



## The Fomichovs in Desna, Ukraine

October 2022

### *An Open Door*



Dear brothers and sisters, we are so grateful to God that we have you. Thanks to your prayers, God protects us and uses us for His glory. We are grateful to you for your support. We people from Ukraine appreciate that you care about us. Thanks to your help, we can minister to people. You know, when the war began, we did not understand what to do because everything was confusing and scary. Everyone was in such a stupor. But God raised us up and began to use us, and we can witness to people about God. It had seemed to us that the door was closed for ministry, but in fact God opened the door. We have done a lot of work for the glory of our Lord during this time since the beginning of the war. Our entire church has served people with everything it could.

During this time, we have visited a lot of different people,

and before the war, we had never even known many of them. We learned that there are many disabled people who are at home and in very poor condition. We have met older people, and the war united us all. We all have become closer and closer, and we have seen how God used us and gave us the opportunity to testify about Him. We pray together with people and urge them to seek God.



When we say that life is very fragile, everyone immediately understands this. No one says that they do not want to hear about God. On the contrary, everywhere people say that because of the war they have begun to pray to God. We visited the farthest corners of our region, and everywhere we were witnesses for our Lord. It's hard for me to imagine

that this is possible, we have distributed almost all the Bibles, and people are open to God as never before.

Pray with us:

- 1) For God to give people a sincere repentance.
- 2) Pray for our church.

Sincerely,  
Igor Fomichov

## November

### Harvest Feast

Even war cannot break our traditions, because there are holidays that we love very much, and the Harvest holiday is the holiday that everyone has been waiting for. After all, on this holiday we can express gratitude to God for all His bounties that He has bestowed upon us. We were all preparing for it. The children were preparing songs and poems. We adults prepared songs and testimonies of how God blesses us in this difficult time. There were many testimonies of God's miracle.



### The Rehabilitation Center

During the war, God is bringing many new men who repent and want to live in a new way. Even we did not think that at such a time this ministry would grow, and indeed God uses our brothers in this. Despite all the difficulties of serving people with addictions, we see how God blesses this work and people's lives are changing. There is even one brother who was baptized. A lot of people call and ask about entering the rehab center, but we don't have enough space. In the house where the rehabilitants live, there is nowhere to put beds. We are grateful to God that this ministry is bearing fruit.



### The Church

During the war, many people have left Desna. But God draws to the church those who are being saved. Many new people have begun attending the church. There are repentances, and people are drawn to God. Like never before, the church is a good testimony and people have become more friendly. Although there are constant sirens warning of rocket attacks, people still come to services regularly. Often, we have just started church services when the alarm sounds, and I say those who are worried can go to a safe place. Well, people remain to sit and pray for God's protection.

## The Pastor

We work a lot with you [at BIEM], helping different categories of people. Our help starts with groceries and ends with medicine for military personnel. We provide both medicines and other things that can save the life of a wounded person. We have a need for tourniquets, and God has blessed us so that we can distribute them to soldiers who are on the front line, where there is a fight for the life of a soldier who has just been wounded. We help those who are without



insulin and have various heart diseases. Our help varies, but the goal is to help people and testify about God. Telling people that God loves them. And throughout the war our work was noticed more than once, both by the military and our government. On the Harvest holiday we as a church and personally I as a pastor received a certificate expressing gratitude for our help and service to people. This is a credit to all of us;

without your support we would not have been able to achieve these results. Well, you and I know that we are all laboring for the glory of our Lord and for the spread of His kingdom.

### Pray with us:

- 1) That God would give us the opportunity to help people, to serve them and give us the strength to spread the Good News.
- 2) Pray for the ministry of the rehab center, that people would accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and that God would change their lives.
- 3) Pray that God would protect us from rockets and bombings.

Sincerely,  
Igor Fomichov

## December

### *Gone to war*

Despite the war in Ukraine, we continue the ministry of rehabilitation. Currently we have 11 people, all with different problems. One rehabilitant has a nephew named Bogdan, a young guy not even 30 years old who wants to be drafted into the army and go to war. He tried to enlist in his hometown. It's not entirely clear for what reasons, but he didn't succeed. His uncle Sergei, being here for rehabilitation, agreed to help him come here to Desna and from here to get him into the army.

When Bogdan arrived and settled into the rehabilitation center, he began to implement his plan for conscription into the army. Everyone talked to him about this. He is patriotic, which we could not help but rejoice at. Yet, our understanding is that a person must decide the most crucial thing in this life, which is an important matter concerning one's soul. A person needs to be reconciled with God. From the first day, we began witnessing to Bogdan about God. At first, he

looked at us in great surprise, not quite understanding what was happening. We told him, “Understand that God has a plan for your life and that God brought you to the rehab center because He wants to tell you something important.” Everyone testified to Bogdan, and he heard the call of God and agreed to repent and accept Jesus as his Savior. We couldn’t be happier because there’s no greater joy than to see a person get saved.

Bogdan says, “I see how God miraculously brought me to a rehabilitation center, where I could be saved. I’m ready to accept God’s plan and stay with you to grow in God. And for about a month, Bogdan has been living at the rehab center and studying the Word of God, praying, attending services and small groups studying the Word of God. We all see how God is changing his life amazingly, and it encourages us so much. We see God’s amazing work, how God uses different situations and saves people. Bogdan left home to go to war, but God worked so that he came to us, where he accepted Christ. When you look at the journey Bogdan made, from another city, he came to us with his own ideas, but here God had a plan for his salvation.



Pray with us:

- 1) For Bogdan and his growth in God.
- 2) For the ministry of the rehabilitation center, that God would change people’s lives and they would sincerely accept Jesus into their hearts.
- 3) For peace in our country.

P.S. Bogdan is pictured on the right.

Sincerely,  
Igor Fomichov