October 2020

Kingdom Newsletter

By Tracy Zhykhovich, MN Missionary Society President & KOG Missionary

Maksim's Travels Fellowship & Hospitalized

Pastor Maksim and the brethren send a BIG thank you for your prayers and for making this fellowship a possibility!



Maksim started his journey traveling several days by train to Novosibirsk to visit sister Natalia.

Then he flew to Volgograd to visit our new brother Igor and baptized him. Igor stayed with his relatives and Maksim stayed in a hotel and they spent a week together getting to know one another better. Afterwards Maksim accompanied him and they rode several days in a car to where Igor was going to live and spent more time together.

One thing Igor shared with Maksim is that many people in prison commit suicide, but when he was at his lowest point he cried out to God for help, and the Father heard his cry. He embraced the Kingdom message as he read about God's Kingdom on the Earth and was very grateful to have met Maksim. As they studied Maksim stressed the importance of keeping God's truths and prayer.

Then Maksim flew to meet brother Igor in the Irkutskaya Region. Brother Ivan joined them and then they all went back together to Igor's house. The men were thrilled with the fellowship and said that it was just like being in the university!

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Maksim & Igor



Nikolai & Vitali

Books to Prison Colonies



They discussed many topics and were strengthened in the teaching of the Kingdom of God on Earth, "immortal soul" and sleep of the dead, how one lie leads to another, neo paganism, and speaking in tongues.

They told Maksim that he put his heart and soul into giving them BIBLICAL SPIRITUAL FOOD, not like many religious sects that teach lies of men and promote an organization. He preached to them God's truth with no manipulation. They agreed that lies are like poison.

After their fellowship had concluded, Maksim took the train to visit Nikolai and Vitali near Chita for several weeks.

When Pastor Maksim visited the brothers in Far East Siberia, he had boxes of books and Bibles sent to some of the prison colonies located in the surrounding territory. The two brothers who had been in prison were



I was blessed to finally meet my friend and fellow Kingdom servant Lori Jane (Laureen) in person. It was an honor to be a part of her journey and baptism. It was very refreshing to spend time with her discussing truth and ministry.

We were likely blessed to travel to the Atlanta area and spend time with the Restoration Fellowship team and fellowship with the local church. We even were able to help unload <u>Bibles</u> when they arrived!

Watch Lori's Baptism and Q&A

Many people have been impacted by this baptism and are now asking questions about re-baptism and about what was said that day. Pray that God would continue to use this video for His glory!



Vitali

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very blessed to know this was being done. We have added three brothers as a result of these books and Bibles being placed in various prisons.

The trip was special because all of these brothers were so blessed to meet at least one other brother in the faith for the first time.

Maksim's next stop was Tyumen. Brother Yusupom, a former Muslim, came from Tajikistan and was finally able to be baptized. Maksim spent time with him studying and discussing Muslim and Christian differences and how God is only one person.

Maksim explained more how people need to understand what God they are worshipping, and what kind of God they are bowing to before they can actually make a decision to submit to God.

After their time of fellowship, Yusupom returned home and then baptized the other two brothers, Shakhrom and Muhamed who could not leave the country.

Maksim returned to Novosibesk by train and spent 2 weeks in the hospital to get treatment for his head injury (concussion) since that hospital had specialists that could help. At the end of his treatment he was feeling better, but as a result of his hospital stay, he contracted COVID. He was hit hard and his lungs we affected. He spent 10 days being treated for it and another 10 days doing rehabilitation. **Please continue to pray for his health and complete healing!** Only after a week of returning home, Maksim is off visiting another brother and sister before the cold Siberian winter sets in.

Beware! Be Wise!

Please beware of people asking you to "partner" with them, or help buy Bibles or support children and orphanages. Sad as it is, many children do need help and people always need Bibles, but most of these people (often from India, Pakistan, and Africa) who "friend" you and then ask for money or support, are not the ones you should be supporting.

We have like-minded believers who need our support for their ministries and their lives, and they should be the first ones we invest our money in. But even in

that, we must be wise. Talk with those you know that are working in a field you want to support. They can often give insight as to how you can best support a particular mission field and help as many people as possible.

We have found that many people in third world countries have found that pleading for children, orphanages, or Bibles, can bring them money if they ask enough people. It may tug at our hearts, but we must act in wisdom.

In addition, caution must be taken even when sending money to our own fields. It can cause jealousy and many problems among the pastors and brethren, and even destroy ministries. Also, depending on the country, you might even jeopardize people's lives (literally or spiritually) or the church within the particular country if you wire money on your own accord. Wisdom and knowledge must be exercised.

Wise Stewardship & Questions to Ask

To be a good steward with what God has given us we must learn to ask the uncomfortable questions and we must say "no" more often than yes to online requests. Just in the last week I have had several requests to support various causes.

If I am being asked to partner with a church or organization, I will ask if they have a statement of faith. So far, every time it is trinitarian. When I tell them we are not, they say, "We don't care! You can still send us money." Other times to save time and energy, I just tell then I am sorry, but we cannot help. It feels "mean," but we must be honest and good stewards with our time and money that God has given us.

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