

BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

121 Commerce Drive, Suite 50 • Danville, IN 46122 • e-mail: Missions@BaptistInternational.org

March-April 2018

"Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people." Psalm 96:3 Dear Pastors and Friends,

Greetings from the Slobodians! We appreciate your prayers and support in our work of planting churches through dedicated and trained nationals. During March we were blessed to have Vitaly and Katya Bilyak, one of our church planting couples from Ukraine with us. This visit enabled a good number of churches to hear directly from Western Ukraine, perhaps the most neglected part of Ukraine when it comes to missionary work.

Right now, we are glad to be writing to you from a restricted country which recently resumed granting tourist visas to Americans. This was a great answer to a prayer which we shared with you in our monthly prayer and praise sheet "BIEM's of Light". If you are not receiving this and would like to, please let us know. It was a great blessing to resume personal contact with our brethren here who are faithfully and bravely proclaiming God's word in a place which is dominated by the darkness of Islam. God is blessing their efforts with a steady stream of souls being baptized and added to the church. Please take the time to view our April video update which features this ministry.

Here brother Sasha has managed to obtain a legal presence through registering as a cultural organization which is an amazing accomplishment. Though it is time consuming and expensive to maintain, it has been invaluable since it enables a stable presence here and provides opportunities which would not otherwise be available such as the possibility of a Christian youth camp this summer. Right now, there are two financial needs here which need your prayers. The building we have obtained and operated here is in need of repairs and remodeling that will cost several thousand dollars. Furthermore, more support is needed to enable our national church planting couple to keep their daughter in a private school where she is not indoctrinated with Islam as in the public-school system. If you are interested in helping with either of these needs, we would be glad to provide more information.

As we soon move on from here to Ukraine, we are able to enjoy the amazing advantages today's modern technology provides such as free texting, internet, and even video and voice calls. Recently I experienced one of the problems that comes with all these advances. Recently I responded to an invitation to connect with some folks through "Linkedin". Usually I ignore these things, but for some reason I responded to this one and in responding somehow triggered a function that sent an invitation to join Linkedin to every single person on my e-mail list! This was not a problem for the Americans on my list since many just ignore these types of invitations like I usually do. However, many of our foreign brethren on my list took this invitation quite seriously since it was worded as a personal invitation from me. They are always glad to get invitations from me which usually involve an invitation to attend a conference, a dinner, take part in an evangelistic project, participate in an ordination, or sometimes even an invitation to visit the United States. Some mistakenly concluded that since this invitation from me was coming from a third party, it was very important. However, they did not quite understand what the invitation was for since they usually do not hear from me in English. Some were sure it was for some grand event! So, they were quite disappointed when we explained that this is an invitation best ignored. Anyway, since no doubt some of you have received this invitation as well, we wanted to let you know that you can just ignore it as well. We will try not to send more such things your way. May God wonderfully bless each and every one of you in your service for Him.

The Slobodians