

# Listen and See

8-2-07

Dear Friends,

WOW! Praise God for such a great trip to Romania! After just recently getting off the long plane ride it sure feels great to be home in a familiar environment. I want to thank all of you for your prayer and support. God worked in wonderful ways through all the prayers, and Satan did not accomplish his goals.

We arrived in Cluj-Napoka, Romania to be greeted by the local missionary Rei Aburdan. Then we headed off into the Transylvanian Mountains to host a junior high camp. At camp we divided into teams, held competitions, and ate some great food. As a part of the yellow monkey team, I was able to build friendships and bond with some kids in the group. Most of the kids were part of 3 local churches, but some were from non-churched families. We played silly games in the morning, and in the afternoon had electives that ranging from jewelry to puzzles to bingo. We also had an evening session consisting of worship in English and Romanian, and a teaching from Noah. Even though things were crazy, I know that God used our time there as an avenue to reach deeper into the lives of the Romanians. By listening to different stories, I found that Romanian youth are similar to American youth, both are being changed and formed by their universe around them. It was a great opportunity to show how God can transform them in the midst of a secular world. Along with the kids there were Christian Romanian counselors and translators who helped us at the camp. I was able to talk to a few of the Romanian counselors and find out how God had changed their lives.

One of the lessons that I learned was to see people through God's love. By learning this I was able to see the kids as children of God, and see them for the potential that they have to honor and glorify God. God opened this up to me when I was being drenched with water by a kid named Alexandro. After he got me all wet I took a step back and realized that though I was wet and uncomfortable, I could love this kid because my comfort was not worth the joy and happiness that I saw on his face right after I was soaked from head to toe. Once I saw God's love in this different way, I was able to see and approach the camp with a new attitude.

Another thing that God revealed to me is a lesson that I have learned many times before. It is the on going process of submitting to God because what I want is not always what He has in mind for me. I came to Romania hoping and praying to have the opportunity to share and maybe mentor a Romanian junior high in God and his word. I later found that that was not exactly what was in store. One of my goals on the trip was to hear Trinity team member's share how they came to know Christ and what God is teaching them. Through asking them to share God gave me the awesome opportunity to encourage, support, and listen. I felt that part of my calling was to minister by listening to the team and the kids. I was able to spend some time talking and listening to Raluka, a Romanian girl. She was a Christian, but not growing in her walk with Him. I believe that God gave me the words to say to her and I continually pray that she was changed by the camp experience.

God answered so many of my prayers to him during this trip. He taught me to see and to listen. As I look back on the experience I thank God for the divine opportunities that he gave me to be used by him, as his hands and his feet, to show others his love. Thank you once again for supporting me and obeying God in his call to send people into the world in His name and for His glory.

Abby Fisher