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the DELUCA family 2COR.1:24

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES TO THE PEOPLE OF GREECE

HAPPENINGS



Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe we've finished our first full year in Greece. God is blessing as we continue to grasp the language and develop relationships. People are curious why we're here and are usually willing to listen & take a tract or newspaper as we attempt Greek to share our story and invite them to church. The people at the market & bank now know us enough to have stopped asking for our ID's! We often run into people we know from these places and make a point to engage them casually. We're excited to see how God will continue to use us to sow & water seed on Zakynthos & beyond. We pray 2016 will be another year of great blessings!

Joanna and I went to the city of Patra in early December to help a believer there distribute some of the 1000 Christmas tracts we printed. Patra is the 3rd largest city in Greece and one we believe the Lord may be opening a great door of opportunity to us. Although not distant in miles, Patra is on the mainland and getting there requires a ferry ride and about an hour drive. Four of us manned key corners in the shopping district on a busy Friday night two weeks before Christmas. We quickly gave out many tracts and were quite surprised by the general attitude and willingness of the people to accept them. Please pray God will stir the hearts of those who accepted tracts to receive Christ as Saviour.

The Faros newspaper continues to open doors in Greece & beyond. We're planning to increase production in 2016 and also begin quarterly visits to Greece's larger cities for urban distribution. We pray God will use the paper, and future internet radio station, to plant seeds & reach believers looking for other Christians. We hope God will use this approach to direct our path to the best location to begin the work of church planting. Please pray as we continue to expand the size of the paper, for production resources, and acceptance among the Greek people.

On December 21st, our church held our annual Carol Service. Last year, we primarily focused the music & message to English speakers but this year was predominantly Greek. Our Sunday School kids, including our John, recited Scripture & sang carols in Greek to great appreciation. Joanna sang "O Holy Night" in Greek, and Pastor Taki was able to have many of his music students accompany him on traditional Greek instruments. We had 17 first time Greek visitors! The Gospel was clearly presented through the music and in message! We praise the Lord for the opportunity to minister to people who would otherwise not come to a Baptist church. God truly blessed the event.

Joanna has been leading a weekly ladies book study focused on building & strengthening the marriage relationship. The ladies enthusiasm and faithfulness to the meetings continues to be a great encouragement to everyone.

We've recently experienced some computer problems, one requiring a lengthy repair, and others having to be replaced. Thankfully, we've been able to procure 2 replacements which a family member will bring in February during a visit. We thank God for providing the resources for us to resolve these issues at reasonable costs.



Prayer Requests:

- ❖ *Greek language acquisition.*
- ❖ Greeks to seek the Lord.
- ❖ Grace for our kids as they homeschool/ More Friends/ Summer travel plans.
- ❖ ZBBC- Growth & Edification.

- ❖ Radio station files to be redone following computer hack.
- ❖ Wisdom for future ministry: Clear direction, location, preparation & resources.
- ❖ Michael's residency permit!

- ❖ Summer Camp planning.
- ❖ Faros Newspaper- Impact.
- ❖ Salvation- Lena /our Greek teacher & family; Taki, Litza & Family; Athena/Cancer; Many church members family/friends.

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