



Go Forth Missions

Saying to those who are bound, 'Go forth,'
To those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' Isa 49:9

Winter 2004

Kharkov, Ukraine

God News

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus, the Firstborn from the Dead,

By the time this reaches most of you we should be close to celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the one Christian holiday that people here observe. "If we have hope in Christ only for this life, we are the most miserable people in the world." But the fact is that Christ has been raised from the dead. He has become the first of a glorious company of those who will be raised again. "So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, Adam, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man, Christ. Everyone dies because all of us are related to Adam, the first man. But all who are related to Christ, the other man, will be given new life. But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised first; then when Christ comes back, all his people will be raised. After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having put down all enemies of every kind. For Christ must reign, until He humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. And the last enemy to be destroyed is death. (1 Cor 15:19-27 NLT)

Thank God for the resurrection! Otherwise there would be no point to what we do. It was the resurrection power of God that rescued me from the mouth of the lion, and is now rescuing so many others through the rescued one. We are seeing the power of the resurrection almost daily.

The incredible things we see God doing are clear manifestations of the fact that Jesus is indeed risen. He is alive and He is moving on the Earth. He is moving and shaking right here in this dark and dismal place. Resurrection power is manifesting in healings and wonderfully changed lives. Just recently we have seen cancers healed including leukemia, bones straightening, lung diseases healed, fibroid tumors and other weird things actually being passed out of peoples bodies after prayer, and sometimes as a result of deliverance, alcoholics set free, depression and other emotional problems healed, and a multitude of minor ailments healed and answers to problems specific to the needs here. *The following incident is just my favorite in a long time.*

The Glory of God Manifested on the Bus...

. "For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Isa 60:2 NNAS. There is a widow in our church who is totally abandoned to Jesus Christ. You can see the light of God on her. Recently something happened to her that blew everybody's minds. As she rode on a crowded bus a man crowded against her. She said she was feeling the glory of God all over her. When he touched her he fell to the floor of the bus. Four big guys tried to lift him, but could not. She told them it was God doing it so leave him alone. Suddenly the man jumped to his feet and exclaimed that his heart had been healed. He got off the bus and ran dancing and shouting down the street! This is solid proof that Jesus is alive!

Important News- Joanie and I are now Grandparents!

John and Tanya had a beautiful, healthy little girl, **Ariel Anna Lynch** on Jan. 28. Glory to GOD!

Leadership Training School and Women's Ministry

Are two ministries we want to highlight this newsletter:

If you can believe it, we had about **three hundred fifty people** sign up for the Leadership Training Bible School. Wonderful, just imagine what will happen if each of them starts just one new home group. Wow! By much fruit, my Father is glorified. This is a fast track Bible school designed to produce leaders quickly to respond to the urgent need. So many people are coming to Christ in this revival there are never enough leaders. New doors are opening for evangelism. We must be ready to care for all the new believers.

Hi everyone, **Joanie here,**

As A. W. Tozer once said, "You can have an experience with God, and then it might take you 5 years to theologically figure out what happened to you!" Something wonderful has been happening to me. A few years ago the Lord showed me things I would be doing in the future. As I waited on His timing, He worked on my character, which I desperately needed.

The children are grown up now for the most part and God is releasing me to do a different type of ministry. I would like to share with you what I am presently doing and what lies ahead. My personal ministry is evangelizing a certain village. That one certain village has expanded now to three villages. Also the Lord has led me into ladies ministry. To be honest I never really expected to do this, but over the years I've fallen in love with the women here, something happened to my heart; the love of Christ constraining me to do something for them. These women helped me to get healed up in my personal life pertaining to my own femininity.

My goal with the women's ministry is to encourage and equip ladies to fulfill what I call the First Commission and the Greatest Commission. The First Commission is what I call the commandment of God to Adam and Eve at creation to reproduce and multiply. The Great Commission as you know is to go out into the entire world and preach the gospel. We've coupled these two scriptures as our goal. I believe in the natural and spiritual realm women are innately gifted by God to reproduce children, naturally, and spiritually. I saw as it were, great swarms of women all over, reaching out to lost souls.

One thing we have started are women's days; an intense day of lectures and special prayer ministry. We have teaching on the most pertinent, needed women's issues, the specific needs women face in this culture. We do these ladies seminars the 3rd Saturday of the month (so you know when to pray for us). Two months we were led to deal with emotional healing issues and the Lord met us powerfully. Then one month was about releasing your potential.

We are also having '**Encounter with God**' weekends with ladies once a month. The more I do this ministry the more I like it- it is so effective. When I went on my weekend, I was profoundly touched and changed and I am a so-called 'mature' believer. Fear was ruling my life and I didn't know it. I really like myself now and feel so free, especially from fear and worry that used to torment me. The biggest difference after my weekend was I felt my faith released like never ever before.

Ladies Day Evangelism

The ladies and I are excited to announce that on March 27th we will have our first women's evangelism. Completely initiated and organized by the women here. I have been waiting for this moment! Our administrator's wife got inspired by the Lord to do this and is keeping her husband up late nights all excited creatively planning and organizing this event! To see them all excited and on fire to reach out to other ladies and their families is something I have been looking forward to for a long time. Just like the Lord showed me, it is the young mothers spearheading the outreach. I am walking them through the planning process, counseling them as to what to do each week to prepare.

An Unforgettable Day in a Village

What we are presently encountering in the village work I will try to describe on paper: Word got out in the village about the poor boy that was taken in by Americans and his life was transformed. That boy is our Egor who we care for. Even the village doctor who we led to the Lord met us on the street and told us the pleasant story about that boy. She looked at me and said, "That is you, isn't it?"

