

Subj: **Too many updates from Athens?**  
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If you are getting too many updates from us, I apologize. Several are asking, and it is just easier to let everyone know at once. First, an Ellie update, and then a Gregor update, and then a link to a special Christmas greeting from the McCracken kids in Athens...

1. Ellie came home from the hospital on Tuesday. Thursday we went to see the neurologist who, after looking at all the tests, believes her seizures were most likely virus-related. She is doing well and back to her cheery and happy self! THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR PRAYING. She and I (Scott) will leave for the States on January 8th to begin her hyperbaric oxygen therapy treatments.

2. Update from Gregor:

Dec. 18, 2009

Dear friends,

Merry Christmas!

This is to say that I am feeling much better. It has been what it seems to me a long process. But I am getting stronger every day. Today I was out downtown to do few things. OK got tired soon but this is good progress.

My breathing is better by the day. Dizziness not much. The arm almost looks like the other one (some discomfort and a bit of heat still there). Taking vitamins and fish oil to try boost my immune system.

Also the situation that had developed in church with two people has been solved in a Godly way. One of the guys (after a talk we leaders had with them and after a second talk I had with one of them - this all had to take place in our home since I was not so strong to get out) has confessed his sin and guilt in a very humble and godly way, with tears in his eyes. So we have another victory.

Also God has met our financial "low point" in an encouraging way.

Hope this encourages you to see how God has used and answered your prayers for us!

When all the problems were occurring and I was in the hospital bed feeling miserable and receiving all these phone calls I could hear Satan say: "All your sacrifices are in vain. They are amounting to nothing" I was praying next morning and in my heart I heard God softly saying: No, this is no defeat. These are birth pangs!

Next Sunday we have an evangelism Christmas evening, expecting many first time people to join.

On the 24th we have a bigger event at the City Cinema together with the other church plants in Gjilan.

In both events I have to share God's good news of Jesus Christ. Please pray for strength, clarity and guidance from above as I prepare.

Secondly pray for lasting fruit coming out of this Christmas season! I have great expectations that all the attacks we faced are related to

something that God wants to do in this hour.

Sincerely there are no words for me to describe how grateful, humbled and honored I feel to have you as our friends and family in Christ.

Because of Jesus

Gregor

3. This link will take you (I think) to a Christmas greeting from the McCracken kids in Athens.

<http://elfyourself.jibjab.com/view/UZz3js9A7p7eacNG>

In closing, may I ask you to continue praying for Dr. "S"? I received this note from him today:

...well brother , i know me and my family is always in your prayers , i had been rather doing better after having been to your house, but this morning my wife called me was weeping and crying and cursing ,after which I definitely have a down mood and feeling .

I thank the Lord Jesus for sending to me angels in your shape. I am very grateful , thank you brother. I hope Ellie is doing well .

faithfully your brother  
Dr. "S"

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