



# ITALY

Preaching the Good News Of Jesus Christ

Hello everyone,

October 2013

I write this letter from our living room watching the field in front of our house flood completely over (yikes!). We spent last week in Switzerland at a missions conference (Times of Refreshing by Bill Kaiser Ministries). These conferences are very encouraging for us. We get to be with many other missionaries from all over Europe and amazing ministers from America. Each year we go, God refreshes us and speaks to us clearly about what He feels for us and what He's asking us to do.

## **God has answered our prayers.**

Last month we wrote that we were in a very discouraging and difficult financial period. We had nothing in our account and a couple thousand dollars of bills and rent due. Because of your help last month, we were able to pay all bills due, buy food and pay the gas to get to Switzerland for the missions conference. We are so grateful to those of you who were able to pray for us and especially to those of you who felt led to give. You have blessed our socks off! As missionaries, we have periods where we are on our knees asking God for money just to feed our children and put gas in our car. This is one of them because of different reasons, mostly because of the cost of going to America and moving. May God repay you for your generosity in helping out our family in such a difficult financial time.

**God has provided another vehicle for us!** Dear friends of ours (missionaries in Tuscany) donated a very nice scooter to us for Nicolas to drive to work. This way, I can use the car during the week to do things with the children outside of the house. Thank you Joyce and Guido! You're a real blessing!!! These great friends of ours also donated our daughter Eva a new bed, who was sleeping on a mattress on the floor.

God has answered our prayers above and beyond by also providing more work per week for Nicolas, he starts these hours in November. He will continue his work as an international sales rep for a company that sells electro magnetic shielding systems. The other hours he will teach private English classes, and he will also be working in the Elementary schools as an English teacher. (one of his private students is the DA of Arezzo! This will be a great opportunity to share with her the projects of the Zoe Center).



## Creating Jobs for Trafficked Victims

**We bought Annabelle a new computer!!!** Oh what joy it was to give it to her! (again thanks to many of you in Wichita for your donations towards Beauty for Ashes, our ministry to help restore prostitutes and trafficked women). When I downloaded worship music on her computer, she wept thanking God. I have attached a picture of Annabelle and me on the telephone calling her mom in Nigeria to tell her the good news about the computer. Her mother thanked me over and over again for finding her and helping her. She said she was so happy to know that I can take care of her like a mother, it was so sweet. Annabelle says thanks to all those nice American people for the love they have shown. She is diligently studying Rosetta Stone Italian, as well as her other Nigerian roommates on her computer. She is also able to be built up in the Lord listening to Christian teachings and music.



## **We have a big project we believe is from God to help these women!**

A wood craftsman in our church is going to teach Annabelle how to make simple handicrafts that are trendy and modern from wood. We are going to begin to sell them on the INTERNET. We are asking everyone reading this newsletter to help us find a web designer who might consider donating a website to Beauty for Ashes ministry. We would use it to sell these fine goods handmade by ex-prostitutes and trafficked women who have been rescued. We plan to also teach Annabelle and other women jewelery making skills as well. But we don't have the means to pay for a professional website design. If you know of anyone who might be interested in helping us out, please let us know.

## **Latest Events**

Our meeting with John Mellor last month was so powerful, (our dear friend and healing evangelist from Australia). The building was packed, even though we didn't have the money to advertise! God healed many of the people who came. One woman who is from Albania had a deformed mouth. After prayer, her muscles changed and her mouth was totally healed! Her husband came forward to look and confirm the healing and could not believe it. He gave his life to Jesus that night! Also a woman who came from Slovenia had steel rods in her knees, which she could not bend and lived with constant back pain because of her knee troubles. After prayer, all the pain left and she could bend her knees. There were other testimonies of pain completely leaving people's bodies. Jesus still heals today and if you would like to know more about John Mellor and his ministry you can go to his website at [www.johnmellor.org](http://www.johnmellor.org).

Imagine a grown man who has never been to church in his life! Last week's service in church, we had an Italian in his 30's come who had never been in a church. We LOVE to welcome these people and introduce them to a real, living, powerful and loving Jesus they have never heard about. He said after the service he had a lot to think about and thanked us for telling him the message from God.

We are not entirely out of our difficult financial period. Nicolas does have new jobs, but it will take a month before that money comes in. This month (October) we still owe rent, and our electricity will be lowered if we don't pay the bill by the 31st. If you feel you can help out our family or ministry this month we will be SO grateful. Your donations go beyond just helping us- it keeps us here to keep doing God's will and reaching Italians with the powerful Gospel of Jesus.

One thing we have learned time and over again is that God's work is not limited by limited finances. Though we had little to nothing last month, we saw His Kingdom go forward in our city. This is God's faithfulness. Not only to us, but especially to those who need salvation and healing. So the question is: does life on earth get any better than this?

Be blessed!!!

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

\*\*If you wish to support us, please send in your tax-deductible donations to World Outreach Center, PO Box 3478. Fort Mill, SC 29708. Please write your checks out to WOC and write "Girards" in the memo to support the family, or "Zoe Center" to support the ministry in Italy. To donate online, go to [www.worldoutreachcommunity.org](http://www.worldoutreachcommunity.org), access our page under Missionaries and then click on Donate. Our new blog site is: [zoecenter.wordpress.com](http://zoecenter.wordpress.com)