

Mission Newsletter



May - June 2010

Number 86

And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine. (Lev. 20:26)

The word "Holy" is a beautiful word, yet many who call themselves Christians are confused about its meaning. Still, God tells us in His Word that we shall and should be holy (1 Pet. 1:15, 16).

Now, what does being holy mean?

All my life I have heard ministers say that holiness is an attitude of the heart, or the state of the heart. And certainly that is true. Others have preached that holiness is a list of do's and don'ts, and naturally there are some things that Christians should do and some they shouldn't. But those things do not constitute holiness.

Years ago A. N. Trotter made a very important statement concerning holiness. He said that holiness is allowing the Holy Spirit such preeminence and place in our lives that we get to the place where the Holy Spirit guides us and leads us into all truth (John 16:3). The Holy Spirit wants to tell us where to go, where, not to go, what type of clothing to wear, what not to wear, the things we should say and should not say, even how to comb our hair and how not to comb it. He also wants to tell us what kind of attitude to have and how to act.

That may sound somewhat restrictive, but God wants us to be in tune with His Spirit. He will never force Himself on us, but if we seek Him, He will guide us and lead us in all the perfect ways of God. This is what the Bible means when it says that God has severed us from other people and we belong to Him.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

When Christ saved us, we became holy. We can only remain holy through leaning heavily upon Jesus, looking unto Him, and allowing the Holy Spirit to have His complete way within our hearts and lives. ☞

"...the fields are ripe for the harvest!" As reported by Vadim & Nadja Tarnopolski at the April Mission Conference in Germany. Taken from the May/June 2010 German Missions Nachrichten; used by permission.



The Tarnopolski family today at their home in Usin, Ukraine.

Nadja's parents were alcoholics. Her older sister also drank. Nobody had time for Nadja nor to care for her. She was often very lonesome, suffering from hunger. Then, one day, at the age of 14 years, Nadja, in desperation, smashed a bottle of vodka which stood on the table. She was

severely punished and humiliated for her actions.

... sensing the need to provide love

For the first time in her life, Nadja heard the word "love" from Vadim. From the time they were married, both had hoped for many children. However, their dreams were shattered when Nadja had a major heart operation shortly after the birth of their second son.



Vadim and Nadja Tarnopolski shortly after their wedding in 1988

Vadim and Nadja met some Christian friends a number of years ago. Touched by the love of God, they opened their hearts for Jesus and immediately desired to share

this love to those who had never before experienced it. They were going to share it with the orphan children.

All four members of the family were united in their decision. They would go to an orphanage and pick a child who had gone through the worst treatment. Someone who really needed love and attention.

“Maaama, I don't want to go to the monkeys!!!”

Soon the family adopted their first child. It was eight-year-old Inna whose development corresponded to a four to five year old child. Their father was an African exchange student, who had no love or respect for Inna's mother. At the orphanage, the poor girl was often ridiculed by adults and other children because of her dark skin color. Because of this unfair treatment, Vadim and Nadja felt even more strongly that they should look after this child. There was a lot of official procedure involved and Nadja had to deal with countless obstacles before she was able to take the child home with her.

Shortly after bringing their daughter home, Vadim and Nadja wanted to do something special for her so the family decided to take her for a visit to a zoological garden. However, Inna became hysterical. All the exciting stories about different animals in the zoo only caused her to protest and yell louder: “No! Mummy, I do not want to go to the monkeys!!!” The zoo visit was cancelled.

Much later, they discovered that the children and adults at Inna's orphanage had informed her that her new parents would take her to the zoo and put her in a monkey cage in the zoo. By then, Inna had already established a trusting relationship with Nadja. She asked her mother: “Mummy, did you really not plan to put me in the cage with the monkeys?”

“Whoso shall receive one such little child in my name, receiveth Me” (Mt.18:5)

The Tarnopolski couple has decided to help as many children as they possibly could. Even Vadim's brain tumor surgery, which left his body paralyzed on one side, has not kept them from it.

Each of the eight orphans who today say “Daddy” and “Mommy” to Vadim and Nadja, have their own awful past to deal with. Their biological parents lived in constant drunkenness and immorality; in one case the father killed his wife in the presence of his children. Deep scars – even marks of a hatchet - are visible on the heads of other severely abused children! Another victim had become crippled and could not talk. All eight orphans were diagnosed by medical consultants as underdeveloped in different categories of abuse. Although with great



2004 - Vadim, trying hard not to leave anyone behind!

difficulty, Vadim and Nadja have been able to convince the different medical consultants and social workers that their children are “normal” now. Without this fight the children would have no future. Today, they all learn in “normal” schools and have no problem keeping up with the other students; no longer at the bottom of the class!

At the moment all the Tarnopolski children attend the youth services in the Usin church. With all diligence Vadim and Nadja, desire to live their life as a true example of God's love and respect. Let us earnestly remember them in our prayers!

(Recent statistics show the number of children without parents in Russia as nearly two million; Ukraine, over hundred thousand orphans.)

Faith Mission and Missionwerk FriedensBote in Germany continue to support Christian family orphanages in the CIS on whose behalf the married couple from Tarnopolski was invited to Germany. We thank all our mission friends for the support of this mission.

The following story is the first in a series of short stories taken from the book, “Voices in the Wilderness” published by Advancing Native Missions in Charlottesville, Virginia. Advancing Native Missions has granted us full permission to re-print the stories in our Mission Newsletter.

A Teacher's Dilemma

CUBA

“Is it true what I have heard, Mrs. Lopez? Are you a Christian?”

The school principal's words slammed into Maria's heart.

“Yes, I am.”

“Well, I don't know how you slipped through the cracks, but there can be no Christian teachers in this school,” the principal firmly replied. “You have three days to give up your faith. If not, I will have to release you.”

