

# The fruits of God's mighty work...

WORD OF GRACE BIBLE INSTITUTE

**"Go, stand and speak to the people..."**

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**"Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message of this Life."**

- Act 5:20

Despite the fact that the world is hostile to truth, and the "Christian world" continuously downplaying the sufficiency and relevance of God's Word – still, there are people everywhere, who are desperate for the true Word of God to change their lives and are in constant search for Bible-practicing churches that can equip them with life-sustaining truth.

*"I watch and listen to your sermons; it helps me comprehend the Word and grow in it. Our church is full of chaos. No teaching. We are all spiritually sick; no strength. A lot of children, but no instructors. Where do I run?" – Germany*

We are continuously provided with the opportunity to serve such desperate people with the Word that penetrates, regenerates, sanctifies and equips lives of many people around the world through weekly, live broadcasts of services at Word of Grace Bible Church in Battle Ground, WA. Next to personal delivery of the gospel from one person to another, live broadcasts have become the most effective tool for spreading biblical influence among Russian-speaking people living in different parts of the planet. This ministry fosters people's love for expository preaching, deepening their understanding of the practical importance and relevance of the Word of God, and enabling them to live a fruitful life before God.

*"We live in Pennsylvania and every Sunday we have an opportunity to watch your services via internet. We love it for the unusual approach to Scripture and the opportunity to hear the living gospel that is focused on the spiritual development of each individual." - USA*

In the last few months, we added a video archive feature to our broadcast page on the website, which is an advantage for our regular listeners to watch our services at any time, instead of having them get up at 1 or 4 o'clock in the morning, to catch us live.

*"Our family is infinitely grateful to God for your ministry! I consider your church a wonderful example of harmonious and dedicated ministry. Each sermon is a great treasure of wisdom and truth that nourishes our hearts. Every Sunday night our whole family gathers by the computer, we open our Bibles to study the Word of God together with your church. This is a special blessed time for us." - Ukraine*

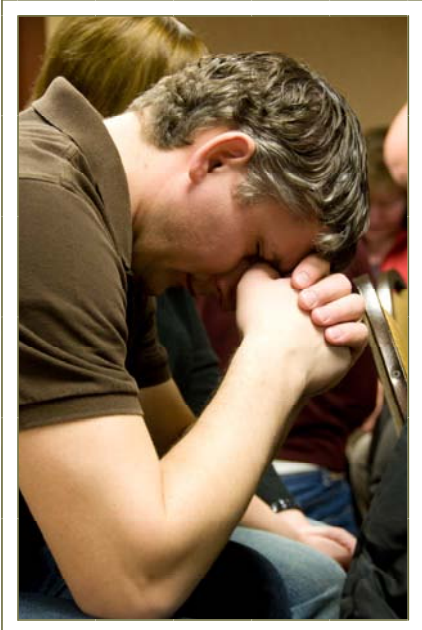
It is a blessing for us to receive these types of testimonies weekly. We pray that through our broadcasts, the Word of God continues to shine its light all over the world, and we can be found faithful as we continue to proclaim the Word with clarity, boldness, and humility.

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## The fruits of God's mighty work...

### “Spiritual maturity – the heart of ministry”



**Blessings of a prayer**

This was the theme of the **Leader's Prayer Retreat** organized by Word of Grace Bible Church and Word of Grace Bible Institute on **January 23-24, 2009**. Here is what the retreat focused on: fervent prayer about each other and different areas of ministry, analytical evaluation of our strengths and weaknesses, and strategic planning of the ways to grow. All this effort, combined with deep study of the Word of God, made this retreat a very effective event in the process of continual development of church leadership.

The retreat was opened by pastor Alexey Kolomytsev. He challenged the leaders to question their spiritual maturity. The participants of the retreat were invited to analyze the signs of spiritual immaturity that were exhibited by the Corinthian church. Alexey underscored that the Corinthian believers lacked solid principles of truth that would serve as the foundation of their life. Because of that, they had numerous character flaws, and there were divisions between different parties within the church. They exalted themselves above each other on different grounds of pseudo-spirituality. As a result the Corinthian church was troubled and paralyzed for the work of the gospel. The story of the Corinthian believers serves as a great example of immature Christians. It also offers several clear lessons on how to do a thorough evaluation of our own spiritual condition today. Indeed, your ministry is fruitless if it

will not be based on the solid foundation of truth, and if your life will be practically determined by something other than God's truth.

The topic was continued by pastor Vitali Rozhko. He focused on the signs of maturity, and proposed to examine them in I Tim. 4:12-16. The four signs of a mature Christian are imitation of Christ in specific situations, commitment to the truth, diligence in ministry, and stability in discipline. Spiritual maturity must be the main goal of shepherding.

