

TIME TO BUILD: KIEV MEDIA EVANGELISM CENTER

By Victor P. Akhterov

Our ministry in Ukraine is growing. So far, we have launched five FEBC stations, as well as offering our programs through five independent stations. We are hoping to open at least two new stations in 2018. We are grateful to God – and to you – for empowering us to bring the Gospel to the people of Ukraine.

In 2018, we are working to open two new stations and launch a new media outreach for large cities.

We broadcast in regions devastated by war and poverty in the eastern parts of Ukraine. People are desperate for hope there, struggling with fear, depression and loneliness.

Maria was listening to FEBC in one of those towns, and she responded through her pain: “If God is so loving, why is there so much suffering? If God loves the world, where is His love for me? Am I forgotten by Him?” She continued: “The lady who was asking these questions was talking

about her own pain, and I knew it was real. As I was listening and crying, feeling sorry for myself, I felt that God was there; He was near.”

This is exactly what we mean when we say that FEBC’s motto is being close to the listener. Our broadcasters are going through the same problems our listeners are experiencing. And as they share the love of God from their perspective, listeners feel that He is near.

Hundreds of thousands of listeners are currently tuned into FEBC in Ukraine. **We are praying and planning for millions.** And part of that strategy to increase our reach is to create a powerful evangelism center in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine. Many of you have contributed to this project, and we are grateful and encouraged.

But we still need your help, friends. In order to use new media effectively throughout the country, we need to create an evangelism center here in the capital, with studio space for broadcasting, a conference room that



We are working on opening FEBC station in Mariinka, Ukraine, where children are used to war.

allows us to meet with local leaders and office space for staff.

2018 is the year of presidential elections in Russia, and that means more control and scrutiny. As part of our strategic plan, we want to establish a strong presence in Ukraine and that will be best accomplished through this broadcast center in Kiev. We are there already, but limited by the very small space we currently occupy. With an expanded Kiev Media Evangelism Center, we can grow the work of sharing the Gospel throughout Ukraine.

Our main goal is to make sure that millions of Ukrainians and Russians discover that God loves them, cares for them, and died on the cross for their sins. Thank you for helping us fulfill our mission.



We are looking for a building that will be fitting with our expansion plan to reach millions of Ukrainians and Russians for Jesus.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Please prayerfully consider contributing to the **Kiev Media Evangelism Center** building project.

Talas: My Hometown People

Rev. Ulanbek Karypov

Talas is one of the spiritually darkest places in Kyrgyzstan. Historically, this is where the belief systems of Shamanism and Islam were interwoven. People here still worship the spirits of the deceased and sacrifice animals in so-called "holy" places.

Officially, people accepted Islam some time ago as their religion, but their faith is more of a cultural recognition than a heart-felt spiritual commitment.

People here still worship the spirits of the deceased and sacrifice animals.

The famous mystical Kyrgyz fighter, Manas, was purported to come from Talas. People there are known as fighters, quite rebellious in nature, which they take pride in.

In recent history, people from the Talas area have twice initiated country-wide revolutions, which led to a change in government in Kyrgyzstan.

Personally, I grew up in Talas and lived there until my university studies in Bishkek. I know it very well. My mother and some of my relatives are still living there.

During my recent visit to Talas, I met with some old school friends. I shared FEBC's goals to have an FM station there that shares godly family values and addresses topics like God's peace and salvation. Some of my childhood friends were surprised to hear such things from me; they had a hard time believing it is possible to have such peace in your heart, with no abuse and cruelty. Two of the women later shared some of the domestic abuse they encounter in their own homes. Both are highly educated with university degrees and respected leadership positions. **However, behind the closed doors of home, it is hell.** I could see a real hunger in their eyes for the Good News of salvation.

People need Jesus there more than anything. We hope that our radio



Tradition seems to be a top religion for the people of Talas.

station will introduce Christ to these people drowning in darkness. They need to hear the Good News, believe in Jesus as their Savior and Lord, and follow Him.

Our hope is that we will be on the air 24/7 in Talas soon; God willing, no later than by April 2018. We have already secured the frequency, and the transmitter is enroute, due to generous support from FEBCanada friends.

Nevertheless, we will continue with our prayers for the hearts of the Talas people living in darkness, for the spiritual warfare in their hearts, believing that many will be saved through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We also continue to pray that the few churches in the area will grow in numbers and knowledge of the Lord Jesus.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

We need \$2,000 per month to run the Talas FM 89.8 station, about \$65 per day. Any amount towards "FEBC-Kyrgyzstan Acc.#683" will be greatly appreciated.



