

# Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities



**Attila Toth introduces special guest Bonnie Parker to the congregation at the Reghim church he pastors.**

## One Young Church Planter Making A Difference

*By Bonnie Parker*

It is hard to put into words all the emotions that surrounded our visit with Attila. What a hard working young man of God he is!

There are many circumstances that make the work in the mission area in the Mures region difficult. Yet, Attila always has a smile and a heart overflowing with love as he talks about sharing the Lord with the various people of the area.

His life is extremely busy as he pastors the Reghim church – a very small, older church in need of revitalization, works among the Gypsies of Apalina to establish a mission, leads the young church at Gornesti he helped found, and ministers in a growing house fellowship in Peris. We could hardly keep up with him during our stay!

It was so inspiring to see him interacting with all ages and cultural backgrounds of those to whom

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## Simple, Yet Effective Ministry Grows From Diversity

*Otto, Elisabeth Kis Find Many Opportunities To Share God's Love in Seven Villages Area Of Romania*

*By Floyd Parker*

After being with Otto and Elisabeth Kis for five days in October, we gained new insight into the diversity and yet simplicity of their ministry in the Seven Villages area of Romania.

During our brief stay, Bonnie led the regular women's meeting on Thursday night while Otto, 4-year-old Benjamin, 2-year-old Rhode and I went to a disabled lady's house and picked her apples for her.

On Friday, the Hope Group was invited to the Kis house for a meeting of prayer, singing, and sharing. The Hope Group is comprised of people who have been designated as disabled by the government. But, their love for each other, their deep desire for following Jesus Christ, and their



**The Hope Group show their love for Jesus by helping each other.**



**The Sacele Children's Group gathers at the Kis home for a time of fellowship.**

commitment to reach the Seven Villages with the Gospel reveals that "disability" is not descriptive of their hearts.

One of the group, Ildiko, was going to have hip replacement surgery (She has since had the surgery and doing well). This group and others took up a collection for her and presented it to her. I could not believe that this group raised over \$800 for her.

The group lifted her up in prayer and wept as they placed her in the Lord's hands and expressed their love for her. We shared a delicious meal prepared by Elisabeth with Bonnie's assistance. Usually, Elisabeth does it all by herself. The Hope Group meeting lasted until 4 p.m.

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## EFFECTIVE MINISTRY

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Before the Hope Group meeting ended, children from the neighborhood and even some from other villages started arriving at Otto and Elisabeth's house. We sang together, answered questions, and shared some pictures of Africa and our home church group, ACTS Fellowship.

Teleios Partners had enabled most of these children to go to camp during the summer where several of the children made commitments to follow Jesus Christ. They shared with us their "camp songs."

By 6 p.m., it was time for me to leave for a Young People's (College and Career Single Adults) meeting at the Brasov church.

What a joy to be with this group of young adults! Most of these Bonnie and I have watched grow up over the past seven years. We spent the evening together talking about what it means to be real as a Christian in business and university setting.

David and Peter Borzasi led in the worship and sharing time. The special surprise was that it was Peter's birthday. We had homemade cookies baked by Marta Borzasi!

Bonnie spent the evening meeting with a young lady from the apartment complex. She talked with Elisabeth and her about biblical understanding of parenting. Once again, Otto and I handled the children. What was so funny is that Elisabeth had them prepared for bed, but Otto let them eat again. That Benjamin never



**The Hosanna Young People's Choir of the Brasov church presented Jesus as the Light of the World in music, testimony and scripture.**



misses an opportunity to "top off" his tank.

Saturday began with Bonnie continuing her "counseling session" with the young woman. She said, "I tried what you said and it worked." Elisabeth and she asked Bonnie to return in Spring 2008 to lead conferences on parenting for them. This is a crucial need in the churches, along with teachings on the biblical understanding of marriage.

Bonnie and I had the great opportunity to enjoy the gracious hospitality of Marta Borzasi. (Gyula was in England). She is the definition of the spiritual gift of hospitality. We enjoyed a wonderful meal and time of visiting with Marta, David, and Peter. Their home has been our home for over seven years. We had to rush in the afternoon for an evening evangelism meeting in Sacele at the Cultural Hall.

