

Thank you for praying for our trip to Russia. Our team of nine flew from Heathrow via Helsinki to Yekaterinburg & on to Asbest City. We recorded 10 testimonies of drug addicts who have or are completing a one year rehab program. I wept a lot this past week when I heard the outline of their testimonies that I recorded. They are absolutely amazing and I can say these guys have received a miracle from The Lord. The "Salvation Centres" have very high success rate with almost 30% of the men & women going through the program, while the norm is around 2% nationally. They use no medication as treatment as they go through withdrawal & the staff pray all the time for them as they go through cold turkey. They have all lost everything including wives, husbands, children, the lot. Many addicts here in Russia commit suicide. There is no way out. There is a new drug which is dipped in petrol that they use...its called "crocodile" and it bites for good.



When they become born again Christians through the program, they change radically. I have seen their old photos....they look healthy, they smile, they are radiant, they don't smell of drugs. They live away from the cities in basic accommodation in a unique community & are monitored by people who have been through the program & have trained to become leaders. Some of these folk are so clever at all



sorts of things & have never had a chance at life as the drugs left them like the living dead. They have lots of work projects for the addicts & they live a very structured life here. Many go into ministry which is amazing and have started churches. You can see their lives touched & changed by the power of God & our team were so impressed & blessed being there. One young person we recorded said there is a saying..."drugs can wait", as most addicts return to them and are empty without the drugs...something missing. One guy said in his testimony, "every morning when I woke up, I thought to my self will I kill myself today or try and get more drugs". At these centres they are filled with Gods love & after a year are trained as workers, supervisors & for ministry.



**Some statistics...** There are over 3.5 million registered heroin addicts in Russia...probably more like 5 million. About 50% have HIV, TB and hepatitis. Only about 5% go to rehab. There are 4 Salvation Centres, but a further 800 Christian Rehab centres around the country.

For the adMost addicts started drugs at 15 or earlier & one lad called it "like living in a swamp" with no way out. Another person said "heroin always waits for the addict to come back. There is no real cure for drug addiction only Jesus. Drug addiction is from the pit. It is a spiritual battle".

dicts the first 3 or 4 months is the most difficult. Its strange too they have no locks on the doors or a fence round the centres... wow.

Some drop out of the program during the year but are encouraged to return at some stage & also they are asked to tell 5 of their addict "friends" about the Salvation centre, which is free to anyone. I say "friends" as one girl told me an addict has no friends & only has one aim in life...to get drugs.

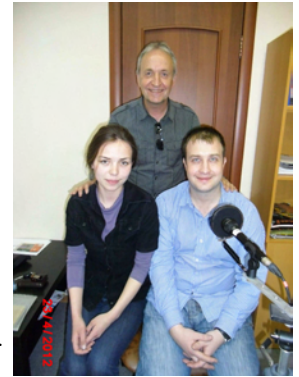


"Telling the Story of Jesus in Every Language".

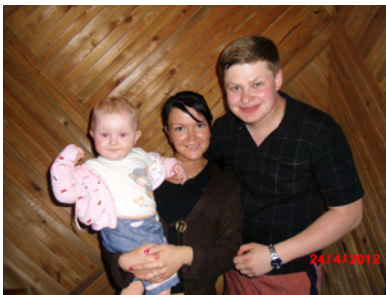
After Phase 1, about 80% go on to train as workers & supervisors to help other addicts. They all work in various projects which the centres have started. Many work as pastors, secretaries, kitchen staff, missionaries, trainers, factory workers, forest workers & evangelists. Several churches have been planted as a result of these centres, with the addicts playing active roles in these churches. There is such a hunger for God here. To see this whole set up is really thrilling. To see God at work in their lives is such a blessing. This is a unique work of the Lord in these hundreds of lives. Their web site is [www.salvationcentre.org](http://www.salvationcentre.org) ...please have a look.



They also had 3 services each day & during our time there, nine people gave their lives to The Lord. We were greatly humbled to see these folk come forward for salvation. It was our joy to pray for them individually, to encourage them & have fun with them, spend time with them playing table tennis & worshipping together. As our week progressed we travelled to other centres & did recordings as we travelled. I will be putting together an outline of these wonderful testimonies soon & can e-mail you a copy if you like.

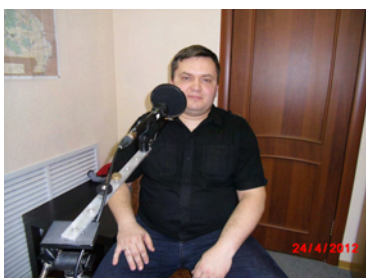


We also visited a centre for mothers & pre school children. Most problems are alcohol related as you know its mega serious here. The mothers are encouraged & shown how to love their children as many don't how to. Life is a different world here in Russia. There is much hopelessness. One girl said she didn't want to go to the clinic, but when she got there she said she had never seen other drug addicts smiling before...they were different. After 2 weeks of withdrawal she said she saw the blue sky and the green grass for the first time since before she was an addict. Another wee girl said I have my family back & my friends love me again & all my family are now Christians & serve the Lord.



Many of the couples get married here & to see them serving & living in this place is so blessed & exciting. For most of them this is like a dream & to have come out of the swamp, they are now leading others out with the Love of Jesus. The devil comes to steal, kill and destroy (and he is doing that here in Russia), but Jesus has come to set people free and He is...Praise The Lord.

The new recordings when edited & produced will be distributed on CD by the centres out there. They will also go on our [www.globalrecordings.net](http://www.globalrecordings.net) web site so that Russian speakers can hear them from anywhere in the world. (There are thousands of Russian addicts living in the USA and in many countries around the world. We trust we can reach them too though these new recordings.) We also distributed many of our existing recordings in Russian on CD with flip charts & books & they where so excited & received them warmly. I would love to get our recordings & flip charts into more of the 800 Christian rehab centres there. We trust The Lord will bless, heal and encourage those dear brothers & sisters, leaders, staff & all their teams.



I hope you enjoyed this little article...most of the people in these photos have been through the program & are now living proof of the Lords healing touch & work in their lives...thanks again for your prayers.

God Bless you & see you soon.....Kenny.