

## Mahon Lithuania - Belarus - Ukraine - Russia - Japan Dispatch #11 04.16.10 A Peek Into Our Week...

### Message of the week: Witnessing - Back To The Basics

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- VII. Prayer Requests: As you pray please allow the accompanying passage from the Word of God to guide your prayers  
*John 15:7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."*
  - A. Ask God to bless the ministry of the Word  
*Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.*
  - B. Call upon the Lord to raise up faithful men in the church in Tyumen  
*2 Timothy 2:2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*
  - C. Pray for the women in the church who have unbelieving husbands, ask that the witness of their lives would impact their husbands for Christ.  
*1 Peter 3:1-2 In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.*

**D. Pray for the men of the church, that they would be faithful in presenting the gospel at work, at home and as they go about their daily lives**

*2 Timothy 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.*

**E. Petition the Lord of the harvest to continue to bless this ministry materially that we might in turn bless His church and His people on foreign fields.**

*2 Corinthians 9:10 Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;*

Dear Prayer Warriors,

### **In Our Apartment**

It is sunny today but snowed off and on all day yesterday so it is Spring Time In Siberia. God is blessing though and I can feel the power of your prayers as we minister the Word of God. El just came into the kitchen where I work to mention how nice it is that the apartment comes with a small washing machine. She has been washing our clothes by hand in the bathtub and the sink (which is pretty much standard procedure when we are on the mission field) so this is a welcome change. I thought I would use this dispatch to give you a "peek" into our lives here in Tyumen...



**Springtime In Siberia**

**Here I am doing Bible study (Just finished with my Prayer Notebook to my left)**



**GCI Mobile Office: El likes to use the fold out couch which is also our bed because she can spread the work out...**

### **100 Question With Pastor Ravil**

One of the high points of the week is when we meet with Pastor Ravil and Julia. He brings his questions and I bring my Bible. My first visit some five years ago is still clear in my mind. I was standing in the parking lot of the airport, pitch dark, snow swirling all around and Pastor Ravil giving me a good Russian bear hug and proclaiming, "Welcome Pastor John, I have 100 questions." Which he did, all written down and waiting. This has been a tradition which we have maintained over the years.

### **Mid-week Bible study**

Mid-week Bible study is an exciting time. First those who are earning Bibles either submit their Prayer Workbooks for Pastor Ravil to inspect or they quote Romans Chapter Eight. Next we have a stimulating time of Bible study. I am thrilled to see Bibles out with pen and paper taking notes. The members of Pastor Ravil's church are serious about the Word of God because they have a serious Pastor. I praise God for the privilege of ministering in a man's church who has high standards not only for himself but also for his flock.



### El's Ladies Study

One of the highlights of the week for Eleanor is the ladies Bible study and prayer night. Eleanor generally puts a full day of study into her presentation and has lots of hands on application activities for the ladies. I praise God for such a godly wife who not only models the Christian life for women but also teaches it.



### One on One Appointments

*Acts 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.*

*Acts 20:20-21 how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.*



Karil Manages An Automotive Store In Tyumen

As I type this I am waiting for Pastor Ravil to pick me up for our Friday afternoon ministry appointments. In Russia Most Pastors make visits with sick, elderly and weak. One my goals in this trip is to teach by modeling the disciplining of the strong . We are using Fridays to visit with key young men in the church at their place of work

for lunch. It has always been my habit to meet with men for breakfast and lunch for discipleship training and Bible study. I mentioned to Pastor Ravil that I once had a man in a church where I pastored tell me that he had been a member and a deacon in the church for 20 years but he had never had a pastor come to his place of work to pray with him and minister the Word of God to him. Well guess what, one of the men we met with made a very similar statement so Pastor Ravil is hooked.



Lunch, Fellowship, Bible Study and Prayer - 45 Minutes Spent Building Into The Life Of A Man



II Timothy 2:2 In Action

Many churches have women whose husbands do not attend. Pastor Ravil shared with me this problem so I suggested that we go out and lead them to Christ. In addition to our discipleship appointments we have asked all the women in the church whose husbands do not come to church to have us over for dinner or tea. This has been a great hit and the men have appreciated our willingness to come to them.

In my reading program this morning I came across John 11:25 & 26

*Jesus said to her, " I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"*

Notice the final question. So many people talk about Christ and around Christ but never ask "The Question". Jesus did and we should. When was the last time you asked someone the question, "Would you like to pray now to receive Christ as your Lord and your Savior?". We will be asking the question regularly this week. I continually exhort women not to slander their husband's at the ladies prayer meetings but the other side of this is to constantly exhort the men to go into these homes, present the gospel and ask the question. It takes both:

**Wives who practice I Peter 3:1**

**And men in the church who practice Acts 5:42**

When people tell me that they do not do home evangelistic calls I always smile politely and as gently as I can ask that they please get out of the way.

### **Boys Youth Bible Study and Sports - raising up the next generation of men**

Pastor Ravil recognizes the need for a strong generation of men in the church. He invests heavily in the lives of the young men in his congregation. Another indication of this is the High School Boys Bible study and sports time on Saturday. This brings back great memories of my own Saturday morning Bible study and sports when in the collegiate ministry.

Do you want men in your church? Well I have always found this combination to be true -

1. Evangelize men
2. Do a man's Bible study
3. Play a man's game

I close this e-mail as always with a deep and abiding thankfulness for your sacrificial and effectual prayers which empower and drive this ministry ever forward in the cause of Christ.

By His mercy,

II Corinthians 4:1

Rev. John S. Mahon

Grace Community Int. -

Please allow me to close with dispatch with a hymn from my prayer notebook that has been especially meaningful to me...

*(Psalms 104:33-34 "I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.")*

**All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name**

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all;  
Bring for the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all!

*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall;  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all;  
Hail Him who saves you by his grace and crown Him Lord of all.*

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all;  
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all.

*O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him Lord of all';  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all.*

**(Words: Edward Perronet 1726-1792 Perronet, son of an Anglican minister, descended from French Huguenots who fled the continent to escape religious persecution. For a time, Perronet was a co-worker of [John](#) and [Charles Wesley](#). John Wesley was always trying to get him to preach, but Perronet, though capable, was somewhat in awe of Wesley, and always deferred to him. Any time John Wesley was present, Perronet felt Wesley should do the preaching. But John Wesley was not one to take “no” for an answer. So, one day, in the middle of a meeting, he simply announced, “Brother Perronet will now speak.” Thinking quickly, Perronet stood before the large crowd and declared, “I will now deliver the greatest sermon ever preached on earth” (you can imagine he got everyone’s attention). He then read the Sermon on the Mount, and sat down.)**