The Hosanna Young People's Choir of the Brasov church, under the direction of Joseph Mike, Senior Pastor, presented Jesus as the Light of the World in music, testimony, and scripture. I had the privilege of bringing a brief message. The weather was very cold, high winds, rain/sleet/snow, and there was no heat in the cultural hall. Yet, over 70 people came! Otto is a member of Sacele Community Brass Band. They played and were very open to the gospel. Otto, Elisabeth, and Joseph were excited by the response of the people.

Sunday was a great day with the Brasov church. Otto led his first baptism service.

**Otto Kis led his first baptism service and baptized two ladies from the Seven Villages area and one lady from the Brasov church.**



He baptized two ladies from the Seven Villages area and one lady from the Brasov church. This was a great day in the life of churches and missions of this area. After the worship service, the people from the Seven Villages were invited by the Brasov church to have Sunday meal with them in their respective homes.

In the afternoon, an evangelistic service was held. The Hosanna Choir sang, I preached, Bonnie shared a testimony, and others shared. The movement of the Spirit of God in the worship was evident. Bonnie, Otto, and I quickly traveled to Sacele to get our luggage and catch the overnight train to Satu Mare. As an answer to prayer, we were able to get a private sleeping car.

Next stop, the Hungarian Baptist Church of Satu Mare for Bonnie and the Hungarian Executive Committee Meeting in Oradea for me. I joined Bonnie later in the afternoon in Satu Mare.



**Despite the cold temperatures, a number of people attended the evangelistic meeting in Sacele.**

## CHURCH PLANTER

*Continued from page 1*

he ministers. The love between them was palatable. Over and over, they told us how much they loved him and about life that he is bringing to their communities.

We continue to praise God for the opportunity to be a part of Attila's work in sharing the love of Jesus in the Mures region of Transylvania. We thank God for

## Reghin Church Full Of Openness, Sense Of Renewal

The Reghin church held three nights of evangelistic meetings. The church has 22 members with some of them unable to come due to health.

According to Attila, each night there were more unbelievers than believers in the services. The church was excited by this opportunity.

Miklos, the member of the church at Gornesti who was critically injured during the building project this past summer, came and gave his testimony. What a blessing to hear him share of God's working through this time of pain and healing!

## Lives Transformed In Apalina

Rather than give a general report on the Apalina Gypsy mission work, we will focus on the transformation of three lives in Jesus Christ. Two nights of evangelistic meetings were held in Apalina. The building was crammed with children, parents, and those Attila has been serving with love and acceptance there.

Claudia received a Bible from Attila earlier in the year and had been reading it. Claudia said that she did not think God could love her because of all that she had done. Bonnie sat down with her and went through the Scriptures regarding God's love, forgiveness in Jesus Christ, and the assurance of new life in Jesus Christ.

Teleios partners who provide the resources that sustain Attila's ministry. Thank God for the young man Attila is... a young pastor committed to his Lord, obedient to His call, loving and serving the people in that area of the world!

On this page are other stories of our visits to the different locations touched by Attila's ministry.



On Sunday afternoon, a couple in this church celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. The leader of the church and his wife, George and Magdalena Vass, who, by the way, had just recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, hosted us for dinner.

In these two events the warmth and openness of this church was displayed. With this spirit present, the renewal and future growth of Reghin seems assured.



With tears in her eyes, Claudia prayed asking God's forgiveness and her acceptance and belief in His love for her.

When Claudia raised her head and we saw her face, the miracle of God's trans-

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## Gornesti Church Warm In Spirit, But Building In Need Of Heat

The Gornesti church provided Bonnie and me with two unique experiences. First, we visited in the home of Zozo whose baptism was featured in the July newsletter. You will remember that his mother, father, grandmother, and sister committed their lives to follow Jesus Christ at his baptism. We had a wonderful time worshipping the Lord and celebrating their new life in Jesus Christ.

One of Zozo's brothers, Istvan, has made a decision to follow Jesus and the other brother, Lala, has heard the Gospel and is very close to a decision to follow the Lord. Please pray for this family as they seek to serve the Lord. Zozo also asks for our prayers as he leads the family in a morning and evening time of Scripture reading and prayer.

Second, we worshipped on Sunday afternoon, October 21, with the Gornesti church in their newly completed church building. The weather was very cold. The church does not have a heating system. The temperature was 37 degrees F inside the church when the worship service began.

During the service, the power went off. No lights or the two small electric heaters being used were on. Without these, the temperature began to drop, but the worship was warm and alive with the Spirit of God.

