



The Johnny Leslie Family

Independent Baptist Missionaries to Croatia

September & October 2020

Dear Fellow-Laborers,

Greetings to you from Croatia! Tori and I are doing well and still love serving the Lord. Last month **I had surgery** to repair a hernia and I'm thankful for good doctors, my wife who took care of me, and for Brother Sam Ward who preached in my absence while I healed.

Much has happened since our last letter; God continues to bless and save souls through this ministry. A few months ago, Marko, who is Croatian but was born in Germany, contacted me because he needed to get baptized. He was saved by listening to preaching on the internet and then he led his wife and brother to Christ. He heard that he needed to be baptized by the right authority and by the right method. There were no good churches where he lived and he had heard about us in Croatia. **Marko, his wife, and brother drove 1,000 miles to be baptized!** He made a statement that broke my heart, he said, "My family is from Split, (*the second largest city in Croatia*), would you go with me to Split and plant a church there?". He was willing to leave Germany to come to Croatia to plant a Church. The need for churches here in Europe is desperate.

A month later a young man from Montenegro contacted me and told me that he was saved from listening to preaching on the internet. Since then he has led his sister, mom and dad and several others to the Lord! He said that in the entire country of Montenegro there is not one good church, not one! Montenegro is part of the former Yugoslavia and they speak a dialect of Croatian. He asked me if he and his sister could come to Varaždin and be baptized. They had to take a taxi, then a bus, and then fly to Zagreb where I picked them up and drove another hour home. Sunday they were in all our services and **they were both baptized!** They were both happy and yet sad. He made it clear that he wants me to come to Montenegro and start a church. My heart is broken that they must go back home where there is no church. **I am one man** and I cannot be everywhere, yet my heart breaks for them and Marko from Germany! I'm trying to find away that I could travel and help these men start churches in their cities and countries. Please pray for me, that God would give wisdom, resources, and Holy Ghost power that somehow, we can get churches started in these cities.

We are trying to start an online Bible college for these men. There are others in the former Yugoslavia that also are in this situation. Brother Rich is busy translating material for the college. You that support him and these efforts are a blessing. If you are not supporting the translation efforts and would like too, please send any gift to Trinity in our name marked translation. It is **my desire to train and help** as many as I can.

The churches here are doing well. We have had a few saved and **one of our Gypsy ladies was baptized.** Covid-19 is still here, but all our services are online and in person. The government has not put any special restrictions on churches, other than social distancing. Please continue to pray for our people.

As I close, I want to thank you all for your faithful financial support even in this uncertain time. Tori and I are grateful that you are faithful to the Lord and that He and His work are important to you. We **will be taking a furlough** from May to October 2021. If you need or would like us to report, please contact me via e-mail: croatia4christ@gmail.com or call 817-405-2619; just remember we are 7 hours ahead of central time if you call. God bless you all!

Because He lives,
Johnny Leslie

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