

Ministry Update of Suzie Benforado

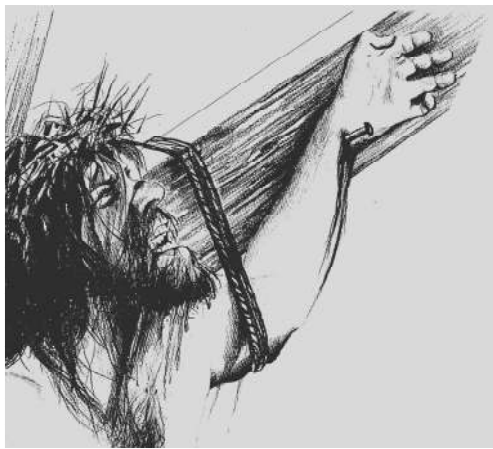
Cluj Romania

April 2007

Happy Easter!

May we understand and experience more and more the full significance of what happened at the cross and the empty tomb. He is risen! Because He lives, we live!

It struck me yesterday as I was meditating about the crucifixion, that Jesus' death was no defeat...far from it! At the moment He breathed His last breathe, according to Matt. 27:50-53



amazing evidences of God's power penetrated heaven and earth. The ground shook violently...earth responded. The heavy veil that hung in the temple, separating the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies ...separating man from the manifest Presence of God was once and for all ripped from top to bottom (it was 30' tall) by the hand of God. Similar to Jesus' baptism, when God tore open the heavens and the Spirit of God came ...God tore through what separated man from His Presence...He came out from the place between the extended wings of angels (part of the ark of the covenant) and took up residence in a new dwelling place...the heart of every believer. Not just that, but

many dead people, buried and entombed were resurrected at that same moment. There was an explosive breakthrough of LIFE, even among the dead.

That is amazing! Death could not overcome Life. Even in death, Jesus was victorious, overcoming... THE Resurrection and THE Life! Then imagine when Jesus took His first breath of resurrected life! Again we see the earth shaken!... The empty tomb and Jesus alive! Imagine! Now I see more clearly the wonder of His death, His resurrection, His ascension to the Father's right hand and Pentecost itself... all scenes of heaven-and-earth-shaking victory for the Kingdom of God. That same LIFE is in us! Gets me stirred up!

Our church!

Amazing things are happening among us. For the last weeks, each church service is and adventure in itself. We taught a series of sermons called "Stepping Up or Tripping Up— Responding Well to Trials". After that, we followed up with various topics to stir up people's faith and expectation. But the best part of all is that God shows up at church too! God comes differently every time! But it is always wonderful! Here are a few examples:

- Silvia, from a local Pentecostal church, heard that something special was happening at our church. She came wanting more from God. She was touched powerfully and was deeply refreshed by what God did during those few minutes of prayer ministry.

- Dima, recently saved was invited to our church by one of our guys. He came curious and open with a heart hungry for God. God responded and touched Dima so powerfully. His body was literally shaking for hours after church was over. That night, he woke up in the early morning and could do nothing else but praise God for His goodness.... That solitary praise meeting went on for hours!



- Aaron had suffered serious stiffness in his neck and pain at the back of his neck for years. Seeing God heal others, his faith grew for his own healing. He came forward for prayer during the altar call. As we prayed, God healed Aaron and he was able to move his head and neck freely.
- A man came for the first time. He had never been in a church like ours and he sat with rapt attention. At the end of our service we invite people forward to come for prayer for any need. But this man didn't know that he could simply come forward and wait to be prayed for. So during the invitation, he called out loudly "Pray for me! Pray for my lungs! I want to be healed!" It was so cute really! That man got saved and healed of pneumonia and also commented "I've never been to a church like this! It isn't boring! There is Something here....a sweetness. You can feel God here! I am going to invite my friends to come next week!"
- Twila was healed of cold symptoms...sore throat, fever, stuffed up head... while we prayed for her. Completely symptom free!
- Gabi had problems with her leg for months. She complained that it just didn't move like it used to and it caused her great pain in her hip area. As we prayed, the pain diminished and by the end of the prayer she could move her leg freely and without pain. She jumped up and down with joy!

- Maia suffered off and on with lower back pains. As David made the altar call, God showed David that He was healing a painful lower back. David prayed for the unknown person's healing and then asked "Who knows right now that God healed your back?" Maia came forward completely healed and pain free. But not just that, her face, hair and clothes were sprinkled with gold dust, like a very fine glitter. We have experienced that God manifests His glory in this way when His Presence is "thick" or accompanying miracles.



- Another woman came for prayer. When I asked her what she would like prayer for, she responded "I have cancer in my throat, but I don't want to be healed." I was shocked to hear that she thought God had sent this suffering so she simply accepted it....whatever the outcome. She has seven children and a husband. Though I tried to "enlighten" this lady to see her situation differently, she stubbornly refused prayer for healing. I was grieved for this lady, saved but sadly misinformed about God's character and His will for her.

- I had been sick for 4 days of stomach pains and nausea. I felt weak, had no appetite and had eaten very little during this time. Saturday before church I was feeling somewhat better, but not really good. I went to church in spite of how I felt expecting God to touch me. During the prayer time before church, I was sitting and praying for God to move during the meeting. At one point, I sensed God tell me “Stand up! That’s it, ‘til here and no further.” In obedience, I stood and drew a line with my toe on the carpet and said in agreement with God “That’s it! No further!” I sensed a real authority as I said this, my shoulders straightened. I don’t know how to describe it but to say, I felt the weakness break off of me...literally like chains falling off and I was suddenly free. I prayed like normal, with none of the prior symptoms. I was able to stand and worship for an hour, pay attention to the sermon and pray for people for 45 minutes during the altar call. And at the end of church I was really hungry for the first time in four days. I haven’t had a symptom since then!

My House!

After living in Romania 16 years and with no plans to leave, I have started building a house to call home. Building is a great investment in Romania so I have taken all my personal financial resources (separate from ministry money) and have started my house.

The foundation was laid in December and now as I write, the place is being framed. The rooms are taking shape and it really starts to look like a house. I walk through the rooms and marvel at



what God has done to make that place a reality. It is truly a house that God has built. And what He has started, I trust Him to finish.

My current plans are to build as far as my money goes. I’m guessing that I am about \$20,000 short of being able to live in the house. That final amount would cover wiring the house, the plumbing and gas, heating system, dry walling the interior walls, and flooring. So please do pray for God’s provision. I still need a miracle, but our God specializes in doing the impossible!

These are days of God’s Name being exalted and His glory being revealed. Please continue to pray for God to increase in my life, our church and in all of Romania! Thanks for standing with me in prayer and with your financial gifts. May every word of prayer and every dollar be multiplied and empowered so that there are results in heaven and earth. Fruit that remain!

Honored to represent the King and you in Romania,

A handwritten signature that reads "Suzie" followed by a simple smiley face drawing consisting of two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth.