

Hinson Family

in Tbilisi, Georgia



May 2024

Dear Praying Friends,

People are hanging out in the streets again! The nice weather has come to Tbilisi and lots of people go outdoors to enjoy the nice weather. It makes meeting people and reconnecting with people easy. Just today, someone showed me their new (to them) phone and asked me to help them go through the set-up process (it was in English). Times such as this are little opportunities that help us to make friends and acquaintances. We are blessed to live in the country where having friends is really rather easy. The locals do not look at us strangely when we talk to them and then break off contact, because they don't want a personal conversation, just neighborly. This is the gift of God and the opportunity to speak.

The hard part in witnessing is finding those who will trust us, at least a little bit, enough to listen to what we have a say and think about it. Please continue to pray that God would prepare hearts to receive His truth. It can be tiring to start, what seems to be a good conversation about the Bible, only to have the other party then try to convince us that we are wrong. The chief objections tend to focus on how we can't know enough and we should trust the priests. Another common complaint is how westerners (and their religion) corrupt simple people. It is good to remember that our hope is in the Lord and in the power of His working. Without Him, all will be in vain, so we must pray and be faithful. We must find our satisfaction in Him. Please pray that He would convince them of truth. Also, please ask the Lord to grow us in passionately presenting His truth. It seems that the force of one's conviction while speaking influences how Georgians respond. In order to be passionate about the Gospel, we must be passionate about Jesus which comes through walking ever closer to Him.

Despite the situation, God's work is never impossible. People do respond to the Word. They do come to house Bible study. Friends will come and meet personally and we can speak with them and a few meet for personal study/discipleship. It is a harder step for them to come to Sunday church meetings. We are asking the Lord for visitors and that our few guests would return. Please pray that the Lord blesses this small beginning and does a great work, even one that seems impossible now. A Georgian pastor, Nukri, is willing to help us with street evangelism and house visits. I think that it is of the Lord; please continue to pray about it.

Family Moment:

I overheard Jude and Zachary in the other room discussing how something worked. They talked through a few theories, but Jude seemed to end it with a bold declaration. "Zachary, I KNOW how this works. I've seen it in a movie."

Michael and Barbara
Jude, Zachary, Paul and Evelina

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