

## **Our First Week Back!**

Dear friends!

What an amazing first week in Italy!

We landed in Milan on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Spent one night there before arriving in Florence the next day. On that same evening I had been asked to share the Word and meet with the Florence Logos Church men's group. What a sweet and emotional reunion. We took time to praise the Lord for His saving work in Luciano, an older brother God had drawn to Himself shortly before we left

Florence. God then called Him home, while we were on home-assignment. There we were around the same table where Luciano and the rest of us had enjoyed many evenings together. Now missing him, but greatly rejoicing because we will see him again!

On Sunday the 24th Stephanie and I found a joyfully vibrant Logos church. I had the joy of preaching the Sunday message on 1 Pet 2:1-5 with the title "Home Sweet Home". First Peter was the last book. I had worked through with the church before our departure in March of last year. What a joy to find our people deeply loving their church family and supporting wholeheartedly their new elders. On Sunday and Monday nights they had prepared a compelling drama representation of the Gospel of Mark. Between the two nights well over one hundred unbelievers were present!

What a joy to see the whole church involved in either the praying, all the preparations, welcoming the many guests, the acting, the refreshments and everything else that was necessary. We were filled with gratitude in seeing a strong, faithful and God honoring home-sweet-home-1 Peter 2-Logos church family! May God continue to fulfill His promise of building His wonderful church. The resurrected Corner Stone Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord is alive and well!

Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> and Monday April 1st we had our home church and two church plants Easter retreat where I spoke twice to the three churches combined. Very, very exciting! The previous Thursday night we met had already met with the new church Emmanuel in the Rome-East area. A new visitor walked in at the end of the Bible study. He was looking for his father who has been attending for the last two weeks. This young man said he had lived a rough life with serious problems with the law. But there he was, walking into the light of a small Gospel believing church in the middle of the desert.

Ready for some pictures?







Our first night in Rome, Bible study hour at the new Emmanuel church plant





Our hearts are filled with gratitude as God is allowing us to arrive and land running for His glory. Actually "running" might be a big word since I continue to have issues with mobility with my right foot.

Your prayers are very needed every careful step of the way.

A big hug to all of you!

Steve and Stephanie

## **MISSION AGENCY:**

TEAM - USA

Contributions should be sent to Stephen and Stephanie Standridge account #012054 PO Box 1683, Carol Stream, IL, 60132-1683 www.team.org

**SENDING CHURCH:** 

Chiesa Berea, Rome, Italy www.chiesaberea.org

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TO ASK FOR OUR PERMISSION TO SHARE
ANY CONTENT FROM OUR LETTERS ON PUBLIC MEDIA. THANK YOU!