

John & Jacky Taylor

December 2011

Dear praying friends,

At the bottom of our strategic planning document are the following words from James 4:13-15: “Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.””

We have been struck recently by the shortness of this life. I was at a conference in Irpin, Ukraine in November when the phone call came. Our dear pastor and friend, Pyotr (Peter) Rodoslavov had passed into eternity. Only days before, he had preached in our church and was feeling better than he had in months. The chemo was shrinking his tumor, and we had hoped for a miracle, but a ruptured vessel took his life.

As dozens spoke at the funeral of the influence Pyotr had had in their lives, it became obvious to me that Pyotr lived his life as if he knew he had only a few years to live. He made every moment count for eternity. What an example for us to follow. Who knows how many days we have left to serve our Master on this earth?

Praise God for:

- His direction and blessing in several events over the past couple of months:
 - o our annual CMI conference (Oct.12-14) – what an encouragement to hear what God is doing through our 15 Bible schools, and to see the commitment of these men to continue developing our programs
 - o the bi-annual conference of the EAAA (an association of evangelical schools in Eurasia) – the CMI has decided to pursue accreditation in the new year through this association
 - o a missions roundtable in Irpin, Ukraine (Nov.1-3) with national partners from several countries across Central & Eastern Europe to discuss missions movements
 - o the “Ukraine Connect” conference (Nov.10-13), which brought together all of our ABWE teammates in Ukraine
 - o an encouraging time for Jacky at a ladies’ conference in western Ukraine

- the launch of a ladies' small group in our home every Tuesday – pray for Jacky as she seeks to encourage and develop these ladies

Please pray for:

- John as he seeks to provide more leadership in our church “Hope for People” following the death of our senior pastor, as he leads a Sunday evening series on end times, and as he works with the youth leaders (our youth group has grown to about 50, most of whom are likely unbelievers)
- Jacky as she helps with an evangelistic day camp over the Christmas holidays (remember that Christmas is celebrated January 7th here in Ukraine)
- the completion of the registration process for our family – this process has been extremely complicated, and dragged on for months
- our CMI students, faculty, and administrators – pray for stamina, for changed lives, and that churches would be strengthened and leaders developed
- two CMI courses being offered at our Odessa training center in the new year – John will be teaching doctrine on Saturdays, and we are asking God to bring us some new emerging church leaders to enroll in our second level diploma program
- the sale of our old CMI property – if it will happen, it will likely be in the coming weeks
- an open house we are planning for our neighbors at the new training center in January – pray that God would use this new facility to present the Gospel to unbelievers

Thank you for your continuing prayers, and we wish you all a Happy New Year!

С Новым Годом!

John & Jacky, Jessica in Grand Rapids (19), Josh (18), & Joanna (14)

Training and assisting church planters in Ukraine

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