As winter approaches, the group is meeting in a small back room of the church building using two small borrowed electric heaters. Teleios Ministry is seeking partners to assist with providing two radiators and the natural gas hookup for the church so they can have heat. The cost of this project will be \$2,000.



# Seeing The Lord At Work In Romania

Floyd and Bonnie Parker gather with the Bible Study group in Peris.



Floyd Parker works with the pastors of the Barnabas Group during a training session.



Bonnie Parker leads a women's meeting in Tirgu Mures.

Members of the Tiream congregation read the Scriptures relating to the sermon.



Zozo and his family join together to sing praises to the Lord.



Attendees at the Roma Women's Conference focus on finding particular Scripture passages.



## TRANSFORMED

*Continued from page 3*

forming presence was evident. The contrast between the expression on her face when she questioned God's love and now that she accepted His love for her was truly amazing. In fact, in keeping with her new life, she brought to Attila items that she had stolen from others for return.

Receiving a copy of God's Word opened the door for her to truly believe God's love for her in Jesus Christ.

Two brothers (13 and 14 years old) who had gone to the summer camp for Gypsy children organized by Attila, listened and watched as Claudia and Bonnie talked



and prayed. They came to Attila and Floyd and said, "Can God change us, too? Can we pray and have a new life?" "If you are serious!" Attila said.

The brothers had been abandoned by

their mother and their father was in prison. All their uncles are in prison. The oldest said, "If I do not change, I will be in prison. I do not want this kind of life. I am tired of the fighting." By this time, tears were in his eyes. Attila briefly went over what Bonnie and Floyd had said earlier.

The two boys bowed their heads and began to pray. Their confession of sin was very simple and straightforward, naming sin after sin. The brothers were so excited to begin their new life in Jesus Christ.

Seeds planted during summer camp came to full bloom in October.

## Roma Women's Conference Is Testament To God's Spirit At Work

By Bonnie Parker

On a beautiful, crisp autumn morning, the fourth annual Roma Women's Conference was held at the Gypsy church in the village of Acas, Romania.

October 19 was a blessed day as over 200 believers gathered celebrating life in Jesus Christ through songs, prayer and fellowship. Some women had sacrificed a day of pay at their jobs in order to attend. Fourteen Gypsy churches throughout the Transylvania region were represented, as well as several Hungarian Baptist churches.

Interspersed between the morning and afternoon teaching sessions were testimonies from the Gypsy women, skits and Bible readings. Many of the women have learned to read using the Bible. It is amazing to see how many own a Bible now and are able to find Scripture references and read them!

The teaching sessions, led by myself and

Eboya Balint, president of Hungarian Baptist Woman of Romania, focused on spiritual growth.

A committee from the Satu Mare church prepared a delicious mid-day meal. It was delivered to Acas and served under a warm sun and brilliant blue sky in the courtyard of the church. Lunch time provided for a great time of reunion and fellowship. Seeing food, many little children from the surrounding area joined us for the lunch hour! There was plenty of food to share and this time gave an opportunity to talk to the children about the love of Jesus.

That afternoon, the conference concluded with a worship time. The entire community had been invited for this. Dr. Floyd Parker, translated by Zoltan Vekas, pastor of the Satu Mare church, preached an evangelistic message. Fifteen people responded to the call of the Lord on their life.



As the day ended, we drove back to Satu Mare tired but filled with thanksgiving to God for allowing us to participate with Him in His work among the Roma women.

## Barnabas Group Represents New Generation Of Pastors

By Floyd Parker

Twenty young Hungarian Baptist pastors from across Transylvania came together to learn, grow, fellowship, and be challenged in their work with Christ. Known as the Barnabas Group, these young men all graduated from the Hungarian Baptist Seminary Romania after the fall of communism in Romania.

Istvan Gergely, President of the Hungarian Baptist Convention of Romania (HBCR), and Jozsef Kovacs, General Secretary of the HBCR and former dean of the seminary, have a dream of providing ongoing growth opportunities for these pastors. These two men also serve as the facilitators of the group.

The group meets twice a year as a large group and once a month in smaller groups for encouragement, learning, and practical support. Twice a year, Teleios Ministry assists the group in bringing



spiritual leadership conference facilitators to meet and lead the group in areas of leadership growth.

