

OVERSEAS FIELD REPORT

A publication dedicated to making known the ways in which God is showing Himself strong on the behalf of those who serve Him.

Volume 1, Issue 6

Written by Joshua and Kelsie Steele

July - September 2004



In the Ukrainian city of Volodimir Volinsk, about 700 people heard the Gospel preached after viewing The Passion of the Christ...

The rain was coming in torrents as we drove along the bumpy road to the northern town of Volodimir Volinsk. It was Friday morning, and Nathan Day, Mark Hovik and I were on our way to distribute the last of the invitations before the upcoming screening of the Passion of the Christ. It takes about two hours to make the drive from our base town of L'viv, and the "highways" are certainly not what we are used to in the United States. We had just made this trip once before the previous day with the same goal in mind, but had not been able to pass out as many invitations as we had intended. The first showing of the film was

set for 5:45 on Saturday, and thus it was imperative that we put out as many of our 4,000 invitations as we could before that time.

A few weeks prior to this, a Ukrainian believer from L'viv named Victor had approached us and asked if we would be willing to show the film in his town. Although he currently lives in L'viv, he had grown up in Volodimir Volinsk and God had given him a burden to reach his home town for Christ. Victor had been present once when we showed the Passion in L'viv, and had seen what an effect the film has. Regardless of religious affiliations, a person viewing the film is struck by the

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How YOU can Pray...

- Pray that God would send out more laborers into His harvest.
- Pray for God's blessing on our marriage as we grow in our relationship to each other and serve the Lord in Ukraine.
- Pray for Timothy as we continue to teach him the Word of God. (see pg. 4)
- Pray for Nathan Day and Mark Hovik as they minister.
- Pray that God would give special wisdom and guidance as we travel to more towns to preach the Gospel and start home Bible studies.

LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST

NEWS FROM THE BALDING FAMILY



Greetings, in the precious name of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Joshua most graciously asked me if I would like

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Bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those under the power of darkness and proving to the world that God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

THE PASSION...

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awesome severity of human suffering portrayed before him. Furthermore, he sees a man who does not resist those who are tormenting him. In fact, as the soldiers drive a large rusty spike through his feet, this man cries out to God to forgive them.

Anyone who sees this film must ask themselves the question "Why?" Why did this man do this? How could any man face that type of torture and yet still love his tormentors? By showing this film we create an environment in which even the most hardened of sinners will ask himself that question. In preaching the Gospel at the end, we provide them with the answer.

And so with Victor's help, we rented a movie theater in town for the purpose of showing the film and preaching the Gospel to those who would attend. Having distributed all the invitations and posted several announcements throughout the town, we made our final preparations.

When we arrived on Saturday
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Nathan Day posts an invitation to the Passion on a local apartment building



Joshua and Kelsie Steele
Married September 18, 2004

"Did it really happen to me?" Marriage always seemed like something that happened to important people. Somebody else has always been the one up on stage wearing that beautiful white dress. But somehow, as unreal as it seemed at the time, Joshua and I walked out of the church on September 18th as a married couple. We even have the video to prove it! We really did stand up in front of 400 people, repeat our vows, and exchange our very first kiss. And we are thrilled about it! Being married is wonderful. As it says in Psalm 126:3, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." We are excited also about ministering together in the days to come. Our prayer is that God would use our lives to lead lost sinners to Christ, and that our marriage would continually bring glory to Him.

Kelsie

This newsletter was written by missionaries Joshua and Kelsie Steele, currently serving in Ukraine. two4ukraine@yahoo.com
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3 "But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts."

LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST

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to share a little about our family and what we are doing in Thailand after missions school, and I enthusiastically agreed. First, let me give you a little background on our family.

I am originally from S. Carolina and I met my wife, Marilyn, at Bible College in Dallas, TX in 1990. She is from N. Ireland and it did not take me long to figure out she was the one for me. She is a lovely, gritty, tough as nails, never say never, Irish colleen who has more brains than I have books; and she loves Jesus more than anyone I know. That is my bride and after 13 wonderful years of marriage, she is still my best friend and my biggest help in anything I do. God has given us two boys; Golan, who is four, was born in N. Ireland and Shane, who is 4 months old and was born here in Bangkok.

