

# Stovers to Germany



January – March 2024

## Learning the language

### PRAISES:

- \* Visitors for Easter and a good service
- \* Jon in language school
- \* Open doors among our classmates and neighbors
- \* Simeon learning and growing

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- \* Souls to receive the Gospel
- \* Language studies
- \* Opportunities to share Christ with our classmates and neighbors:
  - Specifically: Irina, Sergei, and Nikol
- \* Continued growth of the church
- \* General health needs
- \* Simeon's homeschooling



Language school has been my focus for the last three months, five hours daily. This is a picture of my class talking about food, table manners, and how to make small talk. I am learning much, and my skills are certainly progressing. Some days, I feel that I am so much farther than when I started, and some days, I feel like the only thing I am learning is how much I don't know. Giving people the Gospel in their heart language is vital to the Great Commission. Pray God would strengthen our understanding.

Lena has maintained good connections with many of the ladies in her class. Because they speak Ukrainian, she can be a blessing to them and their needs. Many of them battle with bitterness because of the war, and Lena has had opportunities to share her testimony and Biblical truths with them. Continue to pray for her, that God would give her wisdom to share truth, including the truth of Christ's salvation, with these ladies. We have also been trying to meet with some of my classmates for a few months now, but sickness and schedule conflicts have kept us from doing so. Obviously, our adversary seeks to tear down the work our Lord has called us to do. Praise God we have not had any serious illnesses, but the general weariness of life and the mental fatigue from language studies have certainly stressed our health. Through God's help, however, they have not broken us. Pray for both our strength and schedules that we can have a greater impact on the people in my class and our neighbors as well.

Our Resurrection service was well attended, with over 30 people in attendance, and our regular services average between 20 and 25. Our neighbor Nikol came with us for Resurrection Sunday. We have spoken with her many times, and as our understanding improves, so do our opportunities to share the Gospel with her. She has not shown any openness to the Gospel yet, but praise God she has not shown the resistance typical of eastern Germany. Please continue to pray for open doors for us. As we learn German better, it is more important than ever to have the Holy Spirit working in the hearts around us.

As mentioned, our health has not been the best these past months, even though the winter was mild. Simeon has generally remained in good spirits, though he's been fussy when sick. He's been requiring more attention from mom and dad, which, while nice, has also been draining on our already limited energy. We are extremely blessed by his growth. He knows about 15 Bible verses, including a few in German, and enjoys playing out Bible stories. I can't tell you how many times Goliath (me) has been defeated in our living room. We pray for God to touch his heart with the understanding to trust Jesus.



In Christ,

*Jon & Olena  
Stover*

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