



THE

# COOK FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO ITALY



May - July 2025

Dear Fellow Laborers,

God has given us a wonderful summer here in Reggio Emilia. In May we had two more baptisms! Two sisters, one who came to Christ about a year ago and then led her own sister to the Lord, began coming to the church early this year and they expressed a desire to follow the Lord in believer's baptism. Please pray for Mariana and Liliana as they continue to grow in the Lord. We also had a very nice visit from Brother and Sister Matt and Cathy Stahlman, European mission's directors at Macedonia World Baptist Missions. What a sweet time we had! Bro Stahlman was a blessing, and preached the service for the baptism we had in May.

June opened up with preparation and a 2 day VBS, and God blessed the activities in the park as the adults and teens of the church all pitched in and labored together for the Lord to both encourage church families and reach the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

At the very end of June/beginning of July, God allowed us to attend Campeggio Aquila with a young family in the church (This is the newly opened Christian camp in Grosseto; this is the first Baptist Christian camp to open in Italy)! We attended both Junior week as well as Teen week, and we were all very encouraged by the time spent there.

"Launch 107, unto the uttermost" church leadership Bible studies continue, and God has added more Italian men to this growing group. Lord willing, in the fall, we will begin Bible college courses with them, starting with "Old Testament Survey". Please pray for wisdom and for God to provide for all of the practical aspects of this, as well as these preachers/church leaders that are being trained across Italy that God will continue to use them and add to this group of men. We believe these men will strengthen existing churches or help launch churches in each of the 107 provinces of Italy.

The church here in Reggio is moving forward by God's grace. Please pray for the salvation of two gentlemen (Giuseppe and Vittorio) that have been attending church for about a year with their saved spouses. The other Sunday after service, Giuseppe was noticeably under conviction and desired to talk about the fact that the Catholic church says to work your way to salvation, and he mentioned that at our church he hears us talk about salvation only by grace through faith, not by works. He asked "How does one get saved"? What a beautiful question! We explained to him from Scripture how to be born again and the conversation ended by him saying "The only thing hindering me is that I have to believe". Please pray for Giuseppe! He willingly accepted the challenge given him to read the book of John to see for himself what God says about salvation. *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."* Romans 10:17

We would also like to ask you to pray specifically for Brandon, as he has completely torn his ACL and meniscus in his right knee at Bible camp this summer. The doctors plan to do surgery here in Italy on September 9. We ask that you please join us in praying for complete healing and for God's provision for this surgery. Please pray for God to be glorified. Thank you. Have a sweet walk with the Lord.

- **Brandon & Kristan Cook - Truth Baptist Church (Chiesa Battista la Verità) - Reggio Emilia, Italy**

**Praises:** 2 baptisms; VBS; Christian summer camp; Abigail's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, Kristan's birthday, Brandon and Kristan's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Titus's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday

**Prayer Requests:** Salvation of Giuseppe and Vittorio; Brandon's upcoming knee surgery on Sept.9; larger building for the church to meet in; laborers to Reggio Emilia and Italy.

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