



SHARING THE GOSPEL ♦ EQUIPPING THE CHURCH  
HELPING THE FORGOTTEN

## **Michael Johnson, President Slavic Gospel Association**



**Michael Johnson** is president of Slavic Gospel Association (SGA), a nearly 90-year-old ministry that partners with hundreds of missionaries and more than 6,000 evangelical churches across Russia and the former Soviet Union. This extensive grassroots network gives SGA unparalleled access to real-time, on-the-ground data – allowing crucial aid to be distributed to the exact point of need.

In his late teens, Johnson committed his life to Christ at a meeting of the Christian Business Men’s Connection (CBMC) in California. He went on to study at a Bible institute before launching into a fast-paced career as an advertising executive in New York City, working with top-tier clients including Procter and Gamble, Johnson and Johnson, and Scott Paper Company - while staying closely involved with CBMC, a movement that began supporting the ministry of SGA in its earliest days.

When Johnson was offered the position of Vice President of Advancement at SGA - with the challenge of developing new ministry initiatives in the former Soviet bloc - the NYC high-flyer jumped at the opportunity. He spearheaded new church planting and evangelism ministries, as well as programs helping Russia’s unwanted children and orphans – today numbering more than 700,000, equal to the population of Seattle – with many crammed into under-funded, bleak orphanages without hope of a future.

Johnson was also instrumental in jump-starting compassionate aid and evangelical church-centered Gospel ministries to victims of Ukraine’s Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster.

After a 14-year hiatus as a consultant to other faith-based nonprofits, and with the encouragement of his wife, Erin, Johnson returned to lead SGA as its new president in 2017, following the retirement of former president Dr. Robert Provost. Since taking the helm of SGA, Johnson has prioritized expanding the mission’s partnerships with local evangelical churches and pastors across the former Soviet bloc - a vast region of 290 million people stretching more than 4,000 miles from Eastern Europe to the Bering Strait off the coast of Alaska.

He travels extensively in the former Soviet world and Israel, where SGA helps Russian-speaking congregations. Johnson is a sought-after speaker, featured at the National Religious Broadcasters, Christian Leadership Alliance, Association of Gospel Rescue Missions, and other conferences and churches.