When we were accepted to attend missions training in Thailand we were convinced that it was the Lord who opened this door. It was our prayer that upon completion, Lord willing, we would hopefully move on to some field in need of labourers. Well, here we are 11 months later ministering the wonderful news of the gospel in Thailand, but we feel our training is far from over.

Our ministry focus at the moment is studying the Thai language. I know it does not sound exciting, but the ability to freely communicate the gospel to those around you has never seemed more of an under estimated bless-

ing than it has for us today. Although we have been able to minister in English at the prisons and with some of our neighbours, we felt some months back that we were missing the forest for the trees. If we are unable to speak the language, we are also unable to plant seeds everywhere we

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ization) which was set up by Tom and Kathy Slayman. It is still a very young endeavour but it has all the makings of a very useful tool to deliver the gospel to the Thai people. It has been difficult not being able to see the prisoners on a regular basis but we are convinced that if we can be faithful



Jerry Balding preaches to prisoners in Thailand

went everyday. The cashier, taxi driver, neighbours, and strangers make up the majority of souls we come across and therefore it is our focus to be able to communicate effectively the gospel in their language.

In addition to language study, we are still visiting prisoners periodically and teach English in our home to local children. In addition, this fall we are expecting T.J. Slayman and some other missionaries to join us as they work on the Lao KJV Bible. I have also taken over the management of the NGO (Non Government Organi-

in language study that God will take care of the other ministries. Despite our weaknesses and being new missionaries, we are determined to allow God to teach us, mould us, and use us in His harvest. Our desire is not to make a name for ourselves, travel, have an adventure, experience a challenge, see the far east, or pretend we are something we are not; but to set our affection on things above Col 3:2, and to continue to serve our Saviour who has bought us with such a high price. 1Cor 7:23 Please

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NEW E-MAIL!

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LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST

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pray that God will be glorified in our work and that souls will be won as a result. Also, please pray for God's continual guidance and protection for our family. Thank you for your prayers and may the Lord bless you.

Sincerely,
Jerry Balding

Pr 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

* * * * *

If you would like to learn more about the Baldings' ministry in Thailand, contact us via e-mail and we will put you in touch with them.

THE PASSION...

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afternoon to set up our equipment, we had no idea what to expect. But as we worked, people began to trickle in. By the time we had finished, there were barely any empty seats available in the theater.

We began the evening by reading Isaiah 53 in Ukrainian, followed by the Passion, which had also been translated. At the end, I got up on the stage and challenged the viewers to consider why God had sent His only Son to die such a cruel death. I opened the Bible and explained God's plan to redeem lost sinners, and as I did so the room was amazingly silent. It was obvious that the Holy Spirit was at work

as hundreds of people listened to the truth that would make them free.

At the end, I invited anyone who might have questions to come and meet me at the front. Several people did, but one young man in particular came up with his mother and began inquiring quite intently about what he had seen. We talked for a little



Joshua preaches the Gospel in Volodimir Volinsk after showing the Passion

while about the things of God and he expressed a serious interest in learning more. We were already planning to stay in the city the following week to show a Creation Science seminar, so I invited him to come and speak with me more. He did. The more we talked, the more I realized that this was a young man to whom God had been speaking. By mid-week, we were meeting every day and studying the Bible together. We started in Genesis and this young man listen very attentively as he read the Word of God and was introduced to his Creator.

By the end of the week, my new found friend was asking when our team would be back. I explained that we had plans to return soon and continue teaching



Mark Hovik scans in new material for our Bible correspondence school

the Bible, with the eventual goal of planting a church. I thought it was rather ironic that this young man's name is Timothy. Please pray for him, and for the many others who heard the Gospel in Volodimir Volinsk. Our ministry there is continuing and we are very excited about what God is doing. In addition to our work in



A group of local Ukrainians gathers with our team at the conclusion of our week long stay on Volodimir Volinsk

Volodimir Volinsk, we now have standing invitations to three other towns to begin similar works there. We are moving forward as God leads us, and we are very grateful for your intercession on our behalf as we follow Him in pointing men and women to salvation in Jesus Christ.

To God be the Glory

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