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**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2009 3:51 AM

**Subject:** Back in Ukraine!

## **BACK IN UKRAINE!**

Yes, we are back in Ukraine and still trying to pull soul and body together. This is the first day I have gotten email operational (our internet service was discontinued while we were gone, but as usual there were complications in getting it going again).

### **PRAISE:**

- ▶ We had a wonderful time on our trip. I can't think of anything that could have gone better. People were so gracious and helpful. Weather was perfect. The car chugged along faithfully. And we have beautiful, beautiful memories from the time in the Rockies and time with our sons including some of God's awesome creation there too.
- ▶ We also stopped in Oxford, England for a few days on our return and got to meet old friends and make some new friends. Again, everyone was so gracious and it was an uplifting time.

### **PRAYER:**

- ▶ Abe will be speaking on Thursday the 15th in a conference in Kiev to a group of 350+ pastors. He has spent many "anxious" hours working on his lectures. He is the speaker for that day and will have 5 or 6 hours to share on the topic of relationships.
  - Pray for God's hand upon Abe as he shares with these men of God.
  - Pray for Kostya God's hand on his translator for health, strength and clarity of mind. Esp. in light of the fact that Kostya's wife has been laid up for over a week with a back problem and Kostya has been "filling in" her position as well as his own work.
  - Pray that the lectures will be well received and that these men will be both encouraged and challenged. Probably Abe's most critical concern is their developing the ability to bridge the generation gap meeting the needs of the youth so that the church will be revitalized.
  
- ▶ Abe needs a new Russian visa. He has not had difficulty before but knowing there are ongoing changes it is an issue of concern. It would certainly change the dynamics of the ministry if he was unable to get one. It will be submitted this week.
  
- ▶ Speaking for myself, I have ongoing concerns as I do not seem to be able to cope emotionally with my workload. Pray that God will help me to see clearly, to maintain balance and to find long term solutions. Right now I have accumulated over 300 emails to do "something" with, even if it is filing or deleting. I have the ongoing pressure of the course work which I need to resume. And as I look at my desk today I see multitudes of details that need to be addressed. The break this summer was excellent, but unfortunately in my case the workload continues to grow in my absence. I think I need to make a jump to a new level of faith and trust at this point. My heart is willing but my mind hasn't gotten there. Meanwhile I seek to do what I can. Abe is trying to make himself available to me on a personal level all he can but again, because of our long absence, he also has many details.

While in Oxford I saw an article that was titled "The Godness of Good". It fit well with my

thoughts. God is good, but we often get caught up in our personal definitions of good, and then question His goodness. God has been tremendously good to us. Life is full of trouble and problems. I'm glad I belong to God. I told a newfound friend that several years ago I prayed and asked God to purify me—at all costs—and I refuse to take that request back, simply because I want whatever God wants, and don't want to hold back with any reservations.

**May HIS Kingdom come, HIS will be done.**