

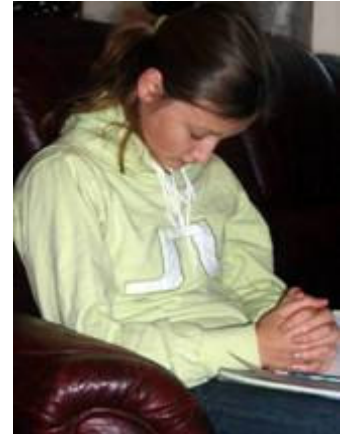
Preparing the Next Generation of Leaders.

2 Timothy 2:2

Greetings from the Huffmans!

January 2009

“My mom told me I couldn’t come to church anymore,” “Anya” told Kim when she asked why she looked so sad. “That doesn’t sounds good. What did you do?” Kim asked her. “I yelled at her and we got in a big fight.” She responded, hanging her head. She felt terrible, first because she couldn’t come to church and second because she fought with her mom. Her prayer request that week at their weekly discipleship meeting was to show love to her mom. So Kim and “Anya” talked about what the Bible says about resolving conflict, and how God can use even our mistakes. Kim suggested she apologize to her mom, and ask her mom to forgive her. She looked at her doubtfully. Two days later, she was beaming! She had done something she had **never** done before, asked her mom for forgiveness. “Anya’s” mom was astonished by this new behavior, and they had a great conversation, which ended with her mom allowing “Anya” to come to church! **Preparing the Next Generation of Leaders** . . . it’s happening!



This is a great challenge for our church, to **prepare the next generation of leaders** to LEAD in a country that is desperate for leaders, especially Godly leaders. Next month, this four month old church will begin a Biblical Training Institute, a three year program to bring believers to maturity and a good understanding of the whole Bible. We are praying many from church and the university will participate in this weekly ministry, as many as 20!

This four month old church also sent its first missionary to the closed-to-the-gospel country of Belarus! Marina (and Lesya – former missionary training center students) boarded the train mid-January for their internships, reaching out to children in this country. It’s amazing to watch this congregation of mostly students give so sacrificially to the spreading of the Gospel!

Two other students from our missionary training center, Kostya and Vitalik, are now in Uganda, Africa, doing their internships, working with the very poor, meeting physical needs and ultimately, spiritual needs. We are thrilled to have three interns, Danny, Zhenya and Kostya helping us with the expanding ministry here in Odessa! They are taking over some responsibilities of church and Bible study and translating and discipleship. We are very thankful for them!



Mark praying for Marina.

We’re seeing **preparation of the next generation** here at home too. The boys are half done with their school year! They are doing well in school, although they complain about the very high grading scale. They had a bit of excitement at the end of one school day. One electrical box in this crumbling building started on fire and black smoke started pouring into the school! Maybe you’ll pray for them more if you know there are few, if any, fire escapes in this country! They bounded down five flights of stairs to safety, to see the firemen arriving. Everything was fine, and the boys were disappointed to find out that school was back in session the next day.

Chris took the SAT test this month, in **preparation** for entering college. He’s been diligent during his Junior year in High School, learning to manage his time. He’s making Ukrainian friends and his Russian is really improving!

We’re happy to report all the **preparation** that went into legal paperwork was approved! We brought this paperwork to the consulate in Krakow, Poland. While we were in Krakow waiting for the paperwork to be processed over Christmas and New Years, we had a great vacation. We enjoyed being in a more “western” country that had places like “Pizza Hut” and “Subway.” We also toured unique places like Auschwitz (Nazi concentration camp), Wawel Castle and Wieliczka Salt Mine. The consulate finished



Chris turns 17!

our paperwork, putting shiny new visas in our passports! We returned to Odessa January 2nd. The last step in this long process is to bring these visas to the immigration office in Odessa and register them. We hope to do this in February.

Go, make disciples, teach them and baptize them - the verbs of God's great commission in Matthew 28 are on our minds as we continue serving students through English clubs, Bible studies, socials, discussions, crafts, and discipleship meetings. A very big part of our ministry is summer evangelistic English camps. There are many Ukrainian students who would love to come to camp, where they will hear the Gospel, but they can only come if Americans come to teach them. We need 40 Americans to come and join us for 2 camps this summer, one the end of July, and the second, in early August.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. Please pray that God will use our efforts to **Prepare the Next Generation of Leaders FOR HIS KINGDOM.**

Mark, Kim, Chris, Ben & Nate

Praises this month:

Mark: Our new church has been going well and growing!

Kim: The four new believers, young women, who are growing in their understanding and love for Jesus!

Chris: For a good Christmas and New Year in Poland.

Ben: The first semester of school is done!

Nate: School is going well.

Prayer Requests this month:

Mark: Pasha, an unbelieving medical student Mark began a weekly Bible study with.

Kim: Wisdom to disciple these young women, and of course, understanding Russian.

Chris: For my future, as I explore university options for 2010.

Ben: Unity on the worship team.

Nate: Plans for Basketball Camp/English camp (March 16- 20) would go well.

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For the color version of this letter with a few pictures, on the Internet go to:

<http://www.huffmannews.com/whatnow.htm> and select the [January 2009 Update](#).



Ben and Nate getting restless on the 24 hour trip back from Poland.



Kim and Mark near Wawel Castle in Krakow Poland.



“Our Girls” at our Christmas cookie making party.



Enjoying the results of the Christmas cookie party after Sunday Worship.

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(Please do not send packages here.)

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(This is what you dial from the US. If you are in Ukraine, don't dial the 011.)

(From the US this can be an expensive call unless you get an International calling card or have an International calling plan.)

Internet/Skype Phone: mdhuffman

If you have high-speed Internet, we can talk over the Internet for **free!** Yes, it is free.