

Russian-speaking Areas

Here is a brief quote from the book *The World Situation and God's Move*, chapter 5.

These recently reported moves, which will further isolate Russia, are part of the world's ultimate situation...This situation of the United States in the lead and Russia increasingly isolated is the ultimate situation. Its purpose is the carrying out of the Lord's ultimate recovery.

We believe that the most recent events show that these words are becoming true.

The Lord's move in the Russian-speaking world started almost 30 years ago, in the fall of 1991. At this point we have 191 churches in 12 countries of the former USSR with about 5,500 saints meeting together.

This year Moscow, Russia, was to host the ITERO in the autumn. We believe that it is not cancelled, but postponed for one year. We believe that all the brothers will be able to meet in Moscow next year for the ITERO. Last weekend we had an online ITERO for the Russian-speaking world. We had 500 brothers who were able to watch these messages and meet in groups to fellowship over them.

Because of the pandemic, most of the meetings of all the churches are conducted online, although some of the churches are able to meet in person. This situation led to an increase in attendance and more blending as there are no borders with the Internet.

One of the countries that was affected the most is Kyrgyzstan. Over 70% of the saints had coronavirus. This is one of the poorest countries in the world right now. We asked the saints from all over the world to pray for them, and the prayers helped the saints to get through this situation. Also, many of the saints from different churches were burdened to give an offering for the suffering brothers and sisters in Kyrgyzstan. Right now, since most of the saints there have already had coronavirus, the meetings are conducted in person.

There are currently 62 trainees in the Full-time Training in Moscow. Last semester we sent everyone home to continue the training online, but this semester we tried to gather everyone together in person. Since the borders are closed, we were able to gather them in four pockets. Moscow has 36 trainees. Kiev, Ukraine, has 15 trainees. Yerevan, Armenia, has 4 trainees. And Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, has 2 trainees. Also, we have a number of scattered trainees in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. The trainees are happy to be together. Please pray that the Lord would preserve them from this sickness.

On September 1, the co-workers in Russia created a website for prayer, similar to unceasinglypray.org and beseeching.org. It is called the Word of Prayer (slovomolityvy.ru). We offer some direction for prayer and portions from the ministry for the Russian-speaking saints in the Russian-speaking world and everywhere else. At this point we have over 400 saints who are subscribed to this website. We believe that the main result of this pandemic is the development of the prayer life of the saints.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have increased advertisement for the free Recovery Version on the Internet. Before this year, we had about 100-200 orders for the New Testament every month. Now we have over 400 orders every month. We have acquired a large pool of

recipients. We have about 5,000 people in Russia and about 2,000 in Ukraine. Recently, we have begun to call every one of these recipients. We pray and hope that the Lord would reap some of them for the church life.

Because of the current armed conflict in Transcaucasia, which started over two weeks ago, there is a heavy burden for the saints and churches in this area, namely Armenia and Karabakh. Armenia, a small country with a population of about 2 million, has 16 churches with a total of about 500 saints. There are no churches in the region of Karabakh, but there are a number of saints who appreciate the ministry. A few brothers from the churches in Armenia have been drafted into the army and sent to the battle zone. We are praying for them and their families. We are also praying that the situation in this area would lead to the spread of the gospel, especially in the country of Azerbaijan, which remains one of the few former Soviet republics that have not yet opened to the Lord's recovery.