



The Kosyanchuks

3rd Quarter Report, 2017

July

In one of the villages where the BIEM mission is active in establishing new churches in Ukraine, sister Maria came to God at the end of the 1990s. After coming to Christ, she zealously began to pray for her family: for their repentance, for the salvation of relatives and loved ones. Her prayers were not in vain: her adult daughter Olga (a teacher in the local school) came to the throne of grace. Both mother and daughter became members of the church and didn't miss a service.

When Olga turned 42, she became pregnant. She already had two adult children who lived in Kyiv and visited the church. Her pregnancy was not simple. From the very beginning the doctors recommended an abortion. They said there was a big risk at her age, and it was unlikely that a healthy child would be born. But the woman completely gave the situation into the hands of God. She firmly said that this was a gift from the Lord and accepted it.

Darinka was born absolutely healthy. Not one of the dire predictions of the doctors came true.

Starting at the age of 2.5 months, the little girl never missed a service. She grew up in God's house. When classmates and acquaintances asked in surprise, "Why do you go to church? You're young and pretty; what did you forget there?" Darinka did not pay attention to their taunts and rudeness; in her heart was the love of Christ.

This summer, she repented in one of the day camps. Fifteen-year-old Darinka testifies, "God has no grandchildren, only children. Even though I grew up in a Christian family and went to church from childhood, that is no guarantee of salvation. I definitely confessed my sinfulness and used the chance to have a personal relationship with the Creator."

How blessed to see a new generation of Christians who were born and raised going to church, and who in time dedicated their life to the Lord.

We thank God for His mercy and love. We also thank you for your prayers and support. May the Lord bless you.

August

Our children's summer camp was held in our local Belgorodskaya church. By the grace of God, there were about 150 children in it. On the last day, a festive service was held, where the children invited their parents, and they themselves participated and glorified the Lord.

However, time does its work, and the forces of evil do not slumber: by September, many of those who visit the camp forget about the church, and about the invitation to Sunday school. To remind the children and their parents of the Lord and the church again and to invite them there, God prompted our hearts to hold an unscheduled one-day camp at the end of the summer. We chose the date of August 26. Last year, we tried to hold a one-day meeting with children who went to the camp; however, it is possible that due to the fact that it was already the end of September, and various events were held in town, and there was no advance announcement to the children, almost no one came. This time we faced a challenge: to do everything so that those who were in camp in the summer would come again.

Glory to the Lord, everything turned out: there were about 50 children! Despite the fact that the meeting lasted only one day, it was a full-fledged camp: the program included a Bible lesson, crafts, sports, singing and was scheduled from 9:00 to 4:00 pm. The children had breakfast, lunch and a snack. In addition, they received awards for their efforts. Of course, the one who failed to get the prize was upset, but most of the children were very happy! Here are some of their comments on this camp:

"It was very cool! Such a wonderful time!"

-*Sasha* (teenager, group 10-15)

"Of course I liked the camp! A lot of people can talk together."

-*Misha* (teenager, group 10-15)

"I liked the trampoline, the Bible lesson."

-*Andrei* (teenager, group 10-15)

"I liked most of all the "interesting hour," when we watched a film about end times. "

-*Dima* (teenager, group 10-15).

We again had the opportunity to take the gospel to the children, and we invited them to church and Sunday school. We were very pleased that the next day, when we had a special prayer for the children who would be heading back to school in September, many of the children who were in this one-day camp came to the church for the blessing! We pray and hope that the sown seed of the Word of God will bring about changes in the children's hearts and they will continue to go to church and beyond.

We've also decided that such one-day camps at the end of summer should become permanent, so that before the school year, children could again have a reminder of God, the church, and Sunday school so that the good seeds of His Word and His love will grow in their hearts! We also thank you for your prayers and brotherly support.

May the Lord bless you.

September

Great praise and gratitude be to the Lord our God that this month. By His grace we held a festive service "Harvest Feast" (or "Thanksgiving") to the Lord for the harvest of this year.

This is one of the holidays of local churches, which is accepted by unbelieving people of the village. We handed out invitations, invited unbelievers to come to the house of prayer and all together to glorify the Lord and give Him thanks for the gifts of the earth that God sent for our use. There have been cases when unbelievers who were invited donated money toward this holiday celebration.

For all Christian holidays, we prepare invitations and invite unbelievers, but this is the holiday usually respond to the most. This time many people came. They stayed until the end of the service, they accepted Christian literature, and then they stayed for the celebration dinner. In past years, few guests stayed for the meal, but this year, thank God, almost everyone who came to the service stayed.

We had a big program prepared, and part of this program was used during lunch. It brought great pleasure to both members of the church and unbelievers. Therefore, the dinner served as a continuation of the church service. God was glorified in songs, and His name was glorified through verses and testimonies.

One interesting testimony by an unbelieving person was that when the gardens were planted in the spring, they sowed all the seeds, but then frost came and it snowed. Everything was frozen, and there was a fear that there would be no harvest. But when the harvest was collected, he realized that it was only the hand of God that could do this. Therefore, he came to the house of God, that with the people of God he would thank the Lord. And we are sincerely grateful to the Lord, sincerely grateful to you for your prayers, for your brotherly support. May the Lord bless you with His blessings.

Amen.

Anatoly Kosyanchuk

