

# THE ROMANIA REPORT

FEBRUARY 2011



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### FACING THE GIANTS



### PRAYER REQUEST



## Facing the Giants

In US the Bible story of David and Goliath is a story every child hears about in Sunday School. It is not so in the village of Sabolciu. Here kids learn from each other about the horrific experiences each had while growing up: physical and sexual abuse, abusive language, and what not. Today, God gave us the privilege to teach these boys and girls countless stories from the Bible, including the story of David and Goliath.

As part of our "Impact a Community" curriculum we teach the Bible to kids that grow up not knowing anything about David and his fight with the giant. Our staff working in Sabolciu is teaching the kids English, using the Bible as a textbook. These kids are eager to learn stories that are impacting their understanding of life and how to engage life's problems. That is why the life of David and stories like it have a powerful impact in the lives of these kids. Children from any culture love to hear that David understood that victory always belongs to God. They like to hold on to the truth that no matter how young you are, how weak or ill prepared, when you have God on your side and you fight His battles, victory is yours and it is just around the corner. "Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands." (1 Sam 17:47, NKJV)

These stories have such a tremendous impact that some of them all of a sudden decide to face the giants they themselves have in their lives. One giant they are facing is illiteracy. Others are the



lack of any formal education, no basic knowledge of Scriptures, food shortage, medical illnesses, and lack of medication. Step by step, with our help and encouragement, they are willing to go down in the valley and fight the battle. It is not easy. It takes patience, discipline, and perseverance.

David, because of his strong faith in God, was able to understand that God was going to give him the victory. He saw God at work in his life many times before when he fought the bear and the lion in the wilderness. He was building his faith on God's love and faithfulness toward him in the past and found courage and strength to trust God one more time in the present.

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Our first stroller



Gypsy family



Going to Bible school

The children and youth in Sabolciu didn't know about God until we came to their village. A clear knowledge of God did not exist in the past in Sabolciu, but now through the church we built there and through the work that goes on each day, more and more children and youth develop an understanding of God. They now have the privilege to interact with Christians like Mircea, Norbi, Andrea, Dan, and Cornel who are walking the streets of Sabolciu and sharing the love of God with them. With that knowledge, encouragement, and love, they are now gaining the courage to face the giants. We can't predict how many battles they will encounter, but we know that by trusting God and His Word, the victory can be theirs.

Our mission here in Romania is to support, to encourage, and to strengthen the orphans and the poor as they walk by faith.

With this understanding we minister in the Gypsy village of Sabolciu and Tinca, at the orphanage (CP2) and the Children's Hospital in Oradea and through our Foster Care Family ministry.

Thank you so much for partnering with us through prayer and support to strengthen the little hands and feet of the orphans and the poor in their fight with the giants.

Sincerely yours,

*Cornel & Karen Bucur*

## Prayer Requests

- Strength and patience for our foster care families and our staff as we take care of the daily needs of 24 orphan children that are part of this ministry project.
- To develop proper strategies to help the children develop properly.
- Many foster families need prayer as their children are of school age and encounter different educational and behavioral difficulties.
- Endurance for our foster care social workers as they track down natural parents in our attempt to solve the legal status of the children that are part of our Foster Care ministry.
- To identify prospective adoptive families for the 24 children in our Foster Care ministry.
- Protection for our staff as they travel around the country and get into dangerous communities.
- For our staff and the many different health issues our families are experiencing.

