

Reconciliation - a Miracle of God's Grace

"... Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (Luke 6:37)

For many years we've mailed *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazines to the "Snowy Owl" prison colony, which is located above the Arctic Circle in town of Harp, Yamalo-Nenets District. None of the evangelicals visit this colony on a regular basis.



In December, 2015, it was visited by four ministers from different parts of Russia. Here is what prison minister **Vyacheslav Kozlov** of Emva, Komi shared, (pictured, left), who has been working with RCR for many years:

"Praise the Lord, we visited Yamal! We were allowed a short visit to the "life imprisonment" area; it was not enough time, but the Lord provided what was necessary and important here. In one meeting, we truly saw a miracle of God's grace! In *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazine, issue #121 (2015), a letter was published from Alexei Soloviyov, titled, "I Did Not Understand Father's Feelings." There, he regrets that he pushed his father away when he returned from prison and wanted to hug him like a son. Alex became a Christian in prison, but he couldn't forget about that incident. One of the brothers from our group, just recently "accidentally" visited Alexei's father in prison in Udmurtia with the magazine. His father read the letter from his son, and was at a loss, and finally forgave his son. With this "forgiveness" we met in December with Alexei Soloviyov in Harp. Everything that happened in this short meeting can't be expressed in words, but we know one thing - that the Lord lives, and His grace works in the souls of lost people! Pray for us. Thank you for the magazines. With a prayer for you! *Vyacheslav*"

A few dozen convicts write to us from this "Snowy Owl" prison colony. Pray for them; they are in need of encouragement and correspondence. Here are some of their letters:

<u>Alexander Stepanov</u> (prisoner, Harp, Yamalo-Nenets, Russia): "Thank you for the magazine, *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire.* Christmas was as just another day, I read the Word of God in the morning. But I want to receive letters and write back, just so I can somehow talk to people. I read the Bible, but I can't discuss it with anyone."

<u>Stepan Vavilov</u> (prisoner, Harp, Yamalo-Nenets, Russia): "I thank you for the magazine I received the other day. I miss it, and the soul demanded spiritual food. Thank you for the sermon by Earl Poysti, I read it in one sitting. Then I gave it to the library, so someone else could read it and think. The magazine's theme was "Fellowship," and I just do not have enough fellowship with Christian brothers and sisters; I practically don't have any of it. Saints, help me to learn to hear the voice of God and be faithful to him to the last breath. I really need prayer support."

<u>Gennady Proshin</u> (prisoner, Harp, Yamalo-Nenets, Russia): "I received a magazine, brochure and envelope from you. Thank you very much! Thank you for a letter written by hand. The magazine helps me to understand many issues that arise in the study of God's Word. I'm always turning towards your magazine for help. There I can find an answer to almost any question."

Please pray:

- for visits of believers on a regular basis to the Harp prison colony and personal meetings with the prisoners.
- the necessary funds for the distribution of *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazines.
- for Dima Gusev's trip to the US for the board meeting and for medical treatment in February.
- for preparation of new radio programs by RCR's staff: Oleg Shevkun, Eduard Zavedeyev, Alexander Zakharov and Natalia Chernyakova.
- for the health of Oleg Murashev's wife, Oksana (vascular disease and hepatitis C) at the rehab center in Kokino, Bryansk region; pray also for the purchase of a minivan for this Pirkko Home.
- for Aleksey Dudikin's family they are expecting another baby, and deciding what to do about a new home; he is the minister at the adaptation center in Zheleznogorsk, Kursk region.

<u>Thank you for your prayers</u> for the health of **Artem Panin** (lung cancer); he feels a lot better. Recently Artem & Oksana also had the joy of the birth of a new baby daughter! They both minister in the Ruchiyok adaptation center in the Moscow region.

