

Scripture theme for August 2016

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).

Join us each day this month in prayer and praise for the work of Christ in the lands of Russia.

1 Reflection: As August begins, let us join the prophet Jeremiah's praise to God... There is none like You, O Lord; You are great, and great is Your name in might. Who would not fear You, O King of the nations (Jeremiah 10:6-7).

2 Continue to lift up in prayer Dr.
Bob Provost as he directs SGA's ministries in the US and across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). May the Lord grant Bob continued health and strength, and to make him a blessing to the churches we serve.

Pray for Bill Ball, director of SGA/ Canada, as he works on building partnerships between Canadian evangelical churches and congregations in the CIS. Ask the Lord for increased resources for their ministries.

4 SGA-sponsored summer camps across Russia and her neighboring countries are winding down this month. Pray for follow-up ministry that will take place afterwards with the children. May many come to a saving knowledge of Christ, as well as their families.

5 Please lift up SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry and the pastors in the CIS that oversee the distribution of tons of food and evangelistic ministry. Pray for increased resources for food and other humanitarian aid as the harsh winter months draw near.

Ukraine

6 Pray for the staff of SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC), led by Ruslan Muratayev. With Crisis Evangelism activity and summer children's camps ongoing, these are very busy, yet joyful, days for our RMC team. We are thankful for their diligent service to Christ.

Please continue to pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Valery carries a heavy travel and ministry schedule, and along with his fellow pastors, has a deep burden to see his nation won to Christ.

Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Anatoly Andreev as he faithfully labors in a rural Ukrainian village where economic challenges are many. Ask God to grant Anatoly strength as he perseveres for the sake of the Gospel.

Praise God for fruitful ministry taking place across Ukraine as part of summer practicum assignments for students at SGA-sponsored seminaries and Bible institutes. From evangelism to summer camps and other children's ministries, the Gospel is being proclaimed even as students gain valuable ministry experience.

10 Lift Dr. Igor Yaremchuk, president of Irpen Biblical Seminary, in prayer today. In addition to his teaching and leadership responsibilities, Igor is a gifted

evangelist with a powerful testimony stemming from his time as a pilot in the former Soviet Union's air force.

Russia

11 Intercede in prayer for Valery Kazakov, director of SGA's Moscow RMC, and his faithful staff as they faithfully serve Christ in Russia's capital and beyond.

12 Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors that are holding summer evangelistic events in their regions across Russia. Pray for a great spiritual harvest as they share the Gospel and minister to those who are needing to hear of Christ's great love for them.

13 We are thankful to God for the fruitful outreach of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary, located in the heart of Siberia. Pray for seminary president Eduard Genrikh as he and Novosibirsk professors train and send out students to be lights for Christ where God plants them.

14 Pray for Pastor Vlad Treskin, who leads youth ministry across Russia. It is exciting to see young people on fire for Christ, and actively serving in their local churches.

15 Russian evangelical churches continue to face determined opposition in many regions. Join us in the prayer that the believers lifted up in the early church . . . And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and

grant that Your bondservants may speak Your Word with all confidence (Acts 4:29).

Belarus

16 Please pray today for Piotr and Dima Podrez, and the rest of our team at SGA's Minsk RMC. May the Lord encourage their hearts and bless their labors in serving the Bible-preaching churches of Belarus.

17 Intercede for the students of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary as they delve together into the great truths of Scripture. Pray that God's Word will be planted deep in their hearts, and prepare their way for lifetimes of service to Christ.

18 Dr. Viktor Krutko is president of the Belarussian UECB.
Please lift him in prayer today, along with the regional pastors who oversee local churches in Belarus.

19 Belarus is divided into six regions called oblasts (states), with the capital of Minsk in its own district. Lift up the faithful missionary pastors faithfully serving in the small towns and villages, asking the Lord to add to their number daily (Acts 5:14).

20 Intercede for the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry across Belarus and the other nations of the CIS. We pray that many of these neediest children will be drawn to saving faith as the OR teams spend time with them and share Christ's love.

Central Asia, Caucasus, and Israel

21 Please pray for Alexander Karyakov, director of the SGAsponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. We are very thankful for this strategic Bible school, located in the heart of Central Asia where opposition to the Gospel is strong.

2 Poverty is an enormous problem across Central Asia and the nations of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan. Ask the Lord for the ongoing resources needed to equip the churches to provide humanitarian aid, which frequently opens doors for Gospel witness.

Please continue to pray for SGA's partnership with Israel College of the Bible to develop more Bible training opportunities for Russian-speaking Jewish believers. We are so grateful to God to be a part of blessing our brothers and sisters there!

24 SGA partners have enabled us to support Bible institute training opportunities for students in Tajikistan. Join us in asking the Lord to open even more doors across Central Asia to train more servants of Christ for fruitful ministry.

The Russian regions of Dagestan, Chechnya, Ingushetia, and Kabardino-Balkaria are located in the Caucasus Mountains, and due to Islam's

influence, can be very difficult for ministry. Intercede for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors as they labor there.

Please pray in advance for SGA-sponsored *Immanuel's Child*Christmas ministries across the CIS—most of which will take place January
7—Russian Christmas. Pray that many churches get involved and that many children would be reached!

Please pray for the ministry support staff at SGA's headquarters in Loves Park, Illinois. Their work goes on behind the scenes, yet is vitally important to our mission's purpose of serving the Bible-preaching churches across the CIS.

Pray for SGA's board of directors and leadership team today. May the Lord grant them, along with SGA president Bob Provost, great wisdom as they chart our mission's ministry course

in the days ahead.

29 We praise God for our active senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk. Please pray for continued strength and good health as they continue to serve Christ and share the Gospel in every opportunity He grants.

30 Pray for the leadership and staff of SGA's international offices in New Zealand, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Pray that God will increase their resources and partnering churches to keep advancing the Gospel in the CIS and Eastern Europe.

Reflection: We conclude with King David's praise of our God and Father... How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings (Psalm 36:7).

Partner Prayer Requests

My son is terminally ill and needs the Lord . . .

Wheeling, West Virginia

Pray for our college students for open hearts to seek God . . .

Orangeville, Illinois

I am having serious financial challenges . . . please pray . . .

Tualatin, Oregon

For healing from Lyme Disease . . . family issues . . .

East Greenbush, New York

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



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