



BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

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"Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." Col.1:12

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Warm greetings from the Slobodians! We praise God for the opportunity to labor together with you in reaching souls and planting churches. We had a great opportunity that came from our Ukrainian missionaries working in a restricted country in Western Asia. Through Sasha and Julia, we became acquainted with a couple who have provided us with assistance in legal matters through their legal consulting firm. The husband Yavuz, (a Muslim) had many questions about Christ. Though he became friends with us and our missionaries, he could not understand why we had people sharing Christ in his country. This led to many opportunities to share the Gospel. When this couple came to visit friends in the US they asked if they could visit us for a week, especially Christmas week which fascinated them. It was a blessing to have them in our home and in several church services where we could share the Gospel and answer their questions. After seeing one Gospel film, Yavuz wanted to see "more films about Jesus". The families he visited so impressed him he asked, "What is the secret of such love and respect for one another? We do not have this but this is what I want." Now home, our missionaries tell us that instead of wondering what they are doing there he now tells others, "these Christians have no choice but to do this, they did not decide to come on their own, the Bible clearly commands that Christians are to go everywhere and tell about Jesus." Please pray for Yavuz and his wife Lilia.

Praise God for the quick response from our Urgent Prayer e-mail list regarding the financial need of Pastor River and other believers who were arrested and put on trial in a severely restricted Muslim country. Donations quickly came into our Legal Assistance Fund that covered the costs of all those fined by the authorities. As it turned out, Sam was already scheduled to leave the US and stop for a visit with our missionaries in contact with those in need and was able to deliver the funds the very weekend the appeal was made! Please contact us if you would like to receive our Urgent Prayer Requests by e-mail.

We are also glad to report great progress in the construction of our Servicemen's Center in the church building God has blessed us with on the Ukrainian military base. Construction has been completed which resulted in a meeting room, kitchen, bathrooms, and 3 other rooms that will house this ministry. The gas line project is now complete, included 3 furnaces now heating the entire building. Currently we are in the process of obtaining furniture, appliances and equipment to be shipped on our next container to Ukraine. In the meantime, brother Igor is continuing to lay the groundwork for this ministry through regular meetings in public schools on the base as well as meetings with officers and soldiers. As we proceeded, it became evident that a larger area will be needed for recreation. Fortunately, the large part of the building right next to the Servicemen's Center which had many small rooms and shower stalls all turned out to be non-weight bearing walls. Therefore, a second phase has been projected which involves preparing this area for a recreation hall. Down the road a third phase is envisioned which will be a small gym shared by both the church and Servicemen's Center. We need donations of ping-pong, pool, air hockey and foosball tables or funds to purchase some as well as other equipment for this center.

This year we are planning to conduct a conference in Kiev, Ukraine, to celebrate 30 years of BIEM's ministry. We hope to bring as many of our church planters as possible from several countries. This will be a great boost for these dedicated workers many of whom serve in isolated and difficult fields. The main part of the conference will be held on September 16, 17, and 18. Please pray for the planning, organizing and financing of this conference. We hope that a good group of folks from among our supporters and prayer partners will join us for this event. May God bless each and every one of you!

The Slobodians

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"...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." Mark 16:15