



Translating the Bible into Ukrainian

The Popchenko Family

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17

Dear Friends and Family in Christ Jesus,

November/December 2006 Prayer Letter

U
K
R
A
I
N
E

Happy New Year from the Popchenko's in Moscow! As we paused to review the past year, we were once again in awe of how God so perfectly provided for our needs, many of which were totally unforeseen. Your faithful prayers and support of this ministry are deeply appreciated and we regularly call upon the Lord to give you *"good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over..."* (Luke 6:38).

My next-to-the-last semester is over and at the time of this writing, I am getting ready for my exams: Syriac on January 10th, Hebrew (Proverbs) on the 12th, Hebrew (1 Samuel) on the 13th, Hebrew (the prophets) on the 17th and North-west Semitic Inscriptions on the 19th. In addition to these exams, I will also need to write a paper for my Religion of Ancient Israel class. For my Proverbs exam, besides being able to translate seven and a half chapters of the book without a dictionary and give grammatical and etymological commentary for problem texts, I will need to have over one hundred vocabulary words and 27 verses in Hebrew memorized. For my 1 Samuel exam, I will basically need to have six chapters memorized and be able to translate back to Hebrew any given portion of those chapters. The other three exams are similarly intense, so needless to say, it is going to be a very busy couple of weeks. Please pray for me.

Recently I gave a tract to a delivery man. He responded with, "Do you believe in GOD?!" "Why, of course!" I answered. "What do you mean 'of course'?" he retorted. "Does everybody believe in God nowadays?" "No," I admitted. "But I do. What about you?" "Well, you know, the Bible was written by men and it must have mistakes in it." "Have you read it?" "Yeah, and there were so many things that were hard to understand and seemed to contradict. I even went to a priest but he kept evading the issues." "Well, I'd be glad to talk to you sometime about your questions and I promise not to evade any issues." "Well, I have no time." "That's what everybody says when they want to avoid talking about God." "No, I really am busy!" "Well, if you ever have time, just give me a call and we can talk." He has not called yet but he did take the tract. Please pray for his salvation.

At Yurko's appointment with the orthopedist, the doctor was not satisfied with his progress, so she took us to a professor of orthopedics for further consultation, thinking that something more serious could be causing his problems. The professor confirmed the original diagnosis and treatment, saying that with some kids, recovery can take much longer. He also said that Yurko has weak ligaments in general, which are most manifest in his legs. So we will continue the massages and other procedures as scheduled.

Sashko was also examined by our orthopedist and this same professor. The professor said that Sashko has the same problem as Yurko: weak ligaments, which for him are most manifest in scoliotic posture

Continued on back...

Sponsoring Church:
Bible Baptist Church
2787 N. Beale Road
Marysville, CA 95901 USA

U.S. Correspondence address:
Yura and Wendy Popchenko
10607 Devonshire Circle
Penn Valley, CA 95946 USA

and flat-footedness. Massage, electro-therapy, orthopedic footwear, therapeutic gymnastics, and swimming have been prescribed and, praise the Lord, we were able to get Sashko signed up for all of these treatments at our local clinic. This similarity of the boys' conditions led both our doctor and the professor to suggest that it may be an inherited problem. We have been referred to a geneticist to either confirm or deny their suspicion. If it is confirmed, it will mean that the boys' problems can only be corrected up to a certain point; whereas if the weak ligaments are an acquired problem, then complete recovery is possible. If the former is true, both we and our doctors will know how long we should "torture" our kids with these procedures and when to stop, knowing that we have made as much progress as is humanly achievable. Thank you for keeping our boys in your prayers.

Wendy will be making a two-day trip to Ukraine in early February for Russian registration purposes. Please pray for safety in her travels and border crossings.

With prayers for God's blessings for each of you in 2007,
Yura, Wendy, Sashko and Yurko Popchenko