



Dear Friends,

December 2009

The year 2009 comes to its end and Christmas is very near! This time of the year makes one look back. As we do so, we see God's guidance in the past, present and future. But we don't know about His plans yet.

Twenty years ago, we didn't dare dream God would lead us in the ways He has in the ministry. But some of our dreams haven't come into existence yet - but maybe some time . . .

This year was different from all the years before. Botho was asked to minister in Germany twice. (*Maybe our dream of a ministry in Germany might come true.*) But, as in all the years before, he also traveled to former East Bloc Countries to teach leaders and laymen.

As in previous years, Botho has been to Romania to teach at the Bible College near Sibiu, not only this spring but also this fall. When the semester started in October, he came to know the new students. The two weeks in Romania were packed with teaching at the Bible College, on some days many hours and on others none. Sometimes he could not do anything because his interpreter had to work at other places (a situation not uncommon in former East Bloc Countries). Thus, he had to reschedule his curriculum to make sure all topics were covered adequately. During the weekend, he visited a small, newly-planted church in Turda which has started to slowly grow after some difficulties in the beginning. In the spring, Botho started teaching the Book of Daniel there. Now he could continue and finish the exegesis to lead the church members to more knowledge about God and His Word.

When Botho returned home from Romania, he had only three days for the laundry and repacking his suitcase before he left for Yalta, Ukraine. He was accompanied by the Youth Pastor of our Church, Daniel Kroeker, who taught "How to Study the Bible". This ministry was something very special for him because he was born in Kazakhstan and came to Germany when he was three years old. On the last day, we sat together with the students for several hours and answered many questions. The questions were about the Bible but soon turned into personal ones about faith. The openness and eagerness for honest answers showed how much trust had developed during the last years. We hope our answers were a help for them.

Beside the lessons, Botho talked to the pastor about the future of the Bible College. In May of 2010, the program will be completed for one more time. We are looking forward to how God will lead. There are three possibilities: Students from Yalta and surrounding churches will enroll again so we can conduct the program there - or at Sevastopol or Simfiropol (other Crimea towns). Please pray for clear guidance from God. Botho also talked to the pastor about the Children's Camps we plan for the summer of 2010 in Ukraine. World Reach-Europe will concentrate on the ministry in Ordschenikise but will still support the ministry to children which the church in Yalta has been doing for years and has been richly blessed by God.

We are anxious to see what God will do next year - in Sibiu and Turda (Romania), in Astrachan (Russia), on the Crimea and in Ordschenikise (Ukraine) and in Friedrichroda (Germany, as well as Croatia).

Our next trip will bring us to the States where we will visit churches and friends. Our schedule is already pretty tight but please don't hesitate to contact us if you are interested in meeting with us. Botho will be in the States January 28 - February 28. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Wishing you a blessed 2010!

Botho & Gisela Heinz

Please visit our webpage: <http://www.tss-ev.de>

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