

## TWO VERY SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS:

The Lord has brought many special people into our lives since we've been overseas, but we'd like to tell you about two of them and ask you to pray about these special needs:

CHARITY OSAGIEDE...We've mentioned Charity before but the prayer need is urgent so we want to remind you of his situation. Charity is a Nigerian brother who has been officially accepted by **International Teams** and invited to work with our team in Athens. He went to Kenya for some training and now is stuck back in Nigeria, awaiting God's provision. He has been waiting since September 1994. He currently only has \$200/month in support and needs another \$725/month (and about \$1100 for one-time set-up needs) if he is going to officially join us here.

He was also denied a visa by the Greek government, but we are praying about other legitimate possibilities of getting him here. Charity is a really good brother with a heart to know God and to build up God's people. His gifts are pastoral and evangelistic in nature. The focus of his ministry would be in serving the African community here. He would be a tremendous asset to our team, and we are all a bit confused about why this is happening. We all still have a strong sense of God's "calling" on his life, and are greatly disappointed that his support has not come in.

The church Charity comes from in Nigeria does not support missions endeavors outside of their own denomination, and the church that he has been involved in here in Athens is not financially able to help him on a regular monthly basis (they have given their moral support and are willing to "send him out" with strong recommendation and prayer, and they helped some financially with his training costs).

Thus, we are asking you to pray. Perhaps God will bring someone across your path who is interested in supporting a missionary of this kind. If so, PLEASE tell them about Charity. Perhaps God may lead you, or your church, or Sunday School class, or small group to help in some way. If so, please read the information at the end of this letter. Thank you for your PRAYERS.

ROVERTOS STRANTZALIS...As some of you know, while I was in America recently our dear Greek brother Rovertos Strantzalis substituted for me in the directorship of **HELPING HANDS**. From all I've seen (and heard from everyone else), an outstanding job was done! I thank God for using this man to accomplish much for the sake of the kingdom! He is a man whom God has given vision, passion, and energy for refugee ministry.

However, he has been living off of his savings for some time now and it is necessary for him to seek some kind of employment at this time to see his material needs met. *It is our desire to see Rovertos freed up to pursue the directorship of this ministry (HELPING HANDS) on a full-time basis.* I would still be a partner in the area of leadership, but in a lesser degree. We have all recognized a passion, a gifting, even an "anointing" in Rovertos for this ministry, and we would like to see him "unleashed" to be used by the Lord in the advancement of God's Kingdom among refugees. He has been instrumental in getting the soup kitchen ministry started, and has also been used by God to lead refugees to Christ and disciple them in their new faith.

Rovertos has just recently joined a new church because his former church had no interest in reaching out to refugees. His new church is very active in ministering to refugees, but because it is largely made up of refugees, it is not in a financial condition to help out much. (Their own pastors have to work at secular jobs to make a living).

We are praying for God to raise up some people and/or churches to help support Rovertos financially. He would need a minimum of \$600 USD a month to pay for food, rent, utilities, insurance, etc. **WOULD YOU COMMIT YOURSELF TO PRAYING FOR GOD TO DO JUST THAT?** Would you be willing to pray if God might want to use you (if even in a small way) to help meet this vital need? If 27 people or churches gave only \$22 USD a month, that would be enough. **ANY AMOUNT IS HELPFUL!**

If you sense that God may be leading you to make this kind of an investment, or if you want some more information before making a decision, PLEASE contact us as soon as possible. This is an opportunity that we have been praying for, and, I believe God wants to answer our prayers in these days. From the beginning, part of the vision has been to turn this over into the hands of Greek leadership. Originally, we thought that might take 10 years or so, but it may happen much sooner than we dreamed! **PLEASE continue to make it a matter of fervent prayer!**

*If you, or someone you know, is interested in making a monthly financial commitment (or a one-time donation) toward the ministry of either (or both) of these men of God, please send your tax-deductible check (made out to International Teams) to: International Teams, PO Box 203, Prospect Heights, Illinois 60070. PLEASE INDICATE BY NOTE (or on the memo section of your check) that your donation is for the Athens HELPING HANDS ministry for Charity Osagiede and/or Rovertos Strantzalis.*

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS A MATTER OF FERVENT PRAYER!** God bless you as you continue to live for the advancement of His kingdom around the world.