



Slavic Gospel Association

# Prayer & Praise

SHARING THE GOSPEL • EQUIPPING THE CHURCH • HELPING THE FORGOTTEN

*Please join us each day this month in prayer and praise for the work of Christ across Russian-speaking nations.*

## Scripture theme for May 2019:

*Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom (Luke 12:32).*

**1** We begin the new month with the song of King David . . . *Sing praise to the Lord, you His godly ones, and give thanks to His holy name. For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; Weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning (Psalm 30:4-5).*

**2** Please intercede for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors as they conduct follow-up ministry after last month's Easter outreaches. We are praying that many will repent and receive the Lord as they hear of His great love through Christ.

**3** Lift up SGA's leadership team—President Michael Johnson, along with Beverly Braunsky, our chief financial officer, and Eric Mock, who serves as vice president of ministry operations. Ask the Lord to grant them wisdom as they oversee our mission's work.

**4** Remember evangelical churches across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as they finalize plans for summer camp ministry, which begins next month. Pray for the hearts of the children even now as they are invited to come.

**5** We praise and thank the Lord for the opportunity to provide Russian-language Bibles and doctrinally sound Christian books for evangelism and discipleship in the CIS. Pray with us for God's wisdom as future literature projects are considered.

## RUSSIA



**6** Intercede for the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* teams across Russia. While most of the teams still have access to local orphanages, the anti-missionary law passed in 2016 has had some impacts. Pray for continued freedom and access to share Christ's love with these lonely, forgotten children.

**7** We thank God for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB), and his leadership team. Pray for continued wisdom and resources as they lead with dedication and zeal for the Gospel.

**8** Pray for the staff at SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC), led by Valery Kazakov. Our RMCs in Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine are vitally important to our mission of serving and equipping evangelical churches in the CIS.

**9** Currently, SGA sponsors 145 missionary pastors in Russia. With thousands of miles of unreached territory where no Bible-preaching churches exist, ask God to raise up many more faithful men to serve.

**10** Lift up Vitaly Zanin, who serves as national youth director for the Russian UECB. Intercede for him and his fellow youth leaders as they encourage believing youth in evangelism and discipleship.

## UKRAINE



**11** We thank God for director Ruslan Muratayev and the staff of SGA's Kiev RMC. Their servant ministry is a great encouragement for Ukrainian evangelical churches in these challenging days.

**12** Pray for the faculty and students at the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary as they break during the summer from their regular academic studies. Pray especially for the students who will



be doing summer practicums as additional learning experiences.

**13** We praise God for last year's graduation of SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Andrei Kalinin from Irpen Biblical Seminary with a B.A. degree in biblical studies. Pray with us that Andrei will continue to be a blessing to his church as he preaches and teaches through God's inerrant Word.

**14** Ask for God's ongoing provision as evangelical churches in Ukraine reach out to needy families through SGA-sponsored compassion ministry. A gift of food frequently opens the door for the Gospel!

**15** Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. Pray also for regional pastors who serve across Ukraine's 24 oblasts, asking God to strengthen them and encourage their hearts.

## BELARUS



**16** While there have been encouraging signs of lessening pressure on evangelical churches in Belarus, SGA will continue to be very cautious in our reporting on ministry there. Ask for God's ongoing wisdom as we strive to protect the churches and SGA-sponsored missionary pastors.

**17** Pray for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarussian UECB, as he oversees Minsk Theological Seminary in addition to his leadership responsibilities in the Baptist Union.

**18** Lift up director Piotr Podrez and his staff at SGA's Minsk RMC. We praise and thank the Lord for their tireless service to evangelical churches and missionary pastors across Belarus.

**19** Please intercede for Pastor Pavel and his ongoing ministry to orphans in the Grodno region. Pavel's outreaches have borne much fruit through the years, and we praise God for the opportunities he continues to receive to share the Gospel with orphan boys and girls.



**20** Continue to remember the Little Pearl (Zhemchuzhinka) Diagnostic Camp in Kobrin as they prepare to enter another summer season of camp and ministry, as well as medical evaluation. Especially pray for much-needed funding to keep this important camp operational.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**21** Former Soviet republics in the Caucasus region include Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia, as well as several Muslim-dominated regions in southern

Russia. Please pray for the evangelical churches there, as this region can be very difficult—even dangerous—for ministry.

**22** Please intercede for workers in children's ministries and outreaches in the Central Asian countries as summer approaches. Camp ministries in these nations must be conducted very discreetly because of opposition to evangelical churches.

**23** Continue to lift Vladimir, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in Central Asia, in prayer as he recovers from a serious fall some months ago that will require ongoing rehab. May the Lord grant him speedy healing and enable him to resume his ministry soon.

**24** Pray for the students at Israel College of the Bible as they finish the spring school term. We are thankful to God for the opportunity to help these students and Russian-speaking congregations in Israel with study helps and other materials.

**25** In Tajikistan, Pastor Vadim faithfully visits families for evangelism and discipleship on a regular basis. Please lift him and his congregation in prayer today, asking for God's continued provision and protection in a nation where churches are under oppression.

**26** Please pray today for Donna Brooks, Joell Tanner, and Cindy Snyder in SGA's accounting department. Under the leadership of our chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky, our accounting team works diligently to serve SGA partners with attentiveness and accuracy.

**27** Lift up Bill Ball, director of SGA/Canada, and Sue Petten, his assistant. May God bring many more Canadian evangelical churches into partnership to seize the many Gospel opportunities that exist across the CIS.

**28** We thank and praise God for SGA's senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk. Ask the Lord to bless them with health and strength, and many more opportunities to share the love of Christ with the lost.

**29** Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors who visit prisons and share the Gospel with those serving time. Many

inmates have come to know Christ and have even begun churches behind prison walls!

**30** Continue to intercede for the SGA-sponsored *Reach Russia Now* initiative, and especially the development of plans to reach isolated villages that are only accessible by air. Ask for the Lord's guidance and provision in this area.

**31 Reflection:** We close May with a wonderful reminder of what a treasure God's Word is for all who believe . . . *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope* (Romans 15:4).

## Partner Prayer Requests

<i>Pray for the repentance of my daughters . . .</i>	Atlanta, GA
<i>I am facing numerous health issues . . .</i>	Salem, OR
<i>For wisdom and direction in a dear friend's life . . .</i>	Thousand Oaks, CA
<i>Pray for God's blessing in my new home . . .</i>	Devon, PA
<i>Our daughter is battling cancer . . .</i>	Big Lake, MN

**The SGA staff is honored to bring your request to the Lord.  
We thank you for the opportunity to serve you in this way.**



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