



The Fomichovs
2nd Quarter Report, 2016

April

Dear friends,

How nice it is, that God gives us special days when we can evangelize, when people are open, and they have time. This month we prepared as a whole church for a particular day in which we celebrate the victory of our Lord over death and sin. In our area, everyone greets each other with the words, “Christ is rise” and in reply they hear back “He is risen indeed.” Therefore this is a good opportunity to share about Christ, which we did. Also, on this day people find time and the desire to come to church.

For that [Easter] Sunday, we invited everyone we saw and knew, and many of those whom we’d invited came to the service. In addition, young people from Chernigiv came too, and there were some soldiers. The Sunday school took part with a dramatic presentation. We could see how children share about our Lord. After the worship service we stepped outside, where we served coffee, tea, and various types of sweets. There, we were able to get acquainted and to chat with new people. I’ll tell you about several conversations. Three drug addicts came to the service; actually, they came later. We men talked with them for a long while, trying to tell them about the Lord and about what He had done in our lives. But this is, after all, Desna, and they already knew each person’s story at a glance. One fellow named Sasha didn’t want to come, but his friend Lyosha persuaded him. We talked quite a while, about death, about how there is no hope without the Lord, about how everyone dies. They agreed with everything but didn’t receive Christ. I hope that isn’t our last conversation. But looking at Lyosha and Sasha, I understood more deeply why our Lord came; after all we all were perishing without hope, just like these guys, but God came to this world and saved us.

In the evening we met at the church again in order to celebrate this great day. We prepared a meal and fellowshiped, prayed, and also talked about how great our Lord is.

May

Called to preach

My story today is about a man named Vanya. He enlisted in the army and now serves in Desna, and he and I pray together and witness to other soldiers.

Vanya and his unit were walking to the saunas to wash and passed our church. He saw the cross and decided to come in and find out what kind of church we have here. So, we got acquainted, and I invited him to a Sunday service. Vanya came to a service, and afterward were able to get better acquainted and to pray that God would help him to bring unbelieving soldiers to church and to help him to evangelize.

I asked him how he'd ended up in the army, and he told me his story, about how



from childhood he had dreamed of being a soldier, but as a result of other factors that didn't happen. But recently he'd seen a television ad saying that everyone was being accepted for military service. He decided, why not go?

But that was not his main goal. He had more of a desire to witness for Christ, and he decided this would be a good opportunity to speak of Jesus. He enlisted and was sent to serve in Desna, where he

exerted his energies to lead people to Christ. Every Sunday he brings new soldiers to services, where we can evangelize and tell about how God saved us. In a short time two guys accepted Christ as Savior. Each Sunday he brings new guys who don't know the Lord.

It was interesting that he and I agreed that on Sunday we would offer a call to repent, and in the meantime he would prepare a particular soldier, so that he would accept Christ as his Savior. But no sooner had we reached the time for the call to repent than his commander phoned and said they should return to the barracks immediately. He and I understood that the enemy is not idle and does not want people to get saved. So I ask you to pray for Vanya, that God will uphold him and use him in evangelism, and that he will permit soldiers to come to services.

June

2 Timothy 4:2 – “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season....”

Dear friends! I have already written to you about how the Lord called one brother to serve in the army and how, while in Desna, he has done all he could to invite unbelieving comrades to Sunday services, where I shared the Gospel and gave calls to repentance. At recent services, we've seen 7 people repent, and 5 of those were men who came here to serve in the army. God worked in their hearts so amazingly. Several of

them had never even held a Bible in their hands before, but God touched their hearts. I'd like to tell about several of them.



Vanya

This is our brother, about whom I've already written, but I want to write a little more, since he deserves my attention. For many in our church, he has served as a huge encouragement. Vanya has shown by personal example how he loves God more than anything else; second comes the church, and he understands the importance of evangelizing about Christ. Vanya seized upon any opportunity to invite his military comrades to

church. He would suggest going to the church to launder their things, and simply to go out to town. But he always desired for these comrades to repent and accept Christ. And as he sat with them in services, he would prepare them, saying that now there will be an altar call, and you need to repent and accept Christ. His company of soldiers even gave him the nickname "righteous monk."

Vitalik

This fellow had a difficult life. He suffered much due to his sinful manner of life. Twice he was imprisoned for selling narcotics. When he was released from prison, he had no peace of heart. He decided to run away from himself and from his friends and join the army. But when he ended up in our service, he didn't take long to think about it during the call to repent. He stepped forward and repented of his sins and accepted Christ.

Andrei

When he first met Vanya, he didn't become friends with him. There were even conflicts between them. But with time God changed his relationship. Vanya prayed for him, and God touched him, and at a Sunday service he came to Christ during the invitation. What was pleasing for me to hear is how he said, "I want to come to services, although I had never thought about it before."



We could only rejoice over what God had done in our church during this time. Praise Him, since this is His labor.

We fellowshiped much with them, helping them to understand how to live and to seek God in their lives.

Respectfully,
Igor Fomichov