



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,

September/October 2006 Prayer Letter

U
K
R
A
I
N
E

Greetings in our Savior's Name from the Popchenko Family in Moscow! We hope that this letter finds you all rejoicing in the Lord and serving Him fervently.

It is always interesting to find extra-biblical written evidence of the events described in the Scriptures. The main source of this type of evidence from Palestine is inscriptions. In our inscriptions class, we read those inscriptions that have to do with the Bible. Over the past month, we have been reading the so-called "Inscription of Balaam". It was made on lime and for this reason was poorly preserved. From those parts that are readable, it is obvious that it contains a story and prophecy of Balaam, son of Beor, who is mentioned in Numbers 22-24. The significance of this may not be apparent to the average Bible believer, but if one takes into account the fact that the unbelieving academic world does not accept anything in the Bible as being historically accurate, such discoveries are important. While these finds do not convert the hardened, they can help those in doubt and provide 'ammunition' for Christians in academic circles.

Studies are going well, even though at the time of this writing I am sick for the 3rd time in 6 weeks. It all started back in September when my professor coughed through a whole class... by the next morning I was sick and have had 2 relapses. Due to fever, sinus infection, bronchial congestion, cough, etc., I have had to miss a lot of classes. Thankfully, a classmate of mine has been recording the lectures and lending me notes so I have been able to keep up with my class. However, I have hardly been able to work on my thesis. Please, please pray for God to strengthen my health.

Praise the Lord, Yurko's blood work came back showing that the rickets are indeed gone! On November 20th, we have an appointment with his orthopedist for further recommendations on treating his foot problem. We are hoping that with the rickets out of the way, we will see more rapid improvement. In other areas of development, Yurko seems to be doing just fine and, although not yet 2 1/2 years old, is jabbering away in three languages.

Sashko's stomach problem has been diagnosed as dysbacteriosis - an imbalance of good and bad bacteria, and he has finished the first part of his treatment. It seems to be helping: the last month Sashko has only complained a few times that his stomach hurt. Now another problem has come to our attention: Sashko is flatfooted, with his left heel (Achilles tendon) turning outward, affecting his motion. For years we noticed that Sashko was not fond of kicking balls like other children but before we understood his foot abnormality, we just assumed that he was not athletically inclined. This condition is apparently incurable, and if steps are not taken to keep it from getting worse, some other bone deformations could develop. At Yurko's orthopedist appointment, we plan to ask what can be done for Sashko's problem. Please pray that we would be able to find effective and reasonably priced treatment here in Moscow.

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

On a humorous note, in Sashko's Sunday school class, the children were learning a song from the book of Proverbs about the hardworking ant that 'works all day long and hates idleness and laziness'. The teacher wanted to make sure these preschoolers understood who the song was about, so she asked, "Now, who is the one that works all day long?" Sashko piped up, "That's my dad!"

So far we have not heard anything about a change in our apartment situation. Please continue to pray for us to be able to stay here until next July.

On September 30th, Wendy and I had our sixth wedding anniversary. We thank God for all He has done in our lives these years and pray that the Lord Who brought us together would be pleased to use us together in His service until He returns.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. These past two months in particular we have received special gifts that met some unforeseen needs. God continues to provide for all our needs through His people.

May the Lord bless each one of you abundantly.

In Christ Jesus,

Yura, Wendy, Sashko and Yurko Popchenko