This was the first large meeting of the group since their initial organization in the spring of 2007. I led the group in teamwork exercises, discovery and practical application of leadership styles, and current and future trends/challenges in the church globally and Biblical practices

to respond positively to these challenges locally.

The Barnabas group is also serving as a pilot group for a three-year spiritual leadership development interactive process.

The time spent on October 9-10 was an exciting beginning of a new day in the continuing growth of this new generation of pastoral leaders. You were a part of this opportunity through the General Funds of Teleios Ministry.

In March and October 2008, speakers/facilitators are needed for the semi-annual meetings. This will require leading approximately six hours of lecture and practical learning experiences for the group. Also, there will be the opportunity to work with the young pastors in their churches and experience first-hand the impact of the Barnabas Group.

## Teleios/Grace Team Hits The Ground Running

*Members of the Teleios/Grace Team are Joey Espinosa, Kevin Jones, Jerry Shive, Joseph Dion, and Mark Forthaus. Please pray for safety as they travel and for the Lord to be glorified in their work while there.*

November 26: Arrive Nairobi pick up by Bernard Mwangi 8:10 PM  
Lodging: Gracia Gardens, Nairobi  
November 27: Breakfast 7:30 AM  
Travel to Laikipia: Realities of Africa; visit area for Medical Mission Team  
Stay at Thompson Fall Lodge  
November 28: Breakfast: 8:30 AM  
Depart for Thika via Nyeri (Singare): 9:30 AM  
Sangare Ranch for Lunch: 11 AM -1 PM  
Arrive Thika and check in at Blue Post (Native Disco): 3 PM  
Visit Conference Site: 4 PM  
November 29-30: Breakfast 6:30 AM - Blue Post Hotel  
See Previous Schedule (7 AM to 6 PM)  
December 1: Breakfast 7 AM  
Depart for Nyeri 8 AM  
Visit Nyeri Children's Project  
Depart for Nairobi 2 PM / Lodging at Kentmere  
December 2: Breakfast 8:30 AM  
Depart for Koinonia 9:15 AM  
Shopping at Masai Market 4-6 PM / Dinner  
Depart for Airport to fly home

## Special Guest From Romania Joining Teleios Teams In Kenya

Dr. Adrian Giorgiov, Dean of the Hungarian Baptist Seminary of Romania, will be joining the Teleios Team in Kenya.

Bonnie, Floyd, and the Grace Team will meet him in Amsterdam on Nov. 26. He joins the Team teaching at the FOBOCK Leaders Con-

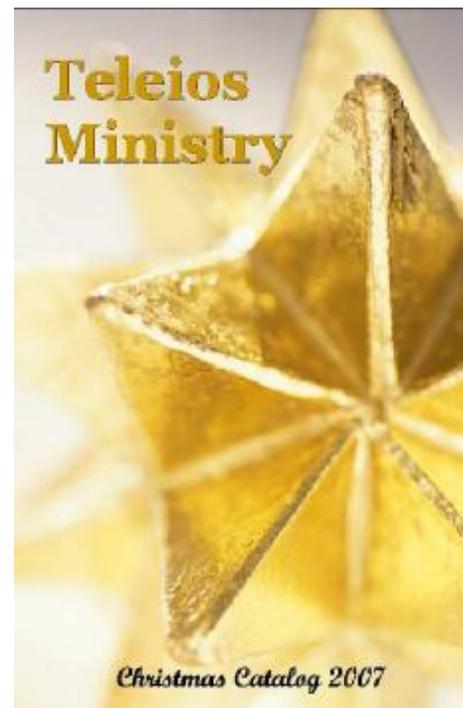
ference on Nov. 28 – Dec. 1.

Adrian will join the ACTS Fellowship/Teleios Team teaching the youth with Floyd on Dec. 3-8. He will finish his teaching and speaking time in Kenya with the FOBOCK Young People's Conference in Thika on Dec. 13-14.

## A TELEIOS TEAM OF ONE

Floyd and Bonnie Parker saw Anne Davis, center, off as she left for Kenya on Nov. 16 to work for a week with Mary Kabaru at Happy Day Preschool and Kindergarten.

Anne will be instructing the children in Creative Arts. She will also train the teachers in new and innovative methods of preschool and kindergarten education so they can provide the children with optimum opportunities to learn.



Response to the 2007 Teleios Christmas Catalog has been tremendous, but there are still opportunities available for you to help ongoing efforts with children in Kenya, Romania and Tanzania.

