

TAKING THE SAVING GOSPEL TO A LOST WORLD

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"...GO INTO ALL THE
WORLD AND PREACH THE
GOSPEL TO EVERY
CREATURE..."

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KREMENCHUK, UKRAINE

Rose and I are just back from our regular March trip to Ukraine. The Bible school in Kremenchuk was started in 1993, not long after the beginning of the church there. My first year to teach was 1996. The size and nature of the school has changed through the years but it continues to be a great blessing to the Lord's work. This session I taught **The Life and Work of Paul**. Emphasis was given to practical lessons we can learn from Paul's life that will help us to be more devoted, effective servants of Jesus. Evening studies best fit the local situation; we start at 5:30 and about 20 are usually in attendance. I preached our three Sundays there and, as usual, there is the church's Saturday afternoon class each week. This two-hour meeting is well attended. There are refreshments, singing and prayer before the study begins. When we are there it is always a question and answer session. Apparently, the visiting teacher *should have* all the answers! There is usually a lot of lively discussion—it's a demanding session for our translator! Our next trip to Kremenchuk is planned for October.

SPECIAL BENEVOLENT HELP

The need for generous help in Ukraine is stronger than ever. The two-year conflict with Russia on the eastern border continues to decimate their already weak economy. Probably 10,000 (mostly civilians) have been killed and the bloodshed continues. With news of political matters here at home and terrorism around the world, Ukraine receives little attention in the media.

Twice each year we take funds to help various ones in need...mostly children. There is a marvelous response to this from Christians here. The congregation in **Wylie, TX** has a wonderful special contribution each time I go. Another of my supporting churches, **Colorado City, TX**, also sent funds. A few individuals sent money bringing the total to **\$17,100**. This truly wonderful response provides such blessings!

The whole country struggles because of the continuing war. Even before it started help for orphans and others in need was pathetic. Things are worse now. We assisted, as always, the following: (1) The shelter which cares for abandoned children and those rescued from abusive families. They needed money just to put food on the table and keep the electricity on. (2) The home/school for about 230 blind or visually impaired kids. Most of them have other physical or mental problems. (3) The hospital for severely disabled babies and small children. (4) Boys in the juvenile prison. Our brother Gregory works with them and takes in food and other items. You don't want to know the conditions in this prison of over 400 inmates! Thankfully, Gregory is allowed to worship with them and teach the Bible. Some have been converted. In addition to the good done in these institutions, a few individuals were helped and some money was left with the Central church for distribution as needs arise.

Last year Christians here generously gave so an **apartment** could be bought in Kremenchuk to house refugees from the war zone. This has been done and **Valentin** and his wife, **Yaroslave**, now live in the small apartment. They asked us to express their gratitude to Christians here who made it possible. They are from Donetsk, the worst area of fighting. He preached for one of the congregations there and is now a great help in the work in Kremenchuk. It is hoped that soon another apartment will be bought to care for other refugees. In **Mariupol**, a town very close to the fighting, the congregation has a church building—not anything like one here, of course. Seventy refugee Christians live in that building! Please continue to pray for Ukraine and, especially, for God's family there.

***Regularly, the members of the Lord's church in Kremenchuk
ask us to convey their sincere, heart-felt thanks
for your love and generosity.***

Your coworker,

Ronald Coleman