



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 of the Month:

*But let all who take refuge in You be glad, let them ever sing for joy; and may You shelter them, that those who love Your name may exult in You (Psalm 5:11).*

**1 Reflection:** We begin the new month pondering the wonderful Messianic prophecy of Zechariah . . . *Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation (Zechariah 9:9).*

**2** Pray for SGA's president, Michael Johnson, as he maintains a heavy travel schedule and leads our mission in serving evangelical churches across Russia and her neighboring countries. May the Lord enable him to be a blessing and encouragement to our partners as he shares what God is doing in advancing the Gospel.

**3** Remember Bill Ball, director of SGA/Canada, in prayer this month as he and his team continue to share the great ministry opportunities that exist in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Pray that many more churches and individual partners will get involved!

**4** While the majority of *Immanuel's Child* Christmas outreaches will be held on Russian Christmas January 7, a growing number are also celebrating

December 25. Pray in advance of the ministries that will take place, especially for the children who will hear the Gospel.

**5** With winter weather already grasping many parts of the CIS, pray for SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry. Ask for God's increased provision for food, clothing, and other urgent needs that will be addressed by the churches we serve.

## UKRAINE



**6** Despite occasional news stories about progress in settling the violent conflict in eastern Ukraine, fighting continues between the government and separatists in the



region. Pray for the protection of SGA-sponsored missionary pastors as they travel into this dangerous zone to distribute humanitarian aid to affected individuals and families.

**7** Join SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Yevgeny Taran and his congregation in praising God for the completion of their new church building. Continue to lift them in prayer as they minister in their community in addition to outreach in the dangerous conflict zone.

**8** Please remember SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) staff in prayer. May the Lord enable them to continue to be examples of Christ's love in these challenging days.

**9** Intercede for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary, led by Dr. Igor Yaremchuk. We are thankful to God for the impact these schools and their graduates are having for the sake of the Gospel.

**10** Please pray for SGA's Sergei Omelchenko, in-country assistant to SGA president Michael Johnson and our senior Russian-language book editor. Ask for God's constant blessing and enabling with Sergei's significant workload.

## BELARUS



**11** Please pray for Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. We praise and thank the Lord for their love and their diligent service to Christ. May He provide for their individual needs as well as for their fruitful ministries.

**12** Pastor Leonid Mihovich is the president of the Belarussian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB), in addition to leading the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. May the Lord grant Leonid his ongoing blessing and direction in the midst of his many responsibilities.

**13** Through SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry, needy families across Belarus are receiving food and Christian literature thanks to generous SGA donors. Pray for increased resources, especially with the long winter ahead.

**14** We thank the Lord for the fruitful youth ministry program at Golgotha Baptist Church in Minsk. Dima Podrez and the young people are a vital part of the church's outreach, especially in encouraging small rural villages where ministry can be difficult.

**15** Pray today for Pavel C, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor laboring in the Grodno region of Belarus. Pavel has wonderful opportunities to reach children and youth with the Gospel, and is looking forward to Christmas ministries in only a few short weeks.

## RUSSIA



**16** Please pray for SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* workers across Russia today. Pray especially for increased access to more orphanages, as thousands of lonely, forgotten children need to hear of Christ's love.

**17** Lift Pastor Eugene Bakhmutsky in prayer as he pastors the growing Russian Bible Church in Moscow. Opportunities for the Gospel in Russia's enormous capital abound, and we are thankful to God for the impact Eugene's church is having today.

**18** We thank God for the solid, biblical teaching of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary. Please lift seminary president Eduard Genrikh and the faculty in prayer, as well as the students, as they study God's Word together.

**19** Lift SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Sergei Nekrasov in prayer as he conducts street evangelism in Russia's important Nizhny Novgorod region. Also pray for his fruitful youth and children's ministries.

**20** Pray for director Valery Kazakov and the staff of SGA's Moscow RMC. May the Lord bless and encourage their hearts as they selflessly serve the cause of Christ and the faithful churches He is building across Russia.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**21** We praise our God and Father for the opportunities He is granting SGA to help Russian-speaking congregations in Israel through partnership with Israel College of the Bible. Please pray regularly for the school's students and leadership.



**22** In Central Asian nations, Islam is the dominant religion and pressure on evangelical churches is increasing. Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors and churches in these nations, asking the Lord to protect and empower their ministry.

**23** As Christmas and the new year draw closer, please remember to intercede for *Immanuel's Child* ministries in Central Asia and the Caucasus. Many of these ministries must be conducted discreetly due to opposition.

**24** The SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute is a vitally important center of biblical and theological training in Central Asia. Ask for God's ongoing provision for—and protection of—this school as pressure on evangelical churches continues to grow.

**25 Christmas Day (Western):** *Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name "Immanuel," which translated means, "God with us." (Matthew 1:23). Join us in praise and worship today, as we thank God for the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ. As the joyful hymn proclaims, Hallelujah, what a Savior!*

**26** Please lift SGA's senior missionaries in prayer today. We are so thankful to the Lord for Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Florence

Daneliuk, and Andrew Semenchuk as they continue in active ministry.

**27** Pray for SGA's leadership team consisting of our president, Michael Johnson, as well as chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky and Eric Mock, our vice president of ministry operations. May God grant them continual wisdom and direction as they guide our ministries day to day.

**28** Provision of Russian-language Bibles and Christian literature continues to be an important part of our service to evangelical churches across the CIS. Pray especially for adequate supplies of Christian children's literature as the *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministries take place.

**29** Remember SGA's international offices in prayer today—the

United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Pray for God's increased provision and partnership with evangelical churches to advance the Gospel in Slavic lands.

**30** Cults and false teachers continue their efforts to deceive many across the CIS. Pray that God will restrain the enemy's efforts to undermine the churches, and that He will grant discernment to pastors as they shepherd their flocks.

**31 Reflection:** We close December with this wonderful reminder from James, the Lord's brother . . . *Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variance or shifting shadow* (James 1:17).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*My husband is battling cancer and the meds are so expensive . . .*

Palmer, Alaska

*For the repentance of loved ones . . .*

Fort Wayne, Indiana

*Pray for our church as we go through changes . . .*

Fort Ashby, West Virginia

*I need ongoing wisdom and direction . . .*

San Antonio, Texas

**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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