Go to [www.teleiosministry.org](http://www.teleiosministry.org) and click on Christmas Catalog to view the publication.

Make a difference with your giving this year!

## CAR SHOW TO BE HELD

The first annual Safe House Car Show will be held Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 301 S. Laurel St. in Walhalla, S.C. (Old Piedmont Quilting Plant)

Admission is \$5. Car entry fee is \$20.

All proceeds will benefit Safe House Youth and Community Center of Walhalla, S.C.

For more information, contact Executive Director Tyler Wilkie at 864-710-0674.

# This Just In...

## From Romania...

Magdi Pap and Evodia Boudia are planning and will be facilitating a Single Young Women's gathering this month. It will be held in Zalu. **Pray** for them as they prepare and for the young women who will be attending. **Pray** thanking God for the financial partnership with Global Women that made this conference possible.

## From Kenya...

**Tigoni** — Anne Davis from Princeton, S.C., is currently serving as a Teleios partner working with Mary Mwangi at Happy Day Preschool and Kindergarten. Anne is training the teachers of Happy Day in new and innovative methods of preschool and kindergarten education. **Pray** for her during this time of teaching and for safe travel as she returns home. **Thank the Lord** for Anne's willingness to go and her employer's cooperation with scheduling in order for this training to take place.

**Ruaka** — Acts Fellowship of Greenville, S.C., has committed funding to provide housing costs for three young homeless men who attend Koinonia Baptist Church. Acts members became acquainted with the three last winter during the VBS camp. Pastor Sammy Mwangi and his wife Lucy will supervise and mentor the young men. **Pray** for the partnership between Koinonia and Acts Fellowship in this endeavor. **Pray** for Pastor Sammy and Lucy as they oversee the task of guiding these young men. Finally, **pray** for the boys as they grow in the Lord and work to complete school.

## From Tanzania...

**Iringa** — Two hectares of land next to the Children's Home has been acquired. It will be used as playground for the children. Thank God for His provision of this land. **Ask** His blessings on this place and safety for the children who will play there.

## From Mauldin, S.C. ...

Friend and Teleios partner Gerald Coates has gone home to be with the Lord. **Pray** for his wife Sarah and his family as they grieve and adjust to life here without Gerald. **Praise** God for Gerald's Godly life and witness as he served the Lord for so many years and celebrate his home-going.

## Acts/Teleios Team Has Full Schedule In Africa

*Team members Floyd and Bonnie Parker, Michal Parker, Meg Hunt, Rebecca West, Lucia Johnson, Ed Arnold and Shelia January will be in Kenya and Tanzania from Nov. 30-Dec. 18. Please pray for safety in travel and during our visit and that the Lord will be glorified all that the Team will be doing while there.*

- November 25: Bonnie and Floyd depart Greenville at 12:40 PM
- November 30: Ed, Lucia, Meg and Michal depart Greenville at 4:10 PM  
Sheila Departs Portland at 10:30 AM
- December 1: Ed, Lucia, Meg, Michal, Shelia arrive Nairobi at 8:10 PM  
Travel to Kentmere  
Rebecca departs Washington, DC at 3:35 PM
- December 2: Breakfast at 8:30 AM  
Worship at Koinonia 10AM-12:30 PM.  
Planning Meeting with Children's Ministry Leadership Team  
Rebecca arrives at 8:10 PM
- December 3-7: Schedule for Week: Breakfast at 8 AM; Depart Kentmere at 9 AM  
Kids Arrive at 9:30 AM; Games and Singing Time 9:30-10 AM  
Visitation/Music/Dance Workshop 1:30-3 PM
- December 8: SAME AS ABOVE until Session 1 / Prepare for Sunday program  
International Food Tasting
- December 9: Breakfast at 8:30 AM  
Leave Kentmere at 9:15 AM for Koinonia Baptist Church  
Worship 10AM-12:30 PM.  
Baptism Service at the River  
LEAVE FOR AIRPORT: 3:30 PM / DEPART NAIROBI at 5:30  
Arrive DAR, TANZANIA, 6:45 PM / Travel to Hotel for the Night
- December 10: LEAVE FOR IRINGA 6 AM  
ARRIVE IRINGA at 1 PM  
Go to Children's Home to be greeted  
Supper, meet the children, and worship 6-9 PM
- December 11: Breakfast  
Visit Children's Home; Kidetete; Girls' School—Meeting with Principal and Teachers  
Return to Children's Home to play with children / have supper  
Worship and Sing
- December 12: Breakfast  
Isimilia (Stone Age Site), Ruaha Game Park/Mwagasi Camp,  
Afternoon Safari, Dinner
- December 13: Optional: Morning Walk 6:45 AM  
Breakfast 8 AM / Morning Safari  
Lunch 1 PM / Optional: Afternoon Safari  
Dinner
- December 14: Breakfast and leave Ruaha / Arrive Iringa by 1 PM  
Visit Children's Home
- December 15: Leave for DAR at 6 AM  
Arrive DAR at 1 PM  
Shop, sight see  
Lucia, Michal, Ed Leave for Airport at 8:45 PM / Depart 11:45 PM
- December 16: Lucia, Michal, and Ed arrive Home at GSP 5:09 PM  
Meg, Rebecca, and Shelia: Indian Ocean Experience  
Leave for Airport at 8:45 PM / Depart 11:45 PM
- December 17: Meg, Rebecca, and Shelia part ways in Amsterdam  
Meg & Rebecca arrive Reagan International at 1:50 PM / Shelia arrives Portland at 4:50 PM
- December 18: Floyd and Bonnie meeting with Frank Mwaisumbe / Leave 11:45 PM
- December 19: Bonnie and Floyd arrive Home at GSP 5:55 PM