People started responding to us differently after that, with a lot of respect and gratitude. Our experience so far in the village is that often it can be easy to get some people to pray the sinner's prayer, but the follow up is difficult. We have a few families that are sticking it out with the Lord. Prior to our taking in Egor many people were antagonistic toward us and blasphemous. Unlike what some of our other village evangelists encounter it appears our village is more difficult.

We did a few children's evangelisms this summer out in the open near the tenements with bunches of kids. We had a lot of fun, did skits, had coloring projects, and fed them watermelons and sandwiches out of the van. When we were cutting the bologna and the huge stacks of bread inside the van, a little boy kept jumping up to look in and exclaimed in a loud voice, "there are humongous stacks of sandwiches in there! More than I have ever seen in my life!" We had a fun time especially, Egor-who had no trouble going around the neighborhood with his buddies gathering the kids to come.

Tolik and Natasha

Tolik is a troubled boy we met in the winter, who we were told is deaf and dumb. We also included Tolik in our summer evangelisms which Egor said, was the first time in his 14 yr old life he was included in anything or with anyone. Tolik has never set foot in a school of any kind. He wanders around and begs and literally looks like a cartoon of a guy left on a deserted island for a few years. His hands are caked with layers of brown dirt and his face is always smudged. I couldn't describe in words what his hair looks like and how he smells. He really likes it when I kiss him and let him sit in my car. We went to the village council to make inquiries concerning Tolik. There we found out that if we decided to help Tolik in some way we should also help his little 3 yr old sister Natasha, with whom he shares the food that he begs. We also found out that Tolik isn't deaf, but definitely dumb.

My partner Lena told her husband about this Natasha. He is a very kind man. He started getting deep intercession for this little Natasha only having heard a little about her so he asked us to please do a house visit to find out her welfare.

This is the story of that unforgettable day. (Sometimes Lena and I are jealous of our male evangelist friends because what we encounter in the villages is a major emotional overload, and it seems easier on the men)

We found the address; the house was in almost total disrepair, even with the front door hanging wide open in the middle of winter. We could see this from the gate of the street barely hanging on its hinges and peeked through the dilapidated fence we saw a small face staring out to us from a milky colored window. Through the window it looked like a little doll with filthy smudged cheeks. We entered into the yard and into the house. To say the interior looked similar to after a bombing is the only way to describe it; so much plaster and concrete was just fallen out of the walls. We were able to locate where people might be by the warmth from the Old Russian wood stove. We slowly opened the door and saw an extremely emaciated body of a man sleeping on a bed of sorts, with rags and bits of fur lying around. Next to this old man sat a little girl with round face, blue big eyes, milky skin albeit pretty smudged with filth, and sandy blond hair. She looked at us, but didn't seem frightened at all. The window was milky because of the smoke from the wood stove. On the stove, Lena checked the pots- they were eating the grain most people give to the pigs here. Lena being very brave stretched her hand across the old man to gently touch Natasha. She didn't seem afraid but was quite expressionless

in our short visit, her eyes only staring and empty. She only brightened up a little when I held out an apple to her which she snatched up in an instant and started eating voraciously.

The old man woke up. To be honest I was afraid and stayed near the door. Tolik kept motioning me with grunts and gestures to come outside with him so he could sit in my car. Lena stayed inside and tried conversing with this extremely aggressive, scary looking skeleton of a man. His clothes looked like they hadn't been washed in a century, nor had he ever taken the time to zip them up either. His face was total wrinkles much like a corn cob doll in America and a sallow color of most drunks. He didn't seem to mind the intrusion and started answering Lena's questions. (My husband says all the drunks in Lipsi like the intrusion of two beautiful blonde evangelists) [We were told there are only two men in the entire village that aren't drunks] All of his vocabulary was non-stop cussing which, thank God, I have never learned. He became very aggressive when Lena asked why the little girl didn't go to the local day care, his response was, "why would we need to do that, everything she needs she has right here!" He candidly told Lena that the reason he was there at the house was because Tolik mercilessly beats little Natasha. Natasha's dad is in prison and her mom that day was away at some job, he was the Grandfather. Lena asked Natasha if she could pick her up, and when she did so, she broke down emotionally and went out of the house.

Lena and her husband and two teenagers cried for three days after our house call to the darkest place on earth. Lena's husband wants to take this child in, so we have asked some government officials and the only Christian orphanage what we can do to help children at risk. Lena's husband's keeps getting intercession for little Natasha but is worried financially because on his average Kharkov pay (a measly \$200/month) their family of four barely scrape by.

The love of Christ constrains us at every turn in our ministry to help and reach out in new ways. Where all these experiences will lead, only God knows, but I want to go anywhere regardless of the darkness and take the light of the gospel. When I was discouraged in my village work the Lord spoke to me and told me, the best piece of fruit I picked from Lipsi was living right in my house- Egor.

We recently heard from a government source that just a few kilometers beyond Lipsi it is even worse, where there are children like this is in even worse conditions. Some of the other village evangelists are hearing reports of infants dying of exposure in drunks' homes who don't care for them. God's grace keeps us and will lead us, just pray with us about all this, and God's will be done. Amen

Well, God is moving and we are trying to move with him. The last two years were pretty tough, but we know we are in a new season, and God is doing some very good things. No time to talk about needs right now but they are always there, so if you want to help, it is needed and welcome.

We have to come to the US for visas this summer, so if you know of a church or home group that would like one of us to share, we would like to do so. Please let us know.

With Love and Thanks, Grace to you in Jesus Christ,
Bill, Joanie, Christie, Sarah and Egor, with John and Tanya and Max and Annie alongside

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