



**Fomichov**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, 2017**

**April/May**

*To see the world*

Dear friends! God gave me the opportunity to be in America, where I was able to visit five churches and fellowship with many brothers and sisters. For me, this was a great blessing, for which I sincerely thank our God. Every meeting, every trip, left a great impression on my heart. Brothers and sisters were so eager to greet us and so caring for us, that this will remain stamped in my memory forever.

1. Brothers and sisters who were older than us in age served us:
  - They drove us in their cars.
  - They made sure we were never hungry.
2. They received us into their houses, showing us that we were important guests:
  - They listened respectfully to our testimonies, took real interest in our ministries and what God is doing through us.
3. I had never seen before what I saw in America: how vital the family is to our brothers and sisters, and how much they need to care for the family. Each home we visited had a good, warm atmosphere.
4. I saw in a living church that has supported ministry in Ukraine for many years, and in the other churches we visited, how they had prepared in advance for our coming. They hung up signs with our names that said how glad they were for our trip. And there was a church where they had a Ukrainian flag hung up, and beneath that our names, and the pastor said that they constantly pray for us. I saw how far away America is and what kind of rhythm of life, and how much care they have for our brothers and sisters. But God inclines their heart to serve Ukraine. There's no limit to my delight.
5. I was amazed at how friendly Americans are, and sociable. They do not hesitate to show their feelings. In the churches where we were, there probably wasn't a single person who failed to greet us and say a few words. Each person put out his hand and



said how glad he was that we were visiting their church. Many expressed how glad they are that God is working through us.

6. The church buildings are very attractive, and the people are very good.
7. It was especially pleasing to see how people whom we had met in Ukraine came to the services where we were, even though they themselves attend different churches. They want to see us again and to support us with their presence when we would be sharing our testimonies. And this truly was a support. All of our acquaintances made clear to us that we are members of God's family, for which we are truly thankful to Him.

I could go on and on about what I saw in America, but I'd like to tell you, my brothers and sisters, may the Lord bless you abundantly for your ministry to Him.

## June



Dear friends!

I am very glad to send you news. A week ago we held our long-awaited tent camp on the bank of the Desna River. We conduct this camp every year, and we invite to it youth from Desna, Goncharovsk, and Chernigov. This year, there were 48 people there, and of those a large percentage were unbelievers and some who had never heard the Gospel. We had a marvelous time of sharing the Gospel with them and to demonstrate our faith through our own examples.

Our program was designed such that, over the course of the whole camp, we could become friends with the young people. If anyone did not accept Christ into his heart in camp, then after camp they would have a foundation for visiting our services without any awkwardness.

This was a special time, which God gave us. We had favorable weather, so we were able to spend time with them and share about the Gospel without being hampered. In the morning we had discussions on the life of Daniel, and in evenings we preached the Gospel around the campfire, and sang Christian songs. In camp, 22 people prayed to God and asked His forgiveness, which was a great blessing for us. We ask that you pray for these young people who heard the Gospel in this camp and turned to the Lord. After all, we believe that God will lead them and nurture them in His grace. I'd like to add several of their testimonies, in which they share experiences from the camp.

*Sasha, age 13*

"I didn't want to go to camp, but mother arranged it for me. It was scary for me. I couldn't imagine how it would be for me in a camp where I didn't know anyone. But when I arrived, I saw that this was not a typical camp. I had never been in such a camp. Here, there was a good atmosphere, and everyone was friendly. I liked it right away and no longer regretted coming.

“During the lessons, we all took turns reading the Bible. For me, these were amazing but very interesting stories. They asked what I thought of them. All of this really pleased me and I’d like to go again next year.”

Sasha’s mother phoned every day. She worried about how he was doing in the camp, and each time she thanked us for taking him. But for me it was amazing that, when I asked, “Have you read the Bible?” he said he had never read from it.

Our camp was the first time in his life he’d read the Bible, and this was a great blessing to show him that the Bible provides lessons for a person’s life. When he went home, he shared about his experiences in camp with his mother. His mom was so glad that they wanted to visit the church.



### *Lera, age 20*

We debated whether to take her because some years ago she was in one of our camp and she had no interest in the Christian life and showed us by her behavior that, to the contrary, she had no interest in anything in our camp. But we agreed to let her come, and that was no mistake, since she had changed considerably. She took an active part in her group and at the evening meetings. And when my wife chatted with her, she explained that she was simply fed up with

the pointlessness of life. This world had squeezed all the life out of her, and being in our camp was a like drink of living water.

### *Slavik, age 12*

I know his whole family and had witnessed to them a lot. In his family there are drug users. His two uncles were imprisoned, and one even died in the prison hospital. He has had few positive examples in his life. At camp he was in my group, and we talked a lot. Of course, he didn’t like to read the Bible at lesson time, and he always repeated, “I don’t like to read.” But the camp was a special time for him. He said, “I want to come back next year.” And when I invited him to church and told him that we have a game room where he can play games with his friends, he gladly said he would come.

All during the week we tried with all our might to witness to these guys about our Lord. We recounted the Gospel, and we pray that they will grow in knowledge of our Lord.

With respect,  
Igor Fomichov