

The Turners

Dave and Dara Turner & Family
Missionaries to Eastern Europe

Mission/Support address:
Charity Baptist Mission, Inc.
P.O. Box 692
Bristol, Tennessee
37621-0692 USA

Field Address:
Mamaia Sat, str. M20, nr. 50
905701 Navodari, jud. Constanta
ROMANIA
e-mail: davepalmer46@yahoo.com

February/March 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All is well here in Romania. The children at the Home are well and the Lord continues to bless in the meetings I go to each week.

I want to share the recent testimony of Cocosh, one of the believers who comes to our Turkish meeting in Constanta. You should know, he grew up in a family that was just about as "bad" as you could imagine. His father, Amet, was a terribly mean and abusive alcoholic. If Cocosh and his four brothers weren't stealing, they were usually drinking and fighting. All of the brothers landed in jail at one time or another and a couple of them have spent most of their adult life in and out of prison.

If ever there was a family who had wasted their lives with riotous living, this was the one. Praise the Lord, quite a few years ago, the father, Bro. Amet and his wife, Atiye, got saved in one of the Turkish churches Bro. Ralph Cheatwood started. They became pillars of our Turkish church – Bro. Amet often preaching and Sister Atiye testifying on every occasion possible.

Even though Amet and Atiye, with the Lord's help, turned their lives around, their sons never seemed to be able to. Sometimes they would seem to get in, testify about how the Lord had helped them, but after a few months had dropped out and returned to their old lives.

Cocosh even preached some and it seemed he had great promise. But unfortunately, when he was doing well, Satan would always trip him up and drag him back down.

Because of his lifestyle, Cocosh's body, now over 50 years old, is in ruin. His lungs, liver, kidneys and probably most other organs are failing. For the last 6 months, he has been in the hospital more than he has been out. In recent weeks, he was in bed and needing oxygen constantly.

A few weeks ago, during a particularly serious crisis, he went into a coma. The family was told he probably would not leave the hospital alive.

This past week, I was stunned when I walked into the meeting and Cocosh was there. I expected the next time I saw him would be at his funeral. He stood – no help, no oxygen – and gave a powerful testimony.

He said that during the five days he was in a coma, although he couldn't move or respond, he could hear everything going on around him. He heard the doctors talking among themselves at his bedside saying that he was not going to make it...no chance.

He said he remembered one of the hymns in our Turkish hymnbook and, for 5 days, sang it over and over in his head. It translates roughly:

*My God, I have been wandering on my own. I ask myself why.
Don't leave me to wander alone. In this world, I can't make it without You.
I have a great burden that nobody knows. You know, my God. I will not forget You.
I am calling out to You and telling You. Wash me with Your blood and open my heart.
Don't leave me to wander alone.
Glory to You, You didn't leave me.
With Your Blood, my God, You washed me.*

Everyone was crying as he told how, even though he had forsaken God, his God had not forsaken him, but had given him another chance. I'm so glad that is the God I serve. Worthy is the Lamb!

Thank you all for your faithfulness in prayer and support. God Bless you.

In Christ,
Dave, Dara, Sandy and the Kids

"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be..." John 12:26