

## APRIL PRAYER LETTER 2004

Dear Prayer Partners, Pastors and Co-Laborers:

Grace and Peace from the Lord Jesus (I've been reading in the Epistles a lot more lately).

Living in the Ukraine has its interesting aspects. Let me share a few of those with you: This is the 1st place I've ever been where people wait in line to go to the altar, where smoking is acceptable in the hospitals (a children's hospital at that), where many of the roads look as if they weathered through WW II and where we need a flashlight in the hallways of many public buildings. Yes, it is interesting here. Now don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining. Actually some of these unusual spectacles keep me laughing from day to day. God is the greatest need in all these folks lives, and we are here as a reminder **or postman of such NEWS.**

This past of month has been a month of adjustments to some God-given changes in our lives. Our helper who watches the children while we go to class needed to find another job and save for college so we needed to find someone else - God graciously provided. It was interesting - for one week and a half we took all four kiddos to Russian School with us. I am not sure how much we learned but our teacher was confirmed on our determination to stick with it.

This past month I had my first, and I hope last, **ROOT CANAL**. The dentist lady told me I wouldn't need any numbing because the root was dead (from an accident when I was younger). You can imagine though the tension in my arms as I clung on tightly to the chair. She began to drill down through my tooth and I was praying - "Lord, if she wasn't right, please send a power outage before she reaches the root - PLEASE!" Glory to the Lord, all went well!

One of the most exciting events in our lives recently has been my small group of teenagers who has met the last two weeks for pre-baptism classes. We have had six teenagers who expressed an interest in being baptized, but some of them said they wanted to **FIRST** make sure they were saved. These are teens now who are taking the initiative in spiritual hunger and desire to follow Christ! We have just been thrilled . Last week I taught them on the four proofs of a truly saved person from 1 John, and this Sunday we will just review the simple plan of salvation. We meet Sunday afternoon, just after lunch and before choir practice. Our services on Sunday are quite different from what you're used to in the States, because we have deaf church and Sunday School in the morning and hearing church and ministries in the evening. We basically just go to church in the morning and stay till night. God is sooo good to give us this opportunity to have a part in this ministry. Last week I began leading the teen choir. Please pray for our youth ministry here as Satan is constantly trying to destroy the lives and quench the spiritual thirst of these precious kids. They live in a very nasty, immoral and overall ungodly world of debauchery. I am going to give the names of the teens in my class. Would you please pick one to adopt as a personal **PRAYER PROJECT** this month:

(I will only give their 1st name transliterated into English; the Lord knows the one you're praying for...

Masha, Fyeta (brother recently died), Olya, Era (recently saved), Lena (13 and an addicted smoker), Sasha (interested in baptism), Katya & Deema (brother/sister both interested in baptism), Zhenya, Andre' (father spending family income on booze), Oksanna (problem with smoking), Vanya, Era S. (new convert), Vova (been missing a lot), EEleeya, Luba & Katya (sisters without a Mama), and Ksusha (also missing church a lot).

**HERE THEY ARE. WILL YOU PLEASE PICK ONE AND LIFT THIS TEENAGER UP BEFORE GOD IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS MONTH.**

After praying you will develop a burden and you can email us at [hess@pop.cris.net](mailto:hess@pop.cris.net) to check on your special kiddo.

We love these kids. Pray for God's great wisdom as we teach them, share our hearts and lives with them, and as they help teach us Russian 101 and PRAYER 102.

Looking up a reaching out -  
Tony Hess and the family