

“This I do for the Gospel’s sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.” (1 Corinthians 9:23)

REM’s newsletter is a quarterly publication of Russian Evangelistic Ministries, Inc., an independent, fundamental Christian ministry established in 1993 to represent and aid the persecuted church of the International Union of Churches of Evangelical Christian Baptists in the former Soviet Union. The ministry supports church-planting efforts in Siberia, the Far East, Central Asia, and the Caucasus through indigenous pastors and evangelists who require a monthly support of \$200. The ministry also helps churches to construct church buildings at the cost of \$3,000 - \$15,000.

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NEW METHODS OF EVANGELISM

Enthusiastic Christian youth are trying new methods of evangelism. In the city of Perm, the young believers share the Gospel as they challenge fellow residents to exchange what is bad in their lives for the good that only God can give them.

Christians in the region of Krasnoyarsk invite non-believers into their homes to share the Gospel.



Pray About These Needs:



Ministers need another all-terrain vehicle to continue their ministry among the Nenets people. For many years, the ministers have extensively used the one and only all-terrain vehicle (pictured). Despite its age and high mileage, the vehicle still runs.

Ministers pray that the Lord will provide one more similar all-terrain vehicle, which would enable them to make more trips to the tundra to disciple new believers. Also, there are still camps of reindeer herdsman that have not been reached with the Gospel. Let us lift up this need and the need for missionary support in our prayers.



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(4), 2019



Happy Thanksgiving!

“...that we should bring forth fruit unto God.”
Romans 7:4

Dearly beloved brothers and sisters in Christ! I greet you and wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

There are people in the world who seek to serve others from an early age; they choose to carry a weight of responsibility (no matter how insignificant it may seem at the time) and play a role in God’s vast vineyard.

Samuel was one such example. From a tender age, he served in the temple and had a servant’s heart. David, Joseph and Daniel were other examples who, along with many other heroes of the Bible, grew up to be God’s great leaders.

One Christian lady shared with me a heart-warming story from her childhood in the Soviet Union. When atheism was waging war against believers, ministers secretly sought shelter in her parents’ home. At that time, this lady was merely six years old and her responsibility was to give a signal if it was not safe to come to their apartment because the authorities were in the building. She had to hang a towel on the railing of the second story apartment as a warning sign. As soon as the authorities left the building, the little girl would remove the towel from the railing to signal to ministers that it was safe again to enter their apartment. This young child carried out this ministry without fail, never forgetting the responsibility of her secret mission.

It is truly wonderful to develop this ability at a young age: to serve others while participating in the work of the Lord. However, it is never too late to ask ourselves a simple question: am I serving those around me, and am I bearing fruit for the Lord?

Bearing fruit is in the very nature of every living organism, including the heart of a born-again believer. Am I a part of what God is doing today? Am I bearing fruit? These are not pointless questions. Every true believer needs to ask and honestly answer these questions. The Lord clearly explained our purpose: “...I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit...” (John 15:16).

Dear friends, the fruit of a Christian is distinctly different from the fruit of this world. The fruit of a Christian does not perish! Christ Himself spoke about this: “...and that your fruit should remain...” (John 15:16). This is delightful! This is a cause to rejoice! Earthly material possessions, when placed on God’s altar, are transformed into incorruptible treasures. Everything will pass by quickly in our lives. Earthly treasures will fade and lose their value. At the end of one’s life, when resting on the death bed, surrounding possessions will be meaningless, but those things that we had given to Christ, they will be transformed into precious stones that will adorn our crown in eternity!

May the Lord bless you and may He increase your fruit!

With love in Christ,
Rev. Vladimir A. Okhotin
REM’s Founder and President
San Diego, CA
October 2019



Baptism of new converts among the Gypsy people in Zakarpattia, Ukraine, 2019

Revival among the Gypsies

Revival among the Gypsy people began during the Soviet times. The first baptism took place in the presence of police. The authorities reacted to the baptismal service aggressively. In spite of that, nothing could stop God's work. Today the church of Gypsy believers in Transcarpattia numbers several thousand members. Thanks be to God! In 2019, 130 new Gypsy believers were baptized.

In this edition of the newsletter, we would like to share about the great revival among the small ethnic groups that inhabit the vast outer regions of the former Soviet Union. We are not speaking merely of evangelism in these areas, but of a true revival that is taking place: revival of these ethnic groups for the Lord, for a new spiritual life and for salvation! We can say that a nation or an ethnic group is experiencing a revival when the ministry of evangelism is evident among its people; when it has become an important part of their daily lives and has reached every layer of society, and when the attention and focus of the people has turned to the Gospel!

Today, we can point to three ethnic groups in the former Soviet Union that are experiencing revival. Revival continues among the Nenets people in the tundra and Polar North. Revival also continues among the Gypsy people in the Transcarpattia region of Ukraine. We are also witnessing revival among the Ossetian people in the Causasus region. In this edition of the newsletter, we will share with you, our dear friends, information about the revival among the Nenets and Gypsy peoples. REM is playing an active role in supporting the preaching among all three groups. In the days when we are celebrating Thanksgiving and the harvest season, may these saved souls represent wonderful sheaves for God's Kingdom! Praise the Lord!

Revival among the Nenets people

Twenty years ago, the very first evangelists entered teepees of the Nenets people in the Ural and Bolshezemel'skaya Tundra. Since that time, a revival began among these people. There was not a single year since that time when Nenets people would not be baptized. The revival is continuing to this day. The Nenets church now numbers several hundred members.



Gypsy Church in Zakarpattia, Ukraine, 2019



Nenets Church, Ural Tundra, 2019