“With all due respect, Senora, I do not need three days to think about it,” answered Maria. “I will never give up my faith.”

“Well, you should think about it. If I fire you, your record will be permanently marked, and you will never work as a teacher again—at least not in this country!”

Maria spent the next three days in prayer. She loved her job. Not only did it provide an income for her family, but it also gave her an opportunity to shine like a star in the darkness. While the Cuban schools indoctrinated children with atheism, Maria strove to bring Christ's love into her classroom whenever possible. Day after day she had put her job in jeopardy.

Three days later, the principal met her in the hallway. “Have you made a decision?”

Her voice quavering slightly, Maria replied, “My decision was made many years ago. I will never give up my

faith in Christ.”

“Then you may come and sign your release form in the office.” Maria’s heart pounded. How would she possibly provide for her family now?

“Lord,” she prayed, “give me strength to go through this valley.”

Maria packed up her belongings and made her way to the office. As she approached the door, she heard the sound of someone crying. She knocked, then entered. To her surprise, she found the principal weeping.

“What’s the matter, Mrs. Gonzales?”

“I am so moved by your faith,” she said, struggling to regain her composure. “Once I was a teacher and a Christian also. When my director ordered me to give up my faith or give up my job, I chose to give up my faith. How I wish I had faith like yours to stand up for what I believed!”

Maria’s eyes welled with tears as she prayed with her principal, leading her back into Jesus’ waiting arms. Mrs. Gonzales assured her that as long as she was in charge of the school, Maria’s job would be secure.

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)” Hebrews 10:23

Lord, if I carefully reflect on the course of my life, I see that You have always been faithful to me. May I always be faithful to you!

much better quality wheat seed, his 2009 harvest yielded double that of his non-believing neighbors. God had answered Jacob’s prayers with bountiful blessings!

During the last two years we have distributed flour from Jacob’s Harvest. We had to take this wheat to a mill for grinding. That was very expensive! However, that will now change. This last summer we acquired an old mill in Jacob’s village. It was an old machine; only valued as scrap metal. However, from the proceeds from some of the scrap, we were able to do the renovations needed, and we now found a German-built mill close to Odessa. The total cost, including transporting it to the Tscherkassy area, and the construction will be about 10,000 Euro.

This is our goal for this mill project: It will provide full-time employment for 3 - 5 village men; this is a very important fact for the local church. We will be producing “our own” flour for our Mission Projects in Ukraine. Other buyers have already voiced interest in buying “our flour”.

Our mission (Missionswerk FriedensBote) will hold the rights for the management of the mill.

If any of you, dear mission friends, wish to support the “Mill” project, please send us your donation and mark it as “Flour Mill”.

(Editor’s Note: Faith Mission purchased approximately \$7,500 of flour to be distributed in Ukraine after the July 2008 flood disaster. We feel this as an excellent long-term project.)

Project - Flour Mill



From being helped to helping others

About two years ago we became aware what Jacob Schwetz was doing. He is a very modest Christian, a church leader in the village of Ryshaniwka (near Tscherkassy/Ukraine), and a farmer. The Schwetz couple has three children of their own and has adopted eight orphan children, ranging in age from 2 to 8 years.

In spite of his very limited equipment, consisting of a tractor and a very old seed planter, Jacob works about 30 hectares of farmland. Although his neighbors planted

WE NEED HELP!!!!

We get so many blankets and quilts that are not good enough to send. We have to wash them, take them apart, and card the Terylene. Then it is ready to be made into nice warm comforters. The lady that has made countless number of comforters for Faith Mission is sick right now and so we would ask if there would be anyone else that could help us out with this project? We are in need of someone to make Terylene blankets and also make covers for them. Maybe there would be a couple of ladies that would enjoy doing work like this together. We have quite a lot of Terylene as well as some wool that is all ready and waiting for someone to come pick it up and make something out of it.

WE NEED MORE HELP!!!!

We have boxes and boxes full of worn out jeans again. There are so many that they are really piling up and we are running out of room to store them. Would there be someone that is interested in cutting out the good pieces? Then those pieces would need to be cut to size, sewn together to make a blanket and put backing on it so it would be a nice warm comforter.

Dear Donors!
Which part of this sign on our trailer do you not understand? We have had to clean up piles like this numerous times in the last few months!



PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

Faith Mission Bale Banks



If you would like to use these "Bale Banks" for your children, Sunday School class, or even for yourself, please let us know. We will gladly send you a supply.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote)

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- Please add my name to your mailing list.
- Please change my address as indicated below.

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Office Hours



Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Clothing sorting & baling:

Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Clothing may also be dropped off in the small white trailer at the south end of the warehouse building. This trailer is open 24 hours a day, emptied on a regular basis, however, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange delivery.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

Volunteers Welcome!

If your Youth Group, Bible Study group, or Ladies' Sewing Circle would like to volunteer for an afternoon or evening (Monday-Saturday), please contact the office to make arrangements.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. solicits your gifts for the purpose identified in this appeal. However, if the project for which the gifts are received has been fully funded or cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the charity, the board reserves the right to use such funds for other similar projects.

Board of Directors

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Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. is a nonprofit, registered charitable organization based in Winkler, Manitoba. Faith Mission was incorporated on May the 16th, 1994 in the Province of Manitoba

Purpose of Faith Mission

- to provide humanitarian and spiritual aid to the people of former Communist communities of the world.
- to call others to pray for the suffering people in the world.
- to provide information about the people of the former Communist communities to fellow Christians in North America.

The **Faith Mission Newsletter** is printed bimonthly and mailed at no cost to those people who have supported us in the past or to those who request information about Faith Mission.

Banking Information - Access Credit Union
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