



Is Jubilee's Ministry Still Relevant? (video link)



20 years after the fall of Romania's communist dictatorship and the execution of Ceaușescu, the question is raised, "Is there still a need for ministries like Jubilee?" Back in the early 90's western televisions were filled with images of emaciated toddlers, infants, and young children in Romanian state orphanages.

It was due to that reality that Jubilee and other ministries like it got started.

But now its been 20 years, a more western, democratic system has been established, and elections held time and time again. Prosperity has arrived in parts of the old Eastern European regions. So, where are those children today? The BBC recently did an investigative report on this exact question. You can see the under cover video by clicking this link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8425001.stm>.

The BBC report states that at a care facility in Bolintin, the very village in which Jubilee is operating, "a lone nurse and six helpers take care of more than 100 patients - they are not sure exactly how many. They were wrapped in blankets and thermal jackets to escape the freezing cold."

They quote a Romanian Humanitarian organization worker, "There is overcrowding, lack of access to adequate medical treatment, lack of access to psychologists and social workers. We came across several institutions where there were cases of human rights abuses during our visits this year. With a little help, most of them could live in a community environment."

While the report does indicate that a few of the institutions that were exposed by the BBC were scheduled for closure, the fact of the matter is that many of the children who were in the awful orphanages of the early 90's are still not being cared for. They are being left to simply exist, slowly starving, freezing, ... empty of any semblance of "life" as we know it... rocking themselves back and forth, as they have for their entire life, due to the absence of compassionate human contact.

These poor people are your neighbors. We are called by Christ to be the Good Samaritan. You may not be from their country, just as the Samaritan in Jesus' parable was from a foreign country. The Samaritan did not ask if the man should have been helped by other people or agencies, he did not ask if the man had done anything to bring his injuries on himself, he did not ask what the man's religion was. He saw the man in need, and gave what he had to rescue him from his condition. An excellent example of the love of Christ.

Christ saw our condition, and regardless of how utterly ruined we were, He came and gave His life to rescue us.

Jubilee's purpose is to reach out to exactly these people, those who

Update on Manea's Job

In a previous email we mentioned Manea losing her job due to the immoral actions of a security guard at Carre-Four where she worked in cleaning. Along with her, a few other girls also stopped working in fear of similar treatment.

We are so thankful to you for your prayers and notes and to God for His provision for them. Manea has been given a job in a different Carre-Four. In addition 2 other girls were also offered jobs there (Veronica and Sulea) - both took the jobs of course. Keep them in prayer as they start again. Manea will be working the night shift, this gives her opportunity to rest her legs during the shift now and then. She is unable to stay on her feet for too long due to problems with her legs. Regardless of her limitations, though, she is a very hard worker.

Tim and Terri Bale



Please keep the Bales in your prayers as they plan and prepare to join Jubilee as missionaries. Tim and Terri have experience in missionary work in Romania and a heart to share the Gospel message with the young women in Jubilee's care. Both Tim and Terri are guided by their love for the Lord and their desire to see the young women taught in the Word during their time with Jubilee.

Presently they are living in Michigan and are seeking the Lord's provision to leave there and move to Romania to serve him. They have two adult

have lived a hard life of neglect and abuse in Romanian orphanages and streets. Our desire is to heal their wounds, feed, care for, develop, and minister to their spiritual needs. When they come to ministries like Jubilee, they have their defenses high. They can't trust anyone. It is by practical love, the love of Christ, shown to them daily, that we can begin to show them that our only motive is our love for them, and our desire to see to their well-being... physically, socially, and spiritually. It is then that their walls come down, it is then that they can begin to open up and be willing to trust. It is essential that they can learn to trust, that they can see that God loves them.

We all need to be partners in this ministry. The workers on the ground at Jubilee can only do their part if the rest do theirs. The reason there is still neglect in Romania's institutions is not that there are a plethora of evil workers. The BBC report found that most of the workers cared about those in these institutions. The problem was simply underfunding. Any institution can end up this way, even those sponsored by American churches and Christians. All it takes is for people to assume that others will take on the responsibility of providing the necessary workers or funding.

Don't assume that others will take care of it. If you see a need, pray that God will direct you, and then do what you can, in your walk of life to be the Good Samaritan in that situation.

daughters living at home who are also eager to serve the Lord with Jubilee (Elizabeth and Hannah). Elizabeth visited Jubilee in 2009 with Tim, and looks forward to returning. They also have an older brother Ben who lives in Pennsylvania and seeks the Lord's direction as to whether he also should join the family in Romania. These older children have learned to speak Romanian quite fluently during their childhood there. Pray for them, their parents and the younger children as they seek the Lord for His plans for this ministry.

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