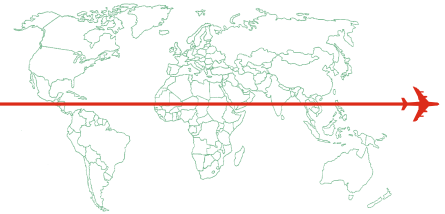




Lifeline

...a prayer letter from John and Jackie

November 30, 2004



Dear friends,
Jackie and I greet you once again in the name of Jesus, and want to express our appreciation to you for your prayer and support of us and of the Churches of Praise.

I have just returned from a successful time in Ukraine. The main event was a three day pastors conference combined with the celebration of the 11th birthday of the Churches of Praise. Added to that was teaching in the Bible College and in the Mission College. It was a privilege to have Jim Kaseman with me, who was the keynote speaker at the conference. His teaching was clear, anointed, and received with much enthusiasm. Jim taught on foundational topics, such as the blood covenant, training our spirit man, and living by faith. He nailed down important truths, and I knew the foundation of the leaders was strengthened as he ministered. Thanks for praying for us!

I came home a little early, due to the unpredictability of the election crisis in Ukraine. I did not want to be delayed on my return, since Jackie was scheduled to have surgery right after my planned return. Predictions of transportation strikes, etc., made Jackie and our children quite concerned about possible travel delays. I had to make a decision in the middle of the night to take the only seat available on KLM earlier than I had planned. I had to pack up in an hour and leave at 4 a.m. in a snowstorm for Kiev. Once in the air, my travel was uneventful.

Jackie has done quite well recovering from her foot surgery. Though limited in her activity, pain has been minimal, glory to God! Sometimes, however, even with a severely restricted diet, she has gall bladder pain. The stones and all will be removed Dec. 2, finally!

The work of the Churches of Praise is continuing strong. People are being saved in many places, and new churches continue to be planted. Not every church plant is successful, however, and some new works have had to be closed – at least for now.

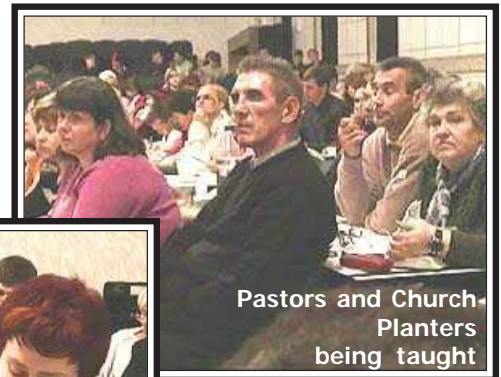


Main Church on Nov. 21

Difficulties with city officials, church planters trying to do too much at once, new believers not ready for leadership...such things can sometimes cause setbacks. Yet, there are now 567 Churches of Praise! (most very small, but each in a town where there had been no church at all!)

The surprise is that there are not more setbacks than there are! Thank God for His presence and grace! No church planting in a village is easy. We are so proud of the new generation of leaders rising to the challenge. They all humble us, and make us grateful to have the privilege to stand along side of them and encourage them and cheer them on! The training of all these new leaders continues to be our major concern.

You are part of this picture as well!



Pastors and Church Planters being taught

Thank you for helping us to help them. As you might realize, continuing growth means continuing expansion of financial goals. The basic principle is still this: \$30 a month for 12 months will establish a village church. Many churches are now off this support, but many more are new and just beginning. There is a need for more supporters for the newest wave of churches. Will you agree in prayer with us that many will respond to this opportunity? As we have said before, we can't think of a more fruitful way to spend \$30 for 12 months! It means the salvation of the lost and the planting of a church in a town where previously there was absolutely NO good news of Jesus!! 23,000 villages and towns in Ukraine have no gospel preaching church. A similar need exists all over the world, even where mega-churches exist in large cities. In many nations, if you go just one hour's drive from large cities, you will find almost total spiritual darkness.

Thank you for continuing to pray for us and for the harvest among the Churches of Praise. Thank you for giving as the Lord leads you, and for agreeing with us in faith for continuing financial breakthroughs at the home base, and for the Churches of Praise.

With love,
John and Jackie