Ulanbek and Rudi on their way over the mountains to plan the installation of the Talas FM station.

Our Listeners Respond:

DISCOVERING THE LOVE OF GOD

“As I was listening today, I was both perplexed and inspired. I know very little about Christian faith. I always understood God to be a God of justice – He’s the one who’ll punish evil people.

“But today I saw God who, instead of punishing us, comes into our world, walks along with us, and takes our problems on His shoulders. **It’s so much more than justice! It’s so incomprehensible, illogical, so loving!**

“For years I felt unloved – yes, one has friends, but does anyone, anyone in this world love me? I couldn’t answer this, especially after a series of betrayals I’ve experienced. Today, I have a positive, powerful answer to this question.

Forgive me my emotions, but I thought you’d understand, since you also experience this love of God.”

- Lubov from Moscow



BRINGING HOPE TO THE WAR ZONE

“Dozens of my friends and relatives left our town. Two were wounded. One neighbor was killed six months ago. It is a miracle for me that in our town, devastated by the war, we can hear these powerful lessons from the Bible.

“I tell my friends that we live not knowing if tomorrow will come, and for many it doesn’t. For me, it took this war to become interested in spiritual things. It was so great that we got this new station, and now can listen to Bible explanations.

“Sometimes it feels that the programs that are being aired were made for us, for our town.” Thank you.”

- Andrey from Shastya, Ukraine



“NOTHING ELSE HELPS”

“When I listen to you, I feel like God is touching my heart, healing me from the inside. I am only just now learning about Jesus; I began thinking about God ever since I lost my son in this conflict. **What is life? Who am I, really? How come I never asked these important questions before?**

“Your programs are helping me to heal, and are challenging me to think. And I know that only God can soften my pain – nothing else helps.”

- Anna from Bahmut, Ukraine

INSPIRING PEOPLE TO FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST

“Just recently I discovered FEBC radio. I never thought I’d be listening to Christian radio every day!

“Apparently, Christianity is not as backward as I thought!” Just the opposite is true: Christianity is about my everyday life, and how I should respond to God. I used to be extremely skeptical about religion, making fun of those who believe.

“I don’t know if it’s because I am over thirty now, or that your programs are so good, or something else, but you are now a part of my life!”

- Alexander from Moscow



MINISTRY NEWS AND PRAYER NEEDS



RUSSIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

March 18, 2018, is the day of presidential elections in Russia. The current President, Vladimir Putin, is a likely winner. Please pray that the relative freedom to proclaim the Gospel in Russia will continue. Also please pray for Vladimir Putin and the Russian government to help establish peace between Russia and Ukraine.

NEW STATIONS IN UKRAINE

Please pray that FEBC will be able to open stations in two Ukrainian cities: Pokrovsk and Mariinka. Mariinka is a town bordering rebel regions. Daily shootings are part of everyday life. Everyone living there lost a friend or family member to this war. Pray that many will find new life in Christ there.



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Please make checks payable to:

FEBC Russian Ministries #680

Far East Broadcasting Co. is a non-profit ministry and a member of Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability.



SIBERIAN BROADCASTS

We are still able to broadcast on a network of seven FM stations. Please pray that our Siberian listeners will come to understand who Jesus is and why they should follow Him. Also, please pray for Christ-centered revival in the vast territories of the Russian Far East and Siberia.



KIEV MEDIA EVANGELISM CENTER

Our biggest need this year is to receive enough support to build FEBC's evangelism center in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine. The facility will serve Ukrainian media evangelists for generations, as we use traditional technologies like FM radio stations, as well as new tools that will help us reach millions of young Ukrainians throughout the country. We'll have several studios for recording and broadcasting on multiple platforms, targeting different audiences.

PRAYER OF PROTECTION

At FEBC we have few paid staff and many volunteers throughout Russia and Ukraine. In the past year, many of them went through incredible hardships and health challenges; some went to be with the Lord. Some of our young leaders have children, others are expecting new babies to be born. In our role of sharing the Gospel with the people, we deal with spiritual attacks as well. We covet your prayers for God's protection and blessing on our families. In turn, we assure you that we regularly pray for you, our supporters.



Dr. Victor Akhterov with FEBC-Ukraine's administrative director Eduard Kurilenko.
"We are grateful for helping us reach more Ukrainians for Jesus."