Graham Herbert

Teaching and Training the next generation of pastor-teacher-evangelists in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

At the Eurasian Mission College - Kazan in Tatarstan, Russia.

Dear praying and concerned friends,

I leave for the Eurasian Mission College, Kazan on Friday 18 March to teach the students shown for two weeks. In some ways it is a routine trip with 50 lectures to be given on the Old and New Testaments but no two trips are the same and each seems to collect a unique set of challenges and demands.

It will be my 7th trip to Kazan in Tartarstan but probably my 62nd to Eastern Europe or Central Asia. I still feel nervous and concerned and plan and prepare as if it was my first trip.

I want to do 'all things well' and prove a faithful and apt teacher. I know that what I teach will be used and re-taught by the students in their home churches of Tatartsan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Do pray for us to engage with the Biblical text in an honest, thorough and obedient way. I press us all to study Scripture and read the text observing the principles of history (read the Bible in its original sense), of simplicity (read the Bible in its natural sense) and of harmony (read the Bible in its general sense – what is this part adding to the whole story). It is a marvellous way to use two weeks and I know that the students are deeply committed to the task and keenly aware of their privilege and opportunity.

Most of our time will be studying the Old Testament – the Prophets and Wisdom Literature, including at least one full day on each of Amos, Isaiah, the Psalms, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.

Here are the students in playful mood as they learn how to use puppets in children's work.

Other aspects of the trip for me include:

* having meetings with pastors and leaders for personal encouragement.

* bringing home up-to-date news of gospel progress to share with UK churches.

* finding the full cost of this trip (Each teaching trip costs £1,550 – if you are able to help please do get in touch).

With thanks, Graham

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