September-October, 2011

“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.” I Peter 1:2

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Greetings from the Slobodians! We hope you are enjoying this fall season with the changing colors and cool relief from this past summer’s heat. This particular fall marks 30 years of ministry for BIEM. We appreciate each of you who participate with us in our missionary work through your prayers and giving. You share in the blessed harvest of souls saved and churches planted over these years. We are excited as we look forward to what God has yet in store. There is no greater joy than serving God and there is no greater privilege than to partner with fellow believers in reaching the lost and planting churches for Christ.

In September, Sam was in Ukraine for the fall session of the seminary that has been established to train Ukrainians along with those from surrounding nations for ministry. It was a special blessing to be accompanied by Pastor Jason Grubbs, our own home church pastor (Mt. Tabor Baptist Church). We are always greatly encouraged whenever a supporting church sends their pastor overseas to participate in the ministry first hand. We would like to suggest to all of you reading this letter to consider recommending this to your church. You may wonder, what would a trip like that be like? Thanks to Pastor Grubbs blog where he posted pictures and descriptions of our activities almost daily, you can get a pretty good idea of what goes on during such a mission trip. Check out the dates of September 13-22 on his blog at: http://makingdisciplesinindiana.blogspot.com.

We are continuing to get heart-warming responses about our recently released book “Giving God the Glory” which is on the life of my father, our mission founder, Dr. Peter Slobodian. We have been sending this book to each one who gives a $30 donation towards our goal of distributing 30,000 Bibles this year. Check out our website BaptistInternational.org for more information. If you have not visited our website recently, please take another look. We have been able to upgrade it significantly recently. One new feature may help you evangelize Russian-speaking people. If you click on the “Media” tab, then select “audio” you can download evangelistic messages in Russian preached by Peter Slobodian during our radio days. Soon we will have some in the Ukrainian language as well. Since many were saved through these messages we are thrilled to be able to continue to use them for the glory of God.

Current prayer needs are to pray for the follow-up efforts of the more than 400 saved through this summers camping programs. Pray as well for God’s blessings and empowerment on our project to distribute 30,000 Bibles by years’ end. We have a long way to go to reach the amount of funds needed to accomplish this. The Ryabchenko’s, our Ukrainian church planters in a Muslim land, have been endeavoring for a good while to receive long-term residency in their target country. A lot of progress has been made and they are now waiting on documents from a government office that would be a huge step in the process. Please pray that these documents would come soon. May God bless you all!

The Slobodians

"...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." Mark 16:15