



Bear Valley Bible Institute - Ukraine (BVBIU)

December 2020

Greetings brethren,

Dec. 5, 2020

It is hard to believe that it is almost the end of the year 2020, and if the Lord allows, it will be 2021 in less than a month. Time seems to be going by so quickly. It has been quite the year for everyone and Ukraine is no exception. Hospitals are full with patients and in a couple of weeks, the country will be on mandatory lockdown. Despite the inconveniences, BVBIU keeps pressing on.

In October, besides having classes, the students were able to do some evangelizing on the streets. The Director, Dennis Sopelnik, reported that it was a little difficult as many walking by were worried about the coronavirus, but still, some took information and the students had a chance to talk with them.

We are thankful that BVBIU is reaching beyond Ukraine. One of BVBIU's instructors, Victor Semikoz, has been preaching to a small congregation in Belarus online.

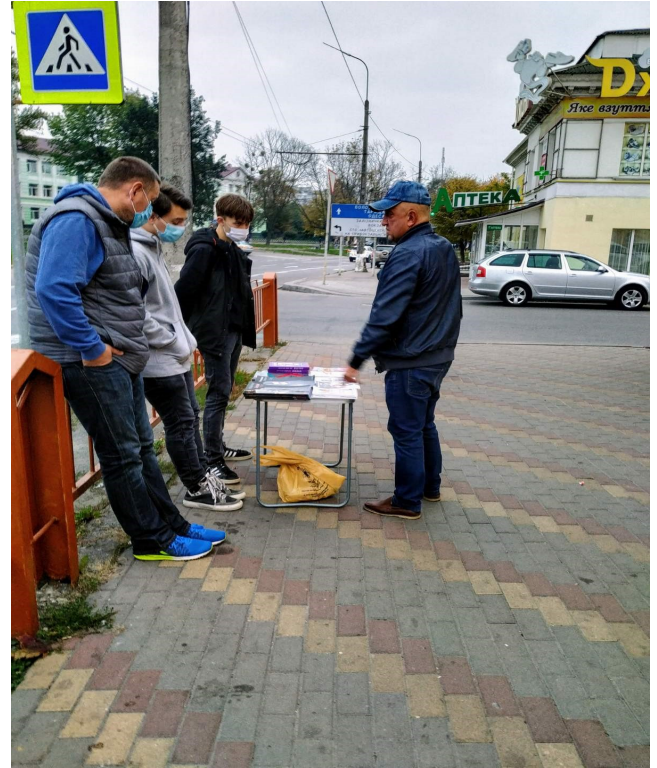
An exciting and wonderful event occurred during this time as a young couple in Bila Tserkva (where BVBIU is located) responded to the Gospel and became Christians! Their names are Alexey and Alesya (see pictures above), who already have two children and another baby is on the way. As Dennis Sopelnik wrote about this, he stated... *"As for our home congregation, we have some good news. A young couple Alexey and Alesya were baptized for the remission of their sins.... Their way to the church is a very interesting story. As a child, Alesya was brought up in a*

boarding school for children who come from dysfunctional families. Our sister in Christ, Tamara [and former student at BVBIU] would visit her as a teenager and tell her about God. Later, they lost connection with one another and wouldn't see each other for quite some time, but recently reunited again. Alesya and her husband started coming to church. The Good News touched their hearts and they decided to make a covenant with the Lord. Regarding that, we never know when the seed we are planting will grow and bring good fruit. We hope this story will be an encouragement to some evangelists who don't see immediate results of their preaching."

Another former BVBIU student, Sasha Rodichev, hosted a youth meeting in Dnipro where he preaches. Several of our former students were able to be in attendance. The young people need special encouragement during this time in Ukraine and it was reported that this meeting was very encouraging to all.

Finally, a special online meeting is scheduled to take place this Monday, Dec. 7th, with all of the Bear Valley Extension Coordinators (Stateside), along with all of the Directors of the BV Bible Institutes in their host countries. The President of Bear Valley, Denny Petrillo, will be the special speaker. This will be the first time and it should be quite the experience. More details about it, Lord willing, in the next newsletter.

That is the news for now. May God bless you all!
Terry



- The Church in Belarus that Victor Semikoz preaches to online.

- BVBIU students evangelizing on the street.



- Youth Conference in Dnipro.