

EDITION 16 - KIEV

FAMILIES ON THE EDGE



Take a look at
your map at home.
Can you find Kiev?

WELCOME TO KIEV!

POPULATION 3,000,000

Welcome to the final city on our tour of Ukraine... Kiev! Kiev is the capital of Ukraine, as well as the largest city (with an official population of 3 million - 5 million unofficially). It is also the location of our first and largest church. We will spend the next few weeks getting to know your brothers and sisters in this wonderful city. And no better time than May, a time when Kiev is in full bloom – arguably one of the most beautiful cities in the world!

Our Family in Kiev

In 1992, a team of disciples including Shawn and Lena Wooten, some disciples from Moscow with Ukrainian roots, and a group of Americans traveled from Moscow to Kiev to plant the church. At the first service there were over 500 people!

The church grew very fast – there were 75 baptisms within 3 weeks! Within a year, the church in Kiev had over 500 people. The hearts of Ukrainian people were obviously very open and ready hear God's word. Now, you have around 2,000 brothers and sisters in Kiev.

In 2008, there were many firsts for the Kiev Church. In the summertime, the Kiev Church had its first teen summer camp (in the past there were only preteen camps). In October, disciples gathered in Kiev from all over the world for the first International Leadership Conference to be held outside of the United States. Disciples in Kiev were inspired to finally see many of their heroes in the faith, and disciples from America and many other countries were welcomed with true Ukrainian hospitality – it was truly a year to remember. This year, with the help of the special missions contribution, we hope to see many more Ukrainian people give their lives to God, and send out God's message all over Ukraine.



View of Kiev



Sisters

Singles in Kiev

There are many single disciples in Kiev – around 500! Single disciples in Kiev love to spend quiet times together – every Thursday morning brothers and sisters meet early in the morning before work to sing and pray together overlooking the Dneiper River. In the summertime, the singles’ favorite activity is a conference that takes place on an island on the river. There are no cabins, toilets, or showers. Only mother nature!



Singles quiet time on the Island



Conference in Crimea

During this weekend conference, single disciples sing together, hear inspiring Bible messages, play games and cook and eat together. The singles also like to have dance parties and to organize conferences where single disciples from all over Ukraine and Russia meet together. Last year they held a conference in Crimea, on the southern coast of Ukraine by the Black Sea, with the theme “Falling in Love with God Again.” Right now, many single people are studying the Bible - please pray that the singles ministry in Kiev will add to their number very soon!

What is your project?

When disciples first came to Kiev, their “project” was to bring God’s love and salvation to the people of Ukraine and share with as many as possible (this is the project of disciples everywhere!). One character in the Bible that gave a project to is Noah. You can read the story of Noah in Genesis 7-9.

God gave Noah a big task - to build a big boat, large enough to fit two of every kind of animal on earth. When God gave Noah this project, Noah listened to God and obeyed. Even though the people around him laughed and thought he was crazy, he was faithful to God. As a result, God saved his family from destruction.

God wants to give you a project, too. What do you think he might ask you to do? Are you ready to obey him even if he wants you to do something crazy?

DISCUSSION:

What project did God give Noah - was it an easy project?

What are some projects you feel like God is asking you to do? Will they be easy or hard? Pray for God to give you faith to do what He asks.

ACTIVITY:

For smaller children:

Draw a picture of an ark with a marker. Write on the ark the names of some projects (pick up my toys, set the table, etc). Think of some other projects you are ready to do for God. Then do them!

CHALLENGE:

Brainstorm together about a project that your family can do together to serve God.

Pray for the single disciples in Kiev, that they can stay faithful and serve God always.