



The Girards



# ITALY

Preaching the Good News Of Jesus Christ

March 2017

Dear Friends,

**We have joyous news to share!** At Christmas you helped us financially to buy gifts and material to bless our local trafficked girls. Two weeks ago Sharon called me. She held on to our church phone number in case she ever wanted help. She's from Nigeria. She told me she was 21 but I was certain she was lying about her age since she looked no older than 16. (Before coming to Europe the underage girls make oaths with the local witch doctors and traffickers swearing they will never tell their real age if taken to the police). Sharon wanted out. With the help of my cousin Elijah who happened to be visiting, and an Intern who's with us right now, (Taylor, she's fabulous!) we were able to get her to the safe house within 24 hours. In fact, she's only 17 years old and battled intense fear the first week of what her trafficker could be doing to her family. But now she is peaceful and doing very well there. This week she has started Italian school and has private tutors in English and other studies. At the safe house, they also help the girls to overcome the trauma caused by street life and the abuse endured, as well as weekly cell group and church meetings. Thanks to all of our prayers, God has calmed her mind and soul. After only her second week there, she has decided to stay. Many girls leave because they are bound by witchcraft and the oaths they have taken before heading to Europe. Nicolas and I will be financially supporting Sharon's family in Nigeria with a minimum of \$60/monthly. If you want to help out let us know, and we will make sure to wire money to her family and also help cover the expenses it takes to keep girls at the safe house. All donations given to our ministry also go to these types of needs as well. She has eight younger siblings and helping her family would encourage her to stay in the safe house. Sometimes the girls are overwhelmed with guilt when they are receiving clothing, food, and education for free. They only think of their poor family in Nigeria and are tempted to return to the streets so they can send money to support them in their poverty.



The ministry team



Leia and Sharon

**Easter outreach: We've organized two evenings of outreach for the kids in our city.**

One is for Churched kids in our city, the other is for un-churched kids from ages 4-12. We've already purchased a train ticket for a friend of ours down south who specializes in Children's ministry and evangelism. Both meetings will be held in our church. We just want to bless the kids with a childlike presentation of the meaning of Easter. Most importantly, we want them to know that Jesus is their friend and not a distant 'religious' figure. If God is leading you to sow financially into this outreach the total cost will be around \$350 providing snacks, balloon animals, small Bibles for the kids, and the cost of face painting.

Our Spiritual father, Don Cripe, will be spending a week ministering along side us right after Easter weekend. Don is an American missionary living in France the last 30 years and has invested a lot into us as a couple and as ministers over the last five years. We're continually getting requests from people who have heard about the freedom they've received in God and in their identity through Healing for the Nations ministry. We are doing our 5th 3-day weekend program on strongholds in our church the weekend after Easter. We have seen incredible fruit from this ministry. Seeing people freed for the first time from a belief system, a lie they believe about themselves is amazing. It is beautiful to see truth coming not only to their minds but also changing their hearts. This is just another example of what our ministry The Zoe Center Arezzo offers to the public. The participants only pay for the notebooks at cost. It's a service that we want to keep low cost so that all who desire to participate are able to.

God is such a good Father. We see Him take care of us in so many ways. Life isn't always easy in a foreign culture and the ministry demands and needs of the people can seem overwhelming. Thanks to your extra donations last month we were able to fully catch up on bills! Your financial, prayer and emotional support refreshes us. We pray the news we report can also refresh your soul. Our Father is always at work in hearts and minds to draw us to Jesus, His Son.

In Christ Jesus we trust!

*Nicolas, Leía, Eva, Elise, Sophie, and Isaiah*