

Encourage & Equip

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Please pray...

Praise for:

- Our identity in Christ, secured in God's grace & Jesus' death
- All that was learnt through EGM Sunday school teacher training.
- Provision to be able to update the tech equipment at church.
- God's provision through His people that allows us to continue serving here.
- God's sustaining grace that carries his children through tough times.

Prayer for:

- That we would be continually guided by God, His word & priorities.
- For the management & teachers of Primii Pasi school & preschool as they continue to work within a tough system.
- That theoretical learning would become transformational in the lives of Sunday school teachers & their kids.
- That we would bear one another's burdens with patience, grace, compassion & wisdom.
- For grace, wisdom & patience as we raise Anna & Luca.

Dear Friends and Family,

"Preach the gospel to yourself daily". It's a well-known phrase, and it never gets old, just like "You never outgrow the basics". It is time well invested reminding yourself of the basics, the foundational truths of your faith. I have just finished the concise but profound book "Who am I", by Jerry Bridges. It was both refreshing and challenging to be reminded of my identity in Christ and how to hold the tension between who I am in Christ and what I see myself to be in my daily life. It challenged me to keep striving for godliness in all areas of my life, but at the same time, comforted me, knowing that my true and eternal identity is bestowed through the grace of God and based on what Jesus has already done for me. What a relief and joy. May we all preach the gospel to ourselves (and those around us) daily and remember the amazing grace that has been poured out upon us through Jesus Christ.

Training Time

As mentioned in the previous prayer letter, we were looking forward to the opportunity to participate in an online Sunday school teacher training that EGM Romania (Every Generation Ministries) offered in November. It was facilitated through three weekly zoom meetings and also a collection of online videos. Adi and I were both able to participate along with two of the Sunday school volunteers from our local church. The content of the videos was well thought out and covered their five principles for Biblical teaching- relationship, experience, truth, discussion and response. We were particularly encouraged and interested in the way they promoted open and engaging discussion and practical response and application as part of the children's lesson. It was great to see training that created ways for the children to engage with the text and find ways to apply it to their lives. Our prayer is that this training would not remain at theoretical but would be transformational in the lives of both the teachers who participated and children in their Sunday school classes.

Bearing one another's burdens

Galatians 6:2 encourages us to bear one another's burdens and these past few months God has given us ample opportunities to do that. Our friend who we have been supporting with multiple medical needs, has had a particularly difficult time recently, which has meant devoting extra time to supporting and encouraging her. Thankfully, along with the cooperation of some of her medical professionals and friends, she has changed some of her medications and we are seeing a slow but visible improvement in her mental health. I'm sure each of us have people in our lives who are in need of extra support, encouragement and physical assistance at different times and for us currently, there are quite a few. We help out where we can, making phone calls, visits, helping with transport, meals and groceries, seeking to encourage and support, praying together etc, all the time praying for the wisdom and guidance needed to know how to best help those who are carrying particularly heavy burdens at this time.

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

PSALM 145:4

Back to Hybrid...

Another wave hits Europe and crashes onto people's lives again and again. As numbers continued to rise in our city, our church leaders sat down and discussed our response to this latest wave. It was decided that we would return to 'hybrid' mode and start streaming again for those who wanted to stay at home due to being immunosuppressed and other factors. Those on the tech team (including Adi) stressed the necessity to invest and improve the computers at the church, as the church didn't have equipment powerful enough to actually stream each week. Adi devoted time to researching an appropriate computer for the church which has since been purchased and installed. This makes it more efficient to stream and not rely on Adi's own laptop from week to week. Changes have also had to be made to children's ministry. Although some other churches in the city have continued Sunday school 'as normal', we had some leaders, teachers and families concerned and a decision was made to once again return to a 'family based' style. One of the Sunday school volunteers prepares the lesson and then shares it online for those needing to stay at home, but also prepare the various materials necessary for those coming along to church to do it face to face at church, each with their own family. In one way it is disappointing, especially for the kids, to have returned to this after only having five weeks of 'normal' Sunday school, but we want to love, serve and care for the families in our church and we believe this is the best way to do that at this current time.

School days



Uncertainty constantly looms when it comes to schooling and honestly, most things these days. So, when all schools were forced to take two weeks holiday because of rising cases of Covid in our city, we were all very anxious if school would return to face to face after the break. On the Friday of the second week the government released an exceptionally long list of requirements that schools needed to comply with so that they could return face to face. A lot of schools were unable to comply completely and so were forced online, or to some form of hybrid teaching. Thankfully for us, both Anna and Luca's schools were able to open for face-to-face teaching. There are so many hoops to jump through and masses of red tape to negotiate and we are continually thankful for the perseverance of the management and staff at our children's schools who keep seeking to teach and encourage our children in exceptionally trying times. Another blessing we are very thankful for are the friendships that our children have been developing here. Both Anna and Luca have relished play dates at friend's homes and love being able to invite their friends to our apartment to play. We are so thankful for the way that God has answered this ongoing prayer of ours.



Anna & Maia in their school uniforms.

Thank you, as always, for your support, encouragement and care. No matter what waves are crashing on our lives at the time, may we each trust in God's unfailing love and may our hearts rejoice in God's salvation, singing to the Lord, for he has been good to us (Psalm 13:5-6)

God Bless, Adi, Jennifer, Anna and Luca

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