



Update from
Dejan & Julie Buljovic
December 2007

Dear Friends and Family~

Greetings from Idaho, and Merry Christmas! We have officially been in the U.S. for one month now, and we have already seen the LORD begin to fulfill several of the specific promises He gave to us before coming! It is He who is establishing our path and causing us to walk in His good plan for our lives, which includes this period away from "the mission field". Thank you for your many prayers and all of your caring questions about how we are getting along and adjusting. This has been such an encouragement!

Though this was an unexpected transition for us, we are seeing how God knew all along that we would be here, and how He has truly gone before us to prepare the way. With Christmas being such a time of expectancy, we notice that this is a current theme for us as well.

MINISTRY: Didn't Expect to Stop Serving

We found it impossible to keep ourselves from becoming involved right away in serving the LORD here at our "home" church, Calvary Chapel Pocatello. We're just addicted to ministry! It is truly our joy and privilege to serve Him in any way, and we are blessed to have several opportunities here already to join in and do our part in the body of Christ in this city. We feel so welcomed here.

*"Life is so unnerving
for a servant who's not serving;
he's not whole
without a soul to wait upon..."*

*~Lumiére (from "Beauty & The Beast")
it's not from the Bible, but hey, it's true!*

Beginning December 30th, we will be working together in children's ministry, teaching God's Word to 4 & 5-year olds Sunday mornings. This is a new challenge which we are very excited about, since we can continue to stir up the gift of teaching God has given us, and to minister to those whom Jesus loves so jealously.

We are also able to help serve at a Christmas outreach in the local mall through the church bookstore. Technically, we will be selling items at a rented kiosk in the center walkway of the mall, but we are allowed to speak freely about the LORD with any customer or passer-by who approaches our space. This is a great door for evangelism and the Gospel, and we are looking forward to it with curiosity and expecting God to do great things!

HEALTH: Beyond Our Expectations

We are truly amazed at how the LORD is leading us in the area of Julie's health. He gave her a promise that *"in returning and in rest you shall be saved"* (Isaiah 30:15) before we left Subotica, but little did we know what that fully meant. By His grace and goodness, both of the doctors who attend our fellowship here in Pocatello are very knowledgeable about her condition and both were willing to see her and to help in whatever way possible. This alone is a provision from the LORD, but furthermore, our visits are uncharged! Only the lab tests and supplements are of cost to us. Praise the LORD, what a blessing!!

prayer requests:

- filling of the Holy Spirit
- salvation for Dejan's mom, Gizela
- many open doors to share the Gospel next week at our bookstore **outreach** in the mall, **Dec. 17-19th**
- wisdom & creativity as we team-teach a Bible class of 4 & 5 year-olds each Sunday (book: Acts)
- continued anointing on Dejan in translation
- Dejan's visa situation
- God's provision for us while we are here & unable to work
- our marriage
- Julie's recovery, wisdom for our doctor; a healthy, full-term pregnancy
- anything else on your heart...





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FAMILY: Great Expectations

Part of Julie's sudden down-turn in health this fall, and part of her treatment here, is the result of a matter of very good news which we would like to now share with you: we are expecting our first baby! The changes in her immune system to accommodate the pregnancy and the fluctuating hormones amplified her illness, but once we discovered this little life steadily growing within her, we became more determined to deal with both immediately, in order to protect both mama and child. Julie is now at 4 months and 2 weeks, almost half-way, and the baby is due sometime in May.



VISAS: The Unexpected

What would life be for any missionary without lots of government paperwork? Much simpler! Dejan is now the one living in a foreign country, and though he has a valid multi-entry visa, when we entered the U.S. last month we discovered that *doesn't* mean he can stay until it expires. We also learned that he has a different visa than we first thought! It looked like he had a temporary religious worker visa, but in fact he is only here as a visitor, which means that he cannot work and additionally, there is a 6-month limit per visit. He currently is only allowed to stay until May 8th 2008, which is very close to the baby's estimated due date. Yikes!! Please pray as we go through the incredibly long, complex process of applying for change of his status so that he can stay, and God's provision for all of the fees. We believe that He will open the door for Dejan to remain here so daddy & mama can be together when little baby "B" begins life on the outside.

Translation Update

We had *no* problems getting all of Dejan's equipment here for working on translation, and thankfully, nothing was damaged in transit! There is an ideal space where we are living for him to work which is quiet, and he's blessed to be making such progress since we've come. He has begun working about 4 hours a day and is nearing the end of the book of John in transcripts. This is a blessed work, but it is *a lot of work*, and we really appreciate your continued prayer for Dejan for strength, focus, choosing the best and most accurate words, and the Holy Spirit's anointing and protection of this project.

We would like to thank each of you who are continuing to pray for, encourage and support us financially. We *always* thank the LORD for you in our prayers; you are such a blessing. Please continue to pray for us. And may the LORD capture your hearts and put you in awe of His gift to us in His Son through this Christmas season. We have every reason to be merry—Jesus is God With Us!!

Much love in His name,

Dejan & Julie <><

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if you would like our phone #, please just write & we'll gladly share it :)

Financial Support Info:

We are continuing to receive support as we serve here. If the LORD so leads you, please make and mail checks to:

Shepherd's Staff
P.O. Box 27220
Albuquerque, NM
87125-7220

in the memo line, write #1326
(please don't write our names on the check)