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HELPING GOD-GIVEN VISIONS BECOME PRESENT-DAY REALITIES

We're on the Web! Check us out — [www.teleiosministry.org](http://www.teleiosministry.org)



## Reflections From the Green Chair.....

On Sunday, I thought I heard my niece, Abigail, say, "We're trying to skip Thanksgiving and just go on to Christmas." Whatever happened to Thanksgiving? What has happened to thanksgiving in the lives of believers?

The truth is that thanksgiving usually gets squeezed out in our desire to accomplish so much in our busy lives or circumstances that we see as troublesome or suffering. We move from one thing to another so fast that we forget thanksgiving. Who has time to be thankful.

What about what is happening in our lives? Who feels like being thankful. Yet, thankfulness is at the very heart of the Christian faith. I must confess as I reflect. I must repent as I reflect. I have let the pride of busyness rob me of the joy of thanksgiving and the blessing of thanksgiving for God's people.

Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica: "My friends, even though we have a lot of trouble and suffering, your faith makes us feel better about you. Your strong faith in the Lord is like a breath of new life. How can we possibly thank God enough for all the happiness you have brought us? Day and night we sin-

cerely pray that we will see you again and help you to have an even stronger faith. We pray that God our Father and our Lord Jesus will let us visit you. May the Lord make your love for each other and for everyone else grow by leaps and bounds. That's how our love for you has grown. And when our Lord comes with all of his people, I pray that he will make your hearts pure and innocent in the sight of God the Father." - 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 (*Contemporary English Version*)

Now read Paul's follow-up letter to the church at Thessalonica: "Our God gives you everything you need, makes you everything you're to be. You need to know, friends, that thanking God over and over for you is not only a pleasure; it's a must. We have to do it. Your faith is growing phenomenally; your love for each other is developing wonderfully. Why, it's only right that we give thanks. We're so proud of you; you're so steady and determined in your faith despite all the hard times that have come down on you. We tell everyone we meet in the churches all about you." - 2 Thessalonians 1:2-4 (*The Message*)

Do you see that in both the circum-

stances are described as "trouble and suffering." First Paul and then the church were experiencing difficult times. Out of his thanksgiving for the church, he prayed for their love and faith to grow. Then, in the second letter, he offers thanksgiving to God for the growth of their faith and love. This growth gave Paul encouragement and joy in difficult circumstances.

I pray that thanksgiving will be the gift you receive and give this Christmas. Thanksgiving changes our perspective and our prayers. When was the last time that you thanked God for the joy/the happiness that other believers bring into your life?

When was the last time that you were thankful because of how proud you were of another Believer or church. My prayer is that thanksgiving will be the gift we offer again and again to God this Christmas season—not for ourselves but for our brothers and sisters in Christ who encourage us, strengthen us, and bless us with their example of a growing faith and love in Jesus Christ.

With Love In Christ,

*Floyd*

