

Berrios - Flores Family

Missionaries to Romania

Dear Brothers and Friends,

Brasov, April 2008

A very good friend/teacher of the World Reach Bible Institute who came to visit us last March shared a passage of the Bible that actually has to do with all of you that have been and are continuously praying for us as we live through this first year of mourning Keren going to Heaven to be with the Lord.

"... as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many." 2 Corinthians 1:11 (NIV)

The context of this particular verse is Paul's extreme suffering that made him literally say "***we despaired even of life.***" He was emotionally in one of his "down" points in life because of the circumstances. However, after a while when he shares his experience while looking at it in the past, he describes it by saying that in part he endured it and was delivered "***as you help us by your prayers.***"

In the same way, I recognize that we are standing and walking forward, overcoming the overwhelming feeling of missing our daughter, Keren, because many of you have been and are continuously praying in our behalf during this almost nine months since her departure. THANKS! THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH for your prayers!!!!

Next, I would like to share with you some reasons to praise the Lord, as well as some prayer requests for the family and ministry that God has given us here in Romania.

TWO WORLD REACH BIBLE INSTITUTE CLASSES IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH



DR. TONY KESSINGER TEACHING THE STUDENTS

Dr. Bobby Wilson taught "Inductive Bible Study Methods" in February and Dr. Tony Kessinger taught "The Biggest Bible Doctrines" in March. We have now finished the preliminary classes of the World Reach Bible Institute before making the final decision to continue the core classes. The pastors from the churches that are sending students, as well as the World Reach Bible Institute, are in the process of making this decision. Please pray for the students, as well for pastor Iosif Belea, who could be the Romanian coordinator for this.

LOCAL CHURCH COUPLES' MINISTRY IN THE CITY OF CODLEA

We have re-started the couples' meetings at Pastor Eugen Jugaru's church. We began this in the summer of 2007 but had to interrupt it because of Keren's homegoing. Please pray for this church. There are around 30 couples who need specific teaching about marriage. At this point, a good group is coming to the meetings. Pray for us to encourage them and for the teaching to be relevant and useful for them to enjoy what God has planned for them in the holy state of marriage.



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

On March 8th, Romania celebrated 'Women's Day' and Martita was invited to be the main speaker at the Branduselor Church in Brasov. It was a very good time for Martita as she shared how her heart is being encouraged by the Lord. The women's reactions to Martita's teaching were very sweet and encouraging. *Here are some pictures:*



THREE OF GOD'S EMOTIONAL GIFTS TO TAKE CARE OF US

The Bible says it is a blessing to have friends. I'm one of those blessed guys who have many friends that pray and care for me. Three of them have come to visit us in the last two months and God really inspired us through them. Rejoice with us for God's love and care for us through their visits.



The first was Roberto Rodriguez, a very good friend from Miramonte Church in El Salvador with whom we had been partners in ministry long ago. He came for 4 days before attending a conference for his work in Germany. Thanks to God for his visit. We ate together, walked a lot and talked non-stop. The two ladies in the picture with Gabi's and Corina's families are the ones that went with Martita to El Salvador last year for the Miramonte Church Women's Conference.

The second were Bob and Suzy Flanders. They are World Reach's pastoral care couple with more than 25 years as missionaries in Japan. They are good people who understand missionaries very well and they graciously encouraged us to keep on going with our life by serving here. Thanks to God for this gift of encouragement.



The third was Flor de Maria de Moran. She is a pastor's wife working with her husband in Greenwood, Indiana. We've been friends since our youth in 1981 and grew up in the same church in El Salvador (Miramonte Church). We met again on our furlough trip in 2006 and they were very close to us during the events when Keren died in 2007. Martita and Flor have become even closer since then. She specifically came to be with Martita for two weeks. But what is special about her visit is HOW she came. It happened when Darin and Nicholas who are two missionaries here in Brasov (*in the picture with them*) came to tell me that they wanted to bless Martita by bringing one of her friends here for a while to spend time with her and encourage her - Speaking Spanish! WOW!! Isn't it amazing how God takes care of details!! Thank God for this wonderful gift to Martita!!!



Once more, thanks for your love. I hope to write again soon.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francisco and Martita Berrios".

Francisco and Martita Berrios
Missionaries in Brasov, Romania