# **OVERSEAS FIELD REPORT** ()FKEPO

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## **Our Love Story**



In late October, Kelsie and I were grateful to have the privilege of sharing our courtship story at No Greater Joy's Big Texas Shindig.

erhaps one of the most discussed issues for Christian families today is that of courtship and marriage. Many have sons and daughters who are of age (or soon will be) and the question of finding a mate in accordance with God's will has never been more relevant.

Looking back to my years as a single person, I remember listening with great interest to the courtship tales of couples who went before me. I took many notes on things I liked or didn't like, and by the time I had reached my early twenties, I had a plan all mapped out. When my turn finally came, there were many details which transpired differently than I had foreseen, but on the whole I found that the counsel and testimonies I heard in singleness proved an invaluable asset during courtship.

Now, as a married couple, Kelsie and I have enjoyed sharing our own story and encouraging others to trust God as they seek a life-partner. This year, we were invited to speak at No Greater Joy's conference (dubbed The Big





Over 1,400 people attended the Big Texas Shindig.

*Texas Shindig*) where we shared our testimony with our largest audience to date. The event was recorded on video, and we hope to make that available on our web site in the near future.

Additionally, Michael and Debi Pearl asked us to document our courtship story in written form. This will be published as part of Michael's new book, *In Search of a Help Meet*, due out in January. Meanwhile, if you'd like to get a preview, we'll be publishing this account as a series of blog posts at OFReport.com.

### **Immigration Update**

Our existing residency cards will be due for extension in mid-March. Meanwhile, other missionary families have experienced great difficulties in obtaining the visa needed to get residency cards in the first place. Much is uncertain at this point, and as always we would appreciate your continued prayers for open doors in Ukraine. As we learn more about this developing situation, we'll post updates to our blog (www.OFReport.com) as well as Facebook and Twitter (@joshukraine).

#### **Back in Ukraine**

Our family arrived safely back in L'viv on November 5. While our time in the States was needful and refreshing, we are nonetheless quite happy to



be back on Ukrainian soil! Abby is progressing well through 1st grade, and Rebekah is not far

behind. Hosanna is getting cuter by the day, and loves to be involved as much as possible in whatever her older sisters are doing.

After months of English speaking, all of us are brushing up on our Ukrainian. Kelsie has especially



been diligent about speaking Ukrainian with the children at home and we are pleased with the progress they're making.

### **How You Can Pray**

- Pray for our family as we readjust to life in Ukraine
- Pray for *Bible First*. Our Ukrainian student base continues to grow in the wake of this summer's outreach.
- Pray for our residency extensions due in March.
- Pray for Vasyl. We've recently set up a time to study the Bible together on a weekly basis. Hopefully, we'll have more to report on that next time.

To God be the Glory