

## Our First Month in Romania



product tag in Romanian).

Struggling to speak and understand the language I have often received a different food order than what I wanted, I sound like a toddler when I try to speak, and for one month I had been using capsules for washing machine on the dish washer (not understanding the

While being in the Romanian world, **I have observed** how much bread Romanians eat everyday. Tortillas are not an option for me



any more. You may not be able to appreciate the size of this bread in the picture but each loaf is the size of my 19 month old son. As I

learn more of Romanian culture, I also grow in understanding of my wife Vanessa. When I would cook breakfast for her and there was no bread, sometimes she would not eat. I was angry the first times but now I see that most Romanians would not enjoy their food if they don't eat it with bread.

However, Vanessa has enjoyed being back with most of her family and they have been of great support to us, helping us to have a place to stay while we were finding a place, watching the kids while going to solve documents, and letting us know where things are and other good advice.

Solving my immigration status has been a laborious process. Everybody here knows that solving any documentation will involve many steps, long waits, lack of clarity in the process, disagreement between one government official and another, and a very stressful experience. And, just as I was told, we experienced and witnessed all of these things. As I was in line to get a document, about 10 people out of 20 that I watched going to speak with a representative were frustrated, shouting and being shouted at by different government officials. During that time I was reminded of the compassion of Jesus and as I prayed in my mind, I kept thinking, **“What would the kingdom of Jesus look like in this place? What would it look like to see in this place people who are no longer living for themselves but have repented of their sin and received the grace of Jesus and now display the fruit of the Spirit in their lives specially when circumstances are not favorable to them?”** Let's pray that the number of disciples and churches will multiply in this place and that people who have received the grace of Jesus would also show grace to others.

## Answered Prayers

(1) Despite limited options during this season, **we found a house and signed a leased contract.** We have been working on furnishing the house and the kids have been good helpers some times. Also some of our first new relationships are the owners of the



house and our next door neighbors. Please pray that we would grow in our friendship with them and proclaim the gospel to them with clarity. (2) Also, despite the laborious process, all of my documentation was presented and I should

receive a legal residence at the end of April.

Finally, please pray for the intensive Romanian classes I will start on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

We thank God for your gospel partnership,

**Cristian and Vanessa**