



DESNA, UKRAINE 4th Quarter 2013 Report

October

Feast of the Harvest

This year, in our area, the harvest wasn't bountiful. Many people weren't able to harvest very much. But we would like to thank the Lord for all the blessings He gives us. After all, our success depends entirely on our Lord.

[For the Harvest celebration] we did not have as many fruits and vegetables to decorate with, as in previous years. But we found ways to decorate our festive hall. But most important, the room was full of people, and a lot of children who attend our Sunday school came. They had prepared songs and poems, which expressed gratitude to the Lord. We also had guests who took part in our holiday service. At this holiday we had new people who visited the church for the first time.



Let me tell you a little about one of them. One man, Sasha, I know by sight, and have heard a lot about him. He has practiced different things and tried to heal people untraditional ways, and the occult, and even gained followers. And then he showed up at a service with a fellow who had visited our meetings several times. I would not have expected it, but he came for his friend's sake. During the service, he was shaking his head and tried to speak to his friend. After the service, I approached them to talk and personally invite them to the holiday banquet table. But he said that they could not stay, that they had other things to do. I do not know why he came, but please pray for Sasha, that God will save him and destroy the demonic influence in his life. I had better success chatting with his friend Valik. He said that he wants to start a new life, but does not know how to do it. I said, You started coming to church a year ago. Why did you stop? I told him that our church here in Desna exists to serve people and tell them about God, and about the new life that God gives.



I would also like to share our joy over the children and the participation they took in the conduct of harvest festival. Many children were given a poem that they memorized to recite in the celebration. A lot of new children came, even some who do not come to Sunday school. The ladies of the church prepared a bountiful table of sweets where, after the service, we could enjoy treats. The children wanted to take home a treat for their parents, and we gave permission as another opportunity to witness to their parents about the church and our good intentions.

Pray for the ministry of our church, that would be a lot of people in Desna will come to know the Lord as their Savior.

November

Dear brothers and sisters, I want to talk about how our church started a new kind of ministry for the disabled. One sister from our church told about her friend, Lena. Lena has a joint disease and cannot walk or work with her hands. Our sisters Natasha, Ira, and Alyona began visiting her in order to pray with her and to read the

Bible. They see how God is working in the life of Lena, but also see how God is working in their lives. God showed Natasha that she can witness to these people and that they need the Gospel. Then she was invited to a conference for leaders of ministries to invalids, where God showed her even more clearly that she can minister to these people.

Natasha was afraid to begin this ministry, because she knew all the responsibility such a ministry involves. She prayed a long while about it and decided to act. She came to our home and visited with my wife Sasha and I, and we chatted with Natasha about ministry to invalids. And we came to a decision that this is a good thing and started praying. Natasha agreed that on Sunday in the church she would share that God has placed on her heart to serve these people. The Church was overjoyed at her decision, and we decided to put an offering box for the needs of this ministry, so that we could help these people.

Natasha shared her desire at the social service department, and they gladly accepted her as a volunteer. And they informed her that in the Desna area we have 83 disabled people, 27 of whom are children. Natasha started to call and visit these people. Some talked with her gladly, and some did not want to. One woman named Zoya gladly accepted her as a contact. She even agreed to study the Bible, and she is always happy when Natasha visits. Now she and Natasha do a joint Bible study, «How to build a right relationship with God», and during the first lesson, she realized that she has not been reconciled with God. And she says she wants to be reconciled with Him. But so far she cannot take this step. A year ago her daughter died from a disease, and that hurt, and she thinks she offended God. Well, when they read the Bible, we see that God is touching her.

- 1) Pray that God would use Natasha, in this ministry,
- 2) That would people will receive us, and will want to talk about God.
- 3) That in the church other people would get on fire to serve these people.

December

Lena

As I have already written, throughout the year our sisters visited a woman named Lena, through whom God touched the heart of Natasha to get involved in ministry to serve people with disabilities. In part because of her disease, Lena is very closed woman. She is often in pain, and every day her condition gets worse and worse. And it is hard for her to receive strangers. But she receives our sisters with joy. She and our sisters study the Bible, and God has touched her so that she wanted to become a member of the church. She and I had a conversation. She told how God touched her heart and says she does not lose hope that God can heal her, but even if not she wants to do this. We talked for a long time, about God and about her life. She is now ready for membership in the church. When we visited her, her family gladly received us and wanted to talk too throughout the evening. We only talked about our Lord. I did not want to leave, I saw how God is working in her heart. She says she wants to serve God, but does not know how. But I've seen for a while that our sisters go to fellowship with her, and this has a positive influence on them. They study the Word of God and it has changed Lena and also sisters who attended her. Pray for sister Lena.

Sergei (44)

I want to tell you about a man I met. I had an opportunity to testify to him and his family. His life is ruined, and the lifestyle he has lived without God did not lead him to a happy life. And I met him at the stage of life when he was very hardened. His family has broken up, his business has left him nothing but debt. Sergei was just desperate, and I believe God led me to him so that I could witness. His friends knew that he had been talking with me and started mocking and saying that he has become a cult member and threw taunts at him. But I saw that in spite of this we had talked a lot about God, and when he was ill, he prayed. I had the chance to talk to him about how God saved me. And it seems to me that he begins to think about his life and about the role of

God in it. But the Devil does not sleep, and does his work and began to seduce and draw him back to the old way of life. I ask you to pray for him, that God will save him and protect him from evil people.

Pray with us :

1) For sister Lena and her family, that God will save them. Whatever Lena could witness to people about their faith in God.

2) Pray for the salvation of Sergei that God will change his life.

3) Pray for the ministry to the disabled, that the sisters will be able to share the gospel with these people and their families.

Sincerely,
Igor Fomichov