Undoubtedly, the most important part of the conference was prayer. Every participant was able to evaluate their prayer life, and was challenged to answer the following questions:

- ◇ *How much time do I spend talking to God in prayer?*
- ◇ *How often do I pray for the local church leaders and various types of ministry, especially those, of which I am not a part of?*

This event was definitely a very important step in the process of spiritual growth for every one, who was a part of it.



**115 people prayed about different ministries of WGBC**

## The power of biblical influence

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts." (Isa 55:8-9)



Three words pregnant with meaning: power, Bible and influence. The Bible, being the Word of God is a very powerful and influential book. It brings to the people the glory of God and salvation and life through Jesus. One of the greatest privileges of God's children is to become an instrument of God's powerful influence.

Word of Grace Bible Church together with its media ministry and Bible Institute conducted a **missions conference on March 8-10**, addressing **"The Power of Biblical Influence."** This conference gathered together more than 70 men from different parts of the world: Russia, Ukraine, Germany, Finland, and Belarus, as well as from different parts of United States. All of them were united by their devotion to God's word and expository preach-

ing among the Russian-speaking people around the world.

The very fact that this conference has taken place is a great testimony to the power and influence of God's word. Everyone who attended this conference was at some point of his ministry influenced by the expository preaching and various forms of leadership training provided by the WGBC.

It was a great joy to see the fruit of our ministry. We heard accounts of how the word of God penetrated the hearts and lives of people, even in the most remote regions of the world. Pastors Alexey Kolomiytsev, Vitaliy Rozhko and Eugene Shkarovskiy, along with other local pastors and leaders, shared the blessings of WGBC ministry, especially in the areas of leadership development.

We praise the Lord that in some sense, our ministry has become a "model" of faithfulness to God's word for many Russian pastors. Several years of faithful expository preaching by pastor Alexey and other pastors has demonstrated the practical sufficiency of God's Word for the life of individual believers as well as for the whole church. Now we are glad to share our blessings with others.



The missions conference was rich with great fellowship and prayer. Every day was also marked by special time of biblical exposition. Alexey Kolomiytsev led the pastors in a study of the first four chapters of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, emphasizing the power of biblical influence in the ministry of the great apostle. Only one person in the whole universe possesses true influence – it is God. People can have influence only when they become instruments in His hands. Therefore, a Christian leader has no greater goal than to be faithful to God and His Word. (continued on page 4)



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**The power of biblical influence (continued)**

The conference had another highlight worth mentioning. This was the “round table” discussion, a special time dedicated to a thorough evaluation of the condition of the Russian Evangelical Church as a whole. Russian-speaking churches around the world today experience great pressure from many, different false teachings. Combined with the lack of solid, doctrinal development in the past, this influence poses one of the greatest threats for the Russian church today.

The pastors participating in the discussion agreed that the most strategic effort that all of them should undertake in order to strengthen the Russian church today, is to spread the influence of solid biblical exposition, coupled with biblical leadership in the ministries where God had placed them to serve. This will allow others to see real-life examples of commitment to God’s truth in the life of the churches and individual believers. In turn, this will demonstrate that God’s Word is sufficient to be the only foundation of life and ministry.

We praise God that He has allowed us to have this conference. It became a source of great encouragement for those who have recently committed themselves to the sufficiency of Scripture in their ministry.

**Team prayer needs**

The primary purpose of our ministry is to proclaim the riches of God’s Word around the world, and equip others for the same task. We are fully aware that the success of this ministry is dependent on the Lord blessing through your prayers. Therefore, we ask that you partner with us as you bring the following prayer requests before God:

**Live broadcasts.**

- ◇ Pray about those who watch and listen to our weekly sermons, so that God would continue to use this tool to regenerate hearts and transform lives through accurate understanding of His truth.
- ◇ Pray for the dedication of volunteers that are serving in this ministry (live streaming, recording, editing & etc.).
- ◇ Pray for financial support, enabling this ministry to continue.

**Local leadership training.**

- ◇ Pray about leaders in different stages of training at WGBC.
- ◇ Pray for the further development of the WGBI program.

**Leadership training overseas.**

- ◇ Pray about pastors and leaders, who have been touched by God through our ministry, so that they can be His true disciples, and true shepherds of souls in their own countries.
- ◇ Pray for our training center in Rostov and Bashkiria, Russia; and Rovno, Ukraine.
- ◇ Pray for the upcoming Pastor’s conferences in Kharkov, Ukraine, May 1-2, and in Rostov, Russia, May 9-11.

Thank you for teaming up with us through your prayers and financial support.

*WGBI Leadership team.*

**“...ask, and it will  
 be given to you....”**

**- Luke 11:9**