

# RUSSIAN MISSIONS

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Serving Christ in Russia since 1996

## **THE PLASTERS**



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## **OVER THE TOP**

Thursday, October 7, I was so excited because I had produced two more Bible lessons in the series that I am writing for evangelism purposes. This would be the first day that I could be on the street with new material. My friend Larry Moon and I went to a very high foot traffic area near the "Vasileostrovskaya" subway station and got to work.

We weren't there thirty minutes before a lady walks up, extends her hand and I give her a tract. Standing right in front of me she then makes several attempts to rip it in half, but can't. I reached out to take the tract from her, but she fell into me, (she was a little bit drunk) and started screaming that I hit her.

At this point she starts cussing me. I've been cussed before, but this lady would not stop (some thirty minutes) until she was absolutely certain that I was insulted and humiliated. Her language was "over the top."

Two male college students were so impressed by her cussing me that they videoed almost the entire episode. They kept telling her she must be a heroin addict because no one in his right mind acts like that. She swore she had never used heroin, but they didn't believe her.

She looked like, but was not as filthy as a homeless person, was polishing off a two-liter bottle of beer, and had on a pair of glasses that were bent and the left lens was missing. Someone had definitely beaten her, but not me. Her wispy thin hair was well past her shoulders, but her entire scalp was visible. She was seriously balding.

Larry did his best to come to my rescue, but it just made things worse. I couldn't leave because then it would seem to everyone watching that I had hit her. So I endured.

Needless to say it was a rough day.

## **IN THE PULPIT, (SUNDAY OCTOBER 10TH)**

While preaching I often tell stories about events on the street that happened the previous week. I was telling the story about this lady cussing me and a young man that I had never seen before, a first time visitor, stands up and grunts loudly. I looked at him and asked, "Do you have something you want to say?" He said yes and came forward, stood behind the pulpit, pulled out one of my tracts and read a portion about a sinless man. Then he demanded that I identify this "sinless man."

I identified that sinless man to be Jesus Christ. Then I asked him if he was sinless, and he said he wasn't. But I took him through the law to make sure he knew just how sinful he was and his personal need for that "sinless man."

He then wanted to take up more of my time but I told him to go sit down and let me finish, and if the people wanted they could listen to him after the service.

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After the service this young man named Timothy tells us he was the head of an organization entitled Youth Against Heretics. Then he declares that we are heretics and the people in the audience schooled that young man and showed him he did not know what he was talking about. I was so proud of my church members.

After Worship services we always have tea and I invited him to join us, but he refused. A couple of members went outside to talk with him further. After I visited around and drank a cup of coffee I stepped outside, interrupted the ongoing conversation and asked Timothy if he had a Bible. He said he did once but gave it away. I said, "I have big Bibles, little Bibles, medium sized Bibles, and pocket sized New Testaments. Tell me which one you want and I will give it to you now." He said he didn't want one. I pressed on saying he had to have a Bible and he continued to refuse. He would not take a Bible.

I then said, "Timothy, I do not understand." He, in all his arrogance said, "What do you not understand?" I answered, "I don't understand how you will know if I speak the truth if you don't have a Bible to prove that I am wrong." He promised to come back the following Sunday but has not returned.

My congregation complimented me on how gentle I was with this 16 year old.

### **IN THE OFFICE AND THE POST OFFICE**



The first week of November we were privileged to have Mike Withem, our sponsoring Pastor with us. We certainly enjoyed his visit. While here he helped prepare 2000 tracts entitled "Are You An Intelligent Person? Test Yourself."

On Friday November 5th I mailed tracts to the Ukraine and Moldova—some 1100 per country. The entire process took more than an hour. Bro Mike was with me and seemingly fascinated by all the steps necessary to

mail a package.

As we were waiting for the teller to return, a lady inside the window asked me where the teller was, and I shrugged showing I didn't know.

When the teller came she hollers out the window at me asking why I started a scandal against her. Honestly, I was standing with Mike the whole time and did nothing to cause a conflict among the workers there. She rang up my cost and I gladly paid and left. Later when I checked the receipts, I realized she had over-charged me 500 rubles, 17 dollars, for my part in the scandal.



**The tracts after they have been covered with clothe and sewn closed, sealed with wax stamps, weighed and ready to mail.**

### **ON THE STREET**

Larry Moon and I were on Nevskii Prospect handing out tracts and Bible lessons. Two teenage boys came by and got Bible lessons from me, but noticed they didn't get the same ones. They returned and said they wanted all that were available. I gave them each a set of five Bible lessons and they left.

Two weeks later Larry and I are in the same place and these gentlemen stop to talk. One says, "I have the entire series with me" and pulls them out of his coat pocket and shows them to me. I was impressed but his friend said to him, "I have six of the lessons." They begin to argue about whether there are five or six. Then the one with five looks to me and I point to Larry and say, "He has the sixth one your friend is talking about."

This young man immediately goes to Larry for the sixth and he and his friend leave reading the tract.

### **THANK YOU**

It seems so inadequate. You have supported this ministry with your prayers and finances for a very long time. Needless to say I am so extremely grateful that God has made us "laborers together" with Him. My hope and prayer is that He will bless you for your great kindness to Tammy and me. Your friend, Kevin