



November Update

Greetings from Budapest! It's time again for an update from us on what's been happening here on the field.

Health and Wellness: Overall we are doing well, trying to eat right, exercise, and stay healthy. Joseph had a minor surgical procedure in November, which went well and he is recovering well. We are very thankful for that. Jennifer has not had any significant sciatic pain in her legs for the second month in a row now, so we praise God for that. Though her allergies have really bothered her this autumn. Christopher is in home school kindergarten this year and absolutely loves it. Faith still has occasional symptoms of joint pain. So we continue to pray for her and trust the Lord to bring about the complete healing. We appreciate your continued prayers for her.



Charity, Hope, Christopher, Joseph, and Faith



Hope celebrating her tenth birthday

Family: In October, Len and Jennifer finally got the chance to take a day off together without the children. It was a nice little retreat and we are very thankful for the time away, even though it was so brief. It's very important to us to have these times, because in the midst of the daily pressures, the enemy can try to get in. Our marriage relationship is one of our priorities, and we believe the Lord honors that. Thank you for praying that this day off would work out. Praise the Lord that it did!

Since we last wrote, we celebrated Jennifer's birthday in October and Hope's birthday in November. Praise God for another year for both of them and we pray it will be a fruitful one.

Ministry in Hungary: Len continues to meet with Greg for discipleship, as he grows in his relationship with the Lord and with us.

We have had him over for dinner once or twice recently, as well, and that's been a real joy. Jennifer enjoys the chance to show hospitality, and Greg especially enjoys being around the children and interacting with them.

We recently had David over our home for a meal and spent the day with him. He reported to us how the Lord is doing wonderful things in Jonatán's life since they began meeting. You may recall that David has been meeting in a Life Transformation Group with Jonatán for a couple months now. Without going into all the details, he said that (like David) Jonatán's life was not built on the Rock prior to beginning the discipleship process. But now he is building it on the Rock, which is Jesus Christ. He has laid down his ambitions and dreams on the Lord's altar and died to himself. He is willing to do whatever the Lord wants. He is now connected with our church on a regular basis, and he has begun playing in a worship team. Len spoke to Jonatán's father at church and rejoiced with him at the great things the Lord is doing in Jonatán's life. His father responded by saying that these are just preparation for the even greater things the Lord desires to do through him. Praise God for what He is doing in Jonatán's life.

Len also met with our pastor Laci Mézes for training. He completed the final session of their planned training on multiplication. They also discussed the possibility for Len to train the men who are involved in the establishment of a new church in the town of Bajot. We will wait to see whether the Lord opens a door there.

Meanwhile, there is a major transition in our church, as the two pastors (Laci and Jozsef) have announced their plans to retire from their official positions there. They have decided to set in place Ernő, whom Len trained last Spring. We feel that the way it is being handled is creating quite a stir and has the potential for some very undesirable outcomes. Len has contacted Laci and asked for a chance to offer some helpful input. Laci's response to Len was very positive and he expressed a real openness to anything Len would like to share with him about this. So now Laci simply needs to find time to meet with Len for this discussion.



Len and Jennifer on a weekend holiday



David, Len, and Greg

Please pray that the Lord would give Len grace and wisdom to share what is on the Lord's heart with Laci in a way that will bring about outcomes that glorify God in this church leadership transition.

Len has nearly completed the initial leadership training with Vilmos (the Hungarian version of William, pronounced "VEEL-mosh"). They only have one more lesson remaining in order to complete the initial training. He has been very open and receptive to what Len has shared. And he has asked Len to continue the relationship, meeting with Len even after the initial training is completed. He has been a big encouragement to Len, and committed to pray for Len on a regular basis as long as we are in Hungary. He has also invited Len to come to his home later in November and share with the prayer group he leads. Please pray that the Lord would move mightily in these meetings with Vilmos and that the Lord would raise him up to be a more effective leader who multiplies disciples and leaders.

Len has also been in contact with a pastor in Slovakia named Miro, who expressed an interest in connecting. Right now Len is waiting to hear back from him on when he would like to get together for a visit.

Ministry to West Africa: Len also conducted training with Adolphus in Africa by phone in November. He is a bishop providing oversight for churches in Liberia, Ghana, and Nigeria. We are encouraged by what the Lord continues to do in his life, and so is he. One of the areas they have covered in training is accountability, as this is a major issue in Africa. Even Adolphus said that there is an absence of accountability there, especially among leaders. He commented to Len recently, "I now realize that accountability is my friend, not my enemy." Later he wrote in an email to Len, "My brother, you do not really know what your phone teachings have done in my life right now." Again, we praise the Lord for any good fruit coming forth from his interactions with Len.

Language Acquisition: One day while our van was at the garage, Len went into a pub next door for a hot tea. They didn't have any black tea, so Len just ordered a sparkling water. He sat at the bar and the Lord helped him carry on a nice conversation in Hungarian with the bartender. When Len shared this with our language teacher, Andras, he congratulated him. But he also smiled and wondered if the bartender laughed at Len when he ordered water. He said that was like going into a gas station and ordering an ice cream.

At the close of one of our language lessons, Faith gave a picture to Andras that she had drawn for him. It was a picture of a road leading to God and then other roads. And it said, "Jesus is the Way. There is no other way to God. – the Bible." He read it and enjoyed it. Please pray that Andras will come to know Jesus personally.

Administrative Needs: We are still actively looking for another place to live. Our present landlord has increased our rent by 25 percent (in terms of US Dollars)!

He has also put unreasonable pressure on us about some things concerning the care of the home. We have asked around and confirmed that these are abnormal demands in this culture. We would love to move out. However, we do not see any other place to live right now that would be suitable. So we are still praying, watching and waiting for the Lord to open another door.

In closing, we have much to praise God for and many opportunities for you to join us in praying about, if you can.

Praise the Lord with us for the many answers to prayer:

1. For the wonderful way He is equipping Greg, Adolphus, Laci, Jonatán, and Vilmos.
2. For our overall health and wellness.
3. For the way the Lord is using the children to touch lives here.
4. For our continued progress with the Hungarian language.

Next steps and prayer needs:

1. For complete healing for Faith from joint pain and other bone pains.
2. For David, Jonatan, and Greg to grow in the walk that they each have with the Lord and for them to continue to multiply.
3. That as Len meets with each of these leaders, the Lord will use him and they will implement the training in such a way that will bear much fruit for God.
4. For the Lord to give Len the wisdom and grace to provide godly, helpful input during our church's turbulent leadership transition.
5. For the Lord to open a door for us to move to another home, if it's His will.
6. For our language teacher, Andras, to come to know Christ personally.
7. For a divine outpouring of God's Spirit over us, but more importantly the nations of Eastern Europe.

Please pray that the Lord will help us and guide us in all of these as well as provide abundantly for every need.

Thank you so much for your partnership in this ministry.

Love from all of us,

The Lacroixs

There are two ways to donate to Doulos Missions International. You may either send a check or money order by mail to:

**Doulos Missions International
PO Box 5526
Manchester, NH 03108-5526**