



A ministry of
River Valley Christian Church
5900 Lake Elmo Ave. N.
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

Phone: (727) 271-9419
E-mail: lttn@ymail.com



Dan & Marta Lewis

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a *light to the nations*... Isaiah 42:6

April 2024

1 John 5:4 (KJV)

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Our weekly Skype teaching sessions this year have been focused on 2024 being a year of **victory**. Many times a new year goal is forgotten before we see it in our life if we don't keep pressing in, and doing our part to receive what God has promised. We feel it is important to keep this vision of victory before our eyes so that it is not lost.

The Bible has many promises of victory, but victory, whether in sports, business or any area of life, only comes when there is opposition. This includes the victory that overcomes the world - our faith.

Examples of people in the Bible who overcame great opposition are numerous: Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Gideon and a host of others (see Hebrews ch. 11) but without question, Jesus is the ultimate victor, and He was victorious on our behalf!

The greatest enemy to faith is a lack of understanding God's Word. In fact, all hindrances to faith center around this lack of knowledge; because you cannot believe or have faith beyond your actual knowledge of the Word of God. However, your faith will automatically grow as your understanding of God's Word grows. Romans 10:17 confirms this: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.."

As an example (there are many) of the importance of keeping the Word first, take a look at Joshua. In the first 9 verses of Joshua chapter 1, Joshua is charged with the responsibility of taking over after Moses' death, and to finally lead the children of Israel into the promised land. God tells Joshua (v.3) *Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.*

Joshua was promised the land (v.4) *From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.* On top of that, God

promised that (v5) *No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.*

But wait, in the next four verses, Joshua is told three times that he must be strong (very strong) and courageous. What's ahead is going to require strength and courage, but the most important element we can see in verse 8: *This Book of the Law (the Word) shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For **then** you will make your way prosperous, and **then** you will have good success.*

I believe God is telling you and I the same thing He told Joshua: You are in a fight! And your only path to victory is to do it God's way. And of course, the only fight a Christian is called upon to fight is the fight of **faith** (1 Timothy 6:12). There is a fight to gain victory, so be bold, be strong and keep growing in the Word.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed (*perish*) for lack of knowledge... The best decision you can make for the rest of this year and beyond is that your knowledge of God's Word will grow. Give yourself to the study of the Word! It will automatically follow that your faith will grow.

To be continued...

We are excited to let you know that in just a few weeks we will be travelling to Hungary again. We appreciate your prayers as we travel with Pastor Thomas Lohnke from Switzerland and Brian and Luann Eager from Minnesota, visiting and teaching our friends there. Prices have skyrocketed there as they have here, so any gift towards this trip will be greatly appreciated.

The Light to the Nations Bible schools in Hungary and Romania are still going strong. In fact, our newest location in Marghita, Romania is getting close to finishing the first year course of study. The Marghita school is overseen by Carmen Daroczi Varga, daughter of Pastor Laszlo and Edit Daroczi. Their small group of students has been super excited about this Bible course and are nearly ready for graduation!



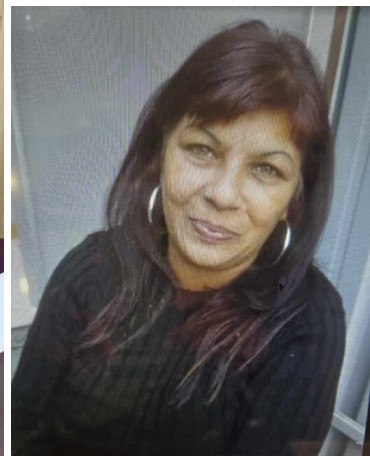
The three pictures above are from the Light to the Nations Bible school in Marghita, Romania. Those who travelled with us in those earlier years will remember Pastor Laszlo Daroczi, shown in the picture **above left** with his son Laszlo Jr. (Laci). Yes, that's him, not a little boy any more, and serving alongside dad in church ministry. The other two pictures show the students as they study during a recent class session.

Below left Pastor Istvan Sule prays for this little guy and his mom during a recent church service in Ózd, Hungary. Pastor Istvan and his wife Szilvia have been a great help to Ketrin below right, who just made the best decision of her life to come back to the Lord.

Last month we highlighted a long time friend of ours (we gave her the name Ilona to tell her story) who has had an amazing change for good in her life as she turned from an ungodly lifestyle and came back to the Lord. Shortly after we sent out that newsletter, we received a message from another person who has experienced a miraculous turn-around. Ketrin listens to our weekly Skype teaching every Wednesday and is hungry for the Word. Here is her letter translated to English:

I just came back to the Lord, I was a lost sheep, but my dear Heavenly Father did not forget me. I started to listen the last few months Skype teaching from Pastor Dan and Marta, (because you faithfully sent them to me, you didn't forget me either, and I saved them in my computer, thank you.) My spiritual ears were opened through the teachings, - faith comes by hearing-. I went back to the church in Ózd, Hungary, I am so thankful to the Lord first, then for the teachings, and for Pastors Istvan and Szilvia who received me, prayed for me and helped me to grow spiritually.

Ketrin



Love and blessings,

Dan & Marta Levin

Your commitment to Light to the Nations is crucial in bringing new life in Christ to many people in Eastern and Central Europe. We would like to thank everyone for your support of Light to the Nations, both with prayer and with finances. We want you to know you are extremely important to this ministry. Thank you!

LIGHT TO THE NATIONS MINISTRIES
 I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a **light to the nations...**
 Isaiah 42:6,7