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# BIBLES FOR RUSSIA

December 2014

Dear Partner,

Thank you for your prayers and support for our recent mission above the Arctic Circle in Russia. God gave us favor wherever we traveled and we encountered no problems. Praise God.

We traveled 40-plus hours by train from Moscow to Vorkuta, Russia. We gave gospel tracts to people on the train and at stops along the way. When we finally arrived in Vorkuta, the temperature was 42 below zero. The next day we had planned to go to the tundra, but it was -46 degrees that day. Bishop Fyodor told us it was too cold to go. On Saturday morning the temperature had warmed up to 30 below and the decision was made to go to the tundra. Bishop Fyodor and 2 more men (brothers in Christ) left for the teepees on snowmobiles pulling sleds. Our team took a six-hour train to meet them then traveled another hour on sleds to reach our destination.

In the teepee we visited, the family members were Christians. We had communion service together which was a special time. Garry, Ray and I spoke and Bishop Fyodor preached a message. After the service we had a meal together. The ladies had prepared reindeer meat and macaroni plus foods we had taken them (lots of bread, tea, sugar, butter, noodles, etc.). A brother from another teepee had come to visit us there because he said it was too cold for us to travel farther to his teepee. We also gave him groceries to carry back to his family.

We left that night traveling by snowmobile and sled the 5 hours back to Vorkuta. The brothers had built new sleds to make the traveling easier, but nothing could make the trip pleasant with the rough terrain of the tundra and extreme cold. Praise God we made it back through the dark and cold without incident.

At this time of the year, there are only 3 to 3½ hours of daylight in Vorkuta. It is dark by 1:30 or 2:00 p.m. every day. By December 21, they will not have daylight for a month.

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We attended service at Pastor Miraslav's church. Garry, Ray and I shared during the service. Pastor Miraslav preached and we had communion together. After service, we enjoyed a time of fellowship with friends. We had hoped to visit the orphanage but, due to new laws, we were not allowed to visit there.

While in Vorkuta, our team stayed at the home of Bishop Fyodor and his family. We appreciated their hospitality and enjoyed our time of fellowship with them.

When we left Vorkuta, we traveled by train to Inta. We spent time with Pastor Ivan and his family as well as Luba, a missionary from Ukraine. Once again we attended a church service where we all shared a message from our hearts.

All the friends we visit there are very special to us. We come home with lots of memories to treasure. We only experience the harsh conditions there for a short time, but they minister there day-after-day, year-after-year. Please remember them in your prayers.

We were able to help the missionaries and pastors financially because of your support of Bibles For Russia. They said, "spaseeba bolshoi" which in their language means "big thank you". We add our "thank you" to theirs. Thank you for being a part of this mission.

God bless you for your faithfulness.



In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean McCroskey". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

Jean McCroskey

P.S. Missionary Svetlana Mayboroda will take Christmas gifts to orphans in Siberia until mid-January. If you can give a donation by then, we will send the money to her to bless the orphans.