

# News from Tinu

*and the Romanian New Hope Team*



February 2010

Dear Friends,

When I was a child I did not bother to count the passing years and many of the things that happened back in those years I forgot pretty quickly. Or maybe I just did not care too much about them, because some of them were recorded in my memory and later I remembered them.

Being young, I began to count the years and to look not only behind, in the past, but also in the future. There was not too much to hope for in those years, but yet, by the grace of God, the future looked pretty optimistic. Still, there was no way to project then this future in 2010. It was quite a rounded figure, but not likely to be reached in my vision in those years.

And now, here we are in 2010 and I am finding myself counting not only the years but days too, and I now better understand Moses who, in a situation when the future looked pretty dark to him, was asking God, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

The idea in this prayer of Moses was with us in the last days of last year and first days of this new year. We meditated on those words more (actually they were the subject of my sermon January 1 in one of the churches in Timisoara) because we attended the funerals of two precious family friends. One of them a young husband of only 27 years, and another one a young lady of 37. I am writing about them not only because they were our friends, but because they attended New Hope camps in the past. So we celebrated the Christmas and New Year in a pretty sad atmosphere, but I believe that the new year found us more mature and leaning more toward the relationship we have with God and toward our eternal future.

We do not know what the new year will bring, however, we pray that the fatherly eyes of God will be upon us and upon our ministry. In the year which just passed, though it was by far the most difficult year for our ministry, with God's help and with your help (those who supported the ministry of New Hope), we broke almost even and survived, performing together a good work and (at least we believe so) were effective in helping many souls to know God better.

Last year we emphasized the resources for children, publishing more books than usual for them. It is a way to bring before their eyes and place in their minds the Word of God through illustration and told in an accessible manner for children. The children's resources were a constant activity for New Hope here in Romania and we continue this activity. The year 2010 brings to us quite a challenge, which is to relaunch the production of the curriculum for the Sunday Schools and the teaching of religion in public schools, Footsteps of Faith. This program was paused in the last two years due to lack of flannel graph figures and review charts, but we are pretty close to being ready to relaunch the program, at first in small quantities, but looking ahead for bigger figures. Of course this is only if the financial situation will allow us to do this. We pray that God will provide the resources, even if the world is still in a deep economic

Tinu Leontiu



Your support both in prayer and financially is important.

Your gifts made out to New Hope and designated for Tinu and the Romanian ministry will be forwarded 100%.

New Hope International \* P.O. Box 25490, Colorado Springs, CO 80936 \* (800) 297-9591 \* [www.newhopeinternational.org](http://www.newhopeinternational.org)

crisis. Up till now, more than 46,000 children in Romania and the Republic of Moldova have been touched by this program and it has become the main resource for this kind of spiritual activity in evangelical churches in Romania. Almost 2,500 Sunday School teachers are using this material in different regions of Romania and abroad in Romanian communities.

We also have other projects at this time concerning resources for the younger generation and for the leaders who are teaching them. In our country there are many organizations dedicated to youth who try to produce resources, however there are still uncovered areas, which we want to explore and cover this year. I am thinking firsthand about resources for Bible studies for youth, for which there is quite a high demand. The existing ones are either directed towards beginners in the faith or are too superficial. We all noticed that in churches there is a very pronounced tendency to consider that Bible study is just for “professionals,” so to speak, that are studying to become pastors or missionaries, and the rest of the young generation should have other activities. Even if these other activities are important, they cannot equal the importance of Bible study, which we believe is the most important. Please pray for the beginning of this project. Pray that God will give us the wisdom to research, find and/or create those resources which will best fulfill this goal.

One more issue we are facing and where we need a lot of guidance is to promote these resources for the spiritual needs of the younger generation. Promotion needs time, creativity, and financial resources. We wait for God to give them all to us, as we need each of them.

Our greatest request to you is to continue to partner with us in 2010. Your contribution to this ministry in 2009 was immeasurable and we count on it this year too! Thank you so much! And our prayer is that God will crown this year with His goodness, health, peace and rest for your souls and those of your loved ones.

Your brother in Christ,

*Tinu*