

the Louks

putting
the gospel
in
action
James 1:27



PRAYER REQUESTS

CUSTODY OF TWINS

The Howertons have been involved in a long and emotionally taxing effort to adopt George and Gina, four year old Romanian twins. Please pray that they would finally be granted custody in February. To read more about this see their blog <http://howertonsinromania.blogspot.com/2009/01/i-dont-really-know-where-to-start-with.html>

IMMINENT ARRIVAL

Our little one is nearly done growing in secret. The due date is February 27th, but he or she could come at any time now. Please pray that the birth goes smoothly, that we are able to give birth at the birth center, and that our loukling is healthy.

ADJUSTMENT

We have been told that having a baby completely changes your life. Please pray that we quickly learn how to be good parents and how to work hard at pre-field ministry (deputation) at the same time.

FIRST THINGS

Please pray that God would continue to have first place in our lives.

PROGRESS REPORT

SUPPORT: 35%

We are very thankful that God continues to move churches and individuals to partner with us financially.

The Generosity of God's People

Acts 4:32 "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any [of them] that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."

Dear Praying Friends,

As most of you know, our '89 Buick chose this month to start its long and obscure career in a junk yard. When we sent out a special e-mail prayer request about our need for a new vehicle, many of you promised to pray for God to provide and others offered to help us purchase a car either with informative suggestions or with financial assistance.

We were surprised by how many people wrote to encourage us and then followed up again, wanting to know what God had done. How encouraging to know that so many people are interested in the success of our effort to reach Romania! You are "of one heart and of one soul" with us for the work of the Lord. As the believers in Acts, our unity with you, in the Lord, has moved you to share what is yours as if it did not ultimately belong to you.

But your kind initial response still failed to prepare us for how lavishly God would choose to supply our need.

Though several people were incredibly generous, one family (from a supporting church) gave beyond all expectation. The family responded to our prayer request by offering to give us their '98 mini-van.

They had been planning to give the van to their church but believed that perhaps we needed it more. Two weeks after the initial offer was made, the husband of the family drove a vehicle down to us from out of state and then caught a plane to get back home.

But when he dropped the vehicle off, he informed us that he and his wife had changed their minds about which vehicle they were going to give us. Deciding that we needed a more dependable vehicle, they chose to give us their primary vehicle, a 2005 Toyota Highlander.

The first time Laurel and I were in the vehicle together, Laurel asked, "Do you feel like we really don't deserve this?" I responded that I felt exactly the same way as she did.

This has been a tremendous example to us of how our heavenly Father takes care of his children. Not only has our understanding of God as our good Father grown, but so has our confidence in His promises to provide for what He has commanded. In addition to the future ministry in Romania, God has us ministering in the churches we visit now. And a car is necessary to accomplish our current ministry. Join us in praising God for His equipping us to work for His glory.

Your fellow servants,

Joshua & Laurel

Joshua and Laurel Louk



more than we deserve