there can be no spectators. There are only three options. We either flee from before the enemy, surrender to the enemy, or make our stand against the enemy.

I realize full well that some continue to be under the misconception that they can strike a truce with the enemy and somehow coexist. The only problem is that the enemy never honors your terms of surrender, and you will be a slave, and subject to his whims. Knowing that the enemy is merciless, ruthless, vile and heartless, his

whims will always gravitate toward creating an environment of pain, sorrow and heartache for those who surrender and give up the fight.

When we are faithful, when we honor God in the little things, when we look upon a patch of land and a handful of barley as David and Eleazar did and say in our hearts it is not dispensable, it is not expendable, it is worth defending and worth standing our ground over, we know that God stands with us, and though the enemy might outnumber us, it is the Lord who will save us by a great deliverance.

*With love in Christ,
Michael Boldea Jr.*



*Celebrating 25 Years of
Life, Labor and Love!*

**Please have your year end contributions to the Garland Office by December 30, 2009.
Thank you. ~ Accounting/Linda Mangam**

It is the policy of Hand of Help to use all contributions in the area of greatest need, unless a specific purpose is stated. The articles that we share are some of the most pressing needs. In Romania everyone has such difficulty and hardship obtaining even the most basic supplies for their families. If contributions exceed the amount needed to help a family, the extra contributions for that project will be used to help a family in a similar situation. It is our commitment to you before our Lord that we will be faithful in the disbursement of all contributions that we receive.

The Hand of Help Staff