

Our February 2011 letter

This letter is going out a few days late. We just arrived back from our trip to Moldova. We crossed the border on Saturday and returned back on Wednesday. While there we were able to pass out some tracts and I was able to practice my Russian. I was complimented three times on how well I spoke Russian and it is a little encouraging, but I don't take them too seriously. They are probably comparing my speaking ability with other English-speaking foreigners who they come in to contact with and don't know much Russian.

Well, everything went fine with our trip until we got to the "end" of crossing on the Ukrainian side. After a little wait, a group of border guards came up to the van and started asking me a lot of questions. The one officer speaking to me said that I would not be able to enter Ukraine and that I would need to wait another three months until I cross the border. I expressed disbelief and then he pointed to the holding area. We had to get out of line and wait while they figured out what they were going to do. After some time, one of them came out and handed my documents back to me, with the stamps of approval, and told me to get back in line. After that we drove thru the fourth (and last) stage, and everything went fine, praise the Lord! Thanks for the prayers! We now need to wait three months and then we can re-register for another year, Lord-willing.

The trip was a good experience for me, giving a little more confidence with the language, but I still see that I'm far from where I want to be with Russian. The language lessons are always a blessing. Thanks for your prayers about this matter.

Please pray for the village evangelism that we'll be starting in the coming months. We have begun to pray about it and are hoping for God to lead and direct where we would be able to get the gospel to the needy villagers and surrounding peoples. It would be great to see some sinners saved and some local churches started this year from the evangelistic work with the tent.

Joanna has been feeling a little better since taking some of the natural medicine.

I told some of our family that we will have to take another course of action if we don't see some visible changes. Thank you for your continued prayer.

We're still going out on the street every Saturday to give the good news to sinners. Lately, Perry and I have been trying to minister to a couple of teens in the church on Friday evenings. Vanya and Andre are their names. Andre's mom died a few months ago, and Vanya's dad is lost. We hope and pray they will sell out to the Lord, instead of the world and it's vices.

Thank you for all of your help,

Rick & Joanna, Silas and Paul