



The Yurchenkos

4th Quarter Report, 2017

October



I recently got acquainted with Nikita, who is 13. Nikita has been living in the children's home for a couple of weeks now. Nikita is not a child at all. He has already experienced big difficulties in life: betrayal by parents, drugs, living in cellars. Nikita says that when he was three years old, his mother sold him for a bottle of vodka. Somehow his home became the cellars of residential multi-story apartments, where he grew up with other homeless people. He

does not remember how he was introduced to alcohol and drugs, but, he is grateful to God that these pernicious things did not destroy him.

Thanks to social services and the police, Nikita was put into an orphanage. He was soon adopted into a family where he gained not only parents, but also a sister. Before long, Nikita began to notice that his new parents paid more attention to their biological daughter, and he wanted the same rights and attention. This caused a rebellion in his young heart. He began to disobey his parents and was rude to them. He went so far that his adoptive parents could no longer stand his tricks, and soon Nikita found himself in the orphanage in Kopylovo.

Nikita is a very open and friendly boy, easy to talk to. When he saw me, he approached me and struck up a conversation. We talked heart to heart. He told me his story. Surprisingly, Nikita knows a lot of Bible stories. It turns out that when he lived in a basement, he somehow got hold of a children's Bible. He read it several times.

It's amazing how the Lord works so that, even children living in such places as basements can learn of the way of salvation. Please pray for Nikita. In the near future, another family is supposed to adopt him. Pray that Nikita will come to know the Lord and be saved.

When we visit the children's home, the first thing the children crave from us is attention. As much as we can, we try to share more time with them in simple conversation. Afterward, we give the Bible story, teach a lesson and sing songs.



It's very complicated holding the attention of some kids. And this is not surprising, since they had no one to teach them good manners, but they learn quickly and make progress.

We thank you, dear friends, for your prayers and material support. Thanks to you, we can show these kids attention and help them. Pray for this ministry and for the children, that the Lord will draw these kids to Himself and that they will know Jesus Christ.

November

At the beginning of November, we received many suggestions for places in various cities where we could go with the puppet theater to put on shows. To the degree that we can do it, we strive to go everywhere that invites us.



Praise God, that we can minister to kids and take them the Gospel via theater presentations.

We also ministered to kids in the city of Nezhin. This was in an orphanage-boarding school, a special children's home for children with diverse psychological and physical defects. When we saw the children, we were a little embarrassed, because many children are mentally retarded and it's very pronounced. We wondered how to establish contact with such children. We prayed about it, and the Lord gave us a marvelous time. To our amazement, the kids were extremely attentive and received all that we said very well. We even noticed that many healthy kids with no problems can't listen so attentively. When we asked the kids questions at the end, almost all the kids answered correctly. It was remarkable that they understood everything.

The most crucial question was, "How can we get to Heaven? Maybe on a bicycle, or in a car? Or maybe by airplane?" The children answered, "You have to ask God for forgiveness and believe in Jesus!" At the conclusion, we had a prayer, and the majority of the children asked Jesus to be their Savior. The director of the children's home was very grateful to us, and in memory of our visit to their children, she gave us a letter of thanks. The children talked with us for a long while, hugged us, shook hands, and asked us to come again. We were filled with the very best impressions and thanked God for using us in a small way to minister to these kids.

In the city of Vishnevy, we have done shows more than once. We've been on shows for various groups of kids. Recently we ministered to disabled children. The social services in the city of Vishnevy organized a voluntary event for families with disabled kids. We took part in that and showed the kids a puppet show, sang hymns with them, and taught them how to pray. The social services in Vishnevy are well acquainted with us and always invite us to similar events.



We, in turn, thank you, dear brothers and sisters, for your prayers for us, and for the material support for us. Our ministry is possible, thanks to you.

Thanks for loving us and supporting ministry in Ukraine! May the Lord bless you!

December

Dear friends, brothers and sisters, coworkers with the BIEM mission!

December was a fruitful month for us. Despite the fact that the children from the orphanage in Kopylova departed to a rest place in western Ukraine and we couldn't visit them, we still had very many other children's ministries. A lot of impressions remain, since we ministered to children of various ages in various locations. We visited children in diverse boarding schools, schools, and churches. It will be simpler for me to show you a graph of our schedule of where we were, because it would be complicated to go into detail about each place visited:

December 8, 2017 – Bazar, in Zhitomir region; a school with about 70 children.

December 15, 2017 – Muzychi, Kievo-Svyatoshinsky region, House of Culture, about 100 kids.

December 20, 2017 – Boyarka, orphanage for children with poor vision, 81 children.

December 22, 2017 – Olizarovka, Ivankovsky region, more than 60 children.

December 23, 2017 – Gruzke, Kiev region, church, over 20 children.

December 25, 2017 – Makarov, church, over 50 kids.

December 26, 2017 – Kodra, Kiev region, school, over 60 kids.

December 28, 2017 – Obukhovichi, Ivankovsky region, school & Kindergarten, 100+ kids.

December 30, 2017 – Potievska, Zhitomir region, orphanage.

A little about the orphanage for children with poor vision: These children greatly impressed us. They are active and listened very attentively and sing well. It turns out that there are many Christian teachers in this orphanage, and they constantly teach the children God's Word. Praise God for these kids!

At the Children's Home in Potievka, it was quite difficult to hold the children's attention. I don't know what are the atmosphere and conditions in that place, but the children are very fearful. They don't smile. They fear everything. We had a hard time talking with them. Please pray for these children.

Our puppet theater group has undergone some changes. Some of the actors couldn't travel with us due to their work, but the Lord saw even this. Our friends from another church helped us, and the team was fully staffed. Praise the Lord!

During this month, about 600 children have heard the Good News. Please pray for these children, that they will be saved.

Thank you, dear friends, for your prayers, and for the material support! Thanks to you, God's work is being performed in Ukraine, and we can give attention to many children and tell them about Christ.

May the Lord bless you!

Sincerely yours,

Vitaly Yuchenko