



The Fomichovs

3rd Quarter Report, 2017

July

Juvenile Detention

Lyosha Savchuk and I were invited to a penal institution for youth to conduct four days of camp for those boys locked up there. We gladly accepted because we saw an opportunity to share our testimonies of how God saved us and changed our lives.

On the first day, when we talked to them, they clammed up tightly like hedgehogs and did not trust us enough to communicate and open up to us. We taught them to sing Christian songs, played games, told testimonies, conducted lessons, and talked a lot about trying to make friends. Every day they opened up more and began to show interest and trust. When we called them to prayer, they gladly prayed with us. We told them the Gospel with daring so that they would come to God and could receive salvation and freedom from the slavery of sin.

Sasha, age 14

The court gave Sasha 11 years of prison for killing a homeless person. It is hard even to imagine that a child would be capable of doing such a thing. He came to all of the meetings that we held in the prison and gladly wanted to participate in everything. He wanted to help. We had no stand for the microphone, so he said, "Here, let me hold it for you." He joyfully sang Christian songs, listened to the Bible stories, and prayed. But he had committed such a horrible act that a normal person could not even conceive that it was possible. But God loves him too and wants to save him; for this reason He sent us to prison.

There were many guys there who had stolen automobiles. They came to the services, and they sang, listened, prayed... We sang many Christian songs with them. We gave them an invitation to repent; they agreed to pray.

What wounded my heart most of all was that nearly 90% of these boys' parents drink, so the street raised these children. But God is knocking on their hearts. He wants to save them.

August 2017

Dear friends!

I would like to share some good news from the ministry of the church in Desna. All of our



team loves this time when we can unite our abilities and serve the Lord. This year we decided to hold our children's camp in Desna in August. The reason behind that was that we wanted the children who came to come to immediately begin attending our Sunday school in September.

In our camp, we had 36 children. We told them about the Lord and taught them how to pray. We explained how the Bible is the Word of God's instructions for our lives. We had kids of various ages, but we attempted to unify them and to create an unforgettable time for them. We invited them to pray and to be reconciled with the Lord, and all the children joyfully agreed to pray.

Sasha, age 12

I had taken Sasha along when we held a tent camp. In his family there are no believers, but ever since the tent camp, he continued to look for opportunities to spend time with us. In the children's camp, I made him a team captain, which was a big encouragement to him. He tried to lead his team well. After camp, he came to a Sunday service, and after that service he told his mother all about the sermon. Because of that, his mother started wanting to visit a service too.

Slavik, age 12

Slavik let it me known to everyone that he doesn't like to read and that the Bible holds no interest for him. This somewhat irked me. It made me think how difficult it would be to interest him in attending Sunday school. However, after camp he began coming to Sunday school and also invited



friends, which was a great encouragement for me. He was with us when we had a baptism [in September]. After the baptism he told me that he liked how they "got themselves holy," as he put it, and repeated that several times. His expression caused me to smile.

Anya, age 12

Anya is our daughter, whom we love, and we are very glad that she is active and wants to take part in the ministry and wants to be a leader. With great pleasure, she conducts competitions

and games. I think that this would be a big encouragement for any parent, when their child wishes to have a role in something important.

Danya, 6 years

Danya and his two brothers and one sister live with their grandmother and grandfather because his mother was stripped of her parental rights, and his father could not care for them due to his lifestyle. It is a very sad story concerning his parents, but thanks to the grandmother they are fed and clothed. The grandmother permits them to come to both camp and to Sunday school. And even though Danya is little, he is such a smart boy. In camp, whenever we asked who would like to pray, he always said, "I want to." Then he would pray sincerely, praying for his family and for a good time in the camp. In his prayer we heard such sincerity, which touched the depths of the heart.

Pray with us:

- 1) For the Sunday school ministry.
- 2) For Sasha and his family, that they would repent and come to the Lord.
- 3) For Slavik, that God would save him, and gave him the desire to follow the Lord.

With respect,
Igor Fomichev

September

Each person chooses his own path.

There is a great encouragement for our church, and double encouragement for our team that actively participates in evangelism and discipleship. In our church we had a baptism, which took place near Desna, in the river. Visiting us that day were brothers Sam Slobodian, Eugene Buyko, and Larry DeBrian. Each of them took part in that day.

Brother Larry DeBrian shared words of edification for those being baptized and for all who attended that service. Sam and Eugene baptized, but our plan had been for young brothers from our church to help in baptizing. We were thinking that since these young men are preparing for ordination, that this would be very helpful to them. We were all praying for good weather. God heard us, and that day we had sunny weather even though the week before had been very cold and rainy. We thank the Lord that, despite all the difficulties the baptismal candidates had, they proceeded forward with this important moment in life and fulfilled the words of Jesus Christ.

Lyuda

One of those baptized was sister Lyuda. She's been attending church services in Goncharovsk for two years now. Her family are not believers, and she is a light for her family as she lives a proper Christian life before them. Her young son doesn't support her church-going. To the

contrary, he tries to use this for his own purposes. By his way of life, it's evident he uses narcotics and therefore is unmanageable. But despite contrary opinions in her family, she decided to follow the Lord. She prays for her family.

Dima

Dima is a special fellow. He is a musician, very creative and interesting. He takes an active role in the worship services in Chernigov. He was one of the first to attend the English club in Chernigiv. After they had gotten to know him, they asked him to assist with the musical ministry. He brought his friends, who now also attend services in Chernigov, where Lyosha Savchuk preaches. Dima immediately expressed interest in faith in God. His mother attends an Orthodox church. But when Dima told his mother of his new friends, she forbade him from attending Bible studies and declared them a cult. Then she told all this to her priest, and he, too, affirmed that they this is a cult and that under no circumstances should Dima be anywhere near such people. Dima's mother holds a place of great authority in their family, because he has no father. The father hanged himself, and this is a source of grief for that family. So the mother is a strong influence, and Dima follows her wishes. But concerning matters of faith, he was not obedient and continued to visit the Bible study group and to participate in the music ministry. And despite his decision to be baptized, he didn't tell his mother about it. I realize it's extremely difficult for him to go against his mother's desire, but the call of God in his life is louder.

Denis

This is a young with a good perspective. This year he was one of the leaders in our tent camp. He is a very energetic and good fellow. And for Lyosha and myself, his baptism is a cause of great joy. When I was talking to him before the baptism, I asked what sort of mood he was in. He replied that he has decided to follow the Lord.

Igor

Igor has attended church services for over a year. His decision to be baptized also greatly encouraged us. When he was coming to studies before the baptism, he reconfirmed his decision even more strongly.

With respect,
Igor Fomichov

P.S. We had a terrific service at the river, where our three brothers and one sister were baptized. The whole church received encouragement that people had decided to follow the Lord. And they had surmounted very obstacles to arrive at that moment. We thank everyone who ever prays for the ministry in Desna, Goncharovsk, and Chernigov. We know that God hears us. This baptism is a witness to the fact that our God is alive and continuing His work through the ministry that we are doing. Praise Him forever. Amen!