



REPORTER

Preaching the Gospel in the
Russian Language since 1946

The Miracle of Changed Lives

RCR's videos are watched by millions of viewers! God uses these programs in wonderful ways. Often there are comments that show that the testimonies have touched people's hearts and made them think about God and their own lives and situations, and we are grateful to the Lord that sometimes He allows us see some of the fruits of this ministry! Here are two examples of lives that were changed:

A viewer's Testimony

"My name is Tatyana. I want to start by saying that a little over a year ago, when I was in search of the true God, I saw your "Choice" program. Having watched many episodes in a row, each of them touched my heart, but one especially caught my attention because I had a lot in common with the guest of the program. He told me how he found God, and I decided at that very moment to go through the same thing as him. How amazed I was when I immediately saw the answer to my prayer, which contained the truth itself! I cried and laughed at the same time from the inexpressibility of my feelings! At that moment I realized that I was on the right path and that God is actually alive! I began to notice miracles every day, and the Lord answered every prayer right away. Then the question arose of where to look for a suitable church, where they worship the living God, and I decided to turn to the "Choice" program hosts for help. After listening to my story, I was given the address of a nearby church where I now have a large family in the Lord. Thank you for the program and for your work, through which people find the truth. A year later, I realize that it was not I who sought the Lord, but He found me, revived me and redeemed me. I rejoice that God has looked upon me, I believe and pray for the salvation of my entire family, because the Word says: 'You and your whole house will be saved!' Amen."



Mikhail with Natalya Chernyakova,
host of the "Choice" program

This summer, our team visited a Christian conference in Moscow, where we filmed some testimonies. And in an amazing way we met Mikhail, who also repented through the "Choice" program. Having "accidentally" seen one of the episodes on the Internet, he began to watch other testimonies. He was especially touched by the story of repentance of one pastor, a former criminal. Later, Mikhail personally met this pastor and became established in Jesus Christ. After Mikhail told us his story, he thanked God and blessed our team for the video testimonies we are releasing.





We would like to present you with some detailed statistics about growth in the past six months, since we began developing “video shorts,” which are very popular right now. Each video short includes a link to the full testimony.

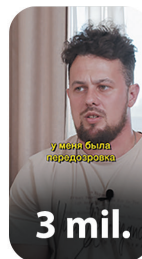
In 2016, the RCR Studio began filming and producing video programs. Since 2019, our channel began to rapidly gain popularity. In 2023, a new stage began, when, with the advent of “Shorts” (videos about a minute or two long), views of our programs increased several times more, and the number of viewers increased from hundreds of thousands to millions, reaching a huge number of non-believers.



17,000
new comments

RCR STUDIO
2023

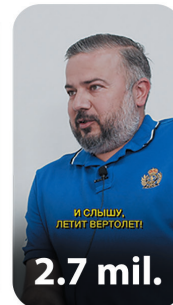
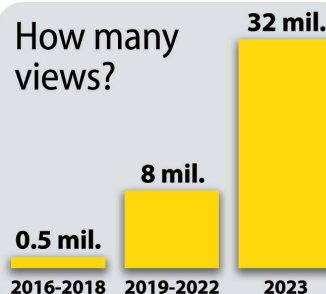
115,000
subscribers
40,000 2023



Comment:

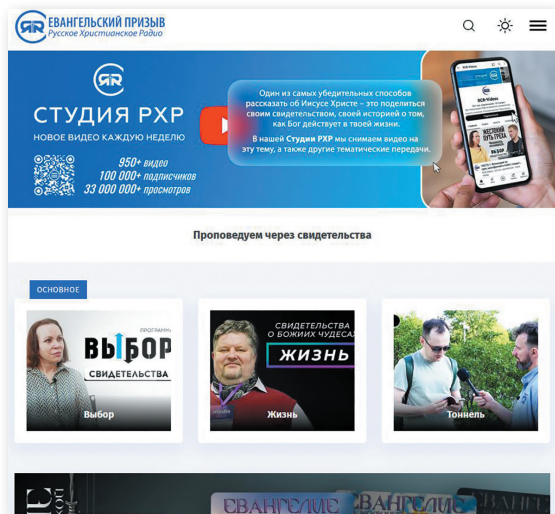
I met a woman from Kazan. She was saved by watching your program. I often watch the testimonies myself. Different people, different destinies... Thank you for your work!

How many
views?



Updating the RCR Website

In the fall of 2023, we updated our Russian website: www.rcr.ru. Beginning in February, a lot of work was done, mostly carried out on our own. Now our website is a large Internet portal, containing all our work over the years of the RCR mission. The site has a new user-friendly design and quick access to all sections, which is very important for users.



The site contains an audio and text archive of Earl Poysti's ministry, including Earl's sermons, his readings of the New Testament, complete audio programs with songs and sermons, and the course or handbook of “Discipleship.” There are about 1,000 files or recordings in this archive.

In the “Video” section, the entire series of “Choice” programs by Natalya Chernyakova, “Life” programs by Denis Gostev, and “Tunnel” programs by Vladimir Gorlan are available. You can also learn about the history of the Jewish people and Jewish holidays from the “Messianic Prophecies” and “Hagim” programs, or other edifying, family and spiritual programs - about faith, God, the church, about relationships in family and society, counseling and much more. Our video ministry is constantly evolving, new programs are produced on new topics affecting modern society and man's relationship with God. In total, this section contains about 950 videos so far.

In the “Audio” section, an archive of programs that were recorded during the early years of our ministry is available. Many of them were heard on the

nationwide radio stations “Mayak,” “Yunost,” and “Radio1.” There is a series of children's programs, programs by Eduard Zavedeyev about the fulfillment of God's prophecies, and programs dedicated to the study of the Bible, the author's program by Natalia Ivashkina, and the radio page “The Way, The Truth and The Life” - a calendar with spiritual reflections and edifying stories for each day. Natalia Ivashkina worked at the mission for many years and was the permanent presenter of many RCR audio programs.

The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire magazine has a separate section of the site dedicated to it. Here is an archive of all the issues of the magazine since 2006, and all these issues are available for download in *.pdf format.

The “Pirkko Home” ministry is covered in detail on the websites: <https://pirkkos.ru> and <https://xn--h1aeaqbh.xn--p1ai>.

20 years ago Ernest Brugger created the first Russian Christian Radio website. Back then, not everyone understood the value of the site and its applicability in ministry, but gradually Internet technologies developed, and our site developed along with them. The number of visitors grew (now numbering in the millions), new programs and new ideas appeared, and today it brings together the fruit of our mission's ministries which can be used by many.

The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire Magazine – “Good”

Dear brothers and sisters! Thank you for your prayers and your support - for the work that you do with us!

“Good” is the topic of the fifth issue of the magazine for 2023. Every person wants changes for the good. But the understanding of what is “good” is different for everyone. And we are often deceived in the search of what is best. We still receive many handwritten letters from prisoners, and quite a few of them write that it was in prison that they started to think about their lives, picked up one of our magazines, began reading the Bible and agreed with the words “It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes” (Ps. 119:71). Some convicts repent and are saved. After all, it’s really only “good” with God. You just need to believe and start your path towards God’s good.

The Influence of the Magazine on Prisoners

We are eager to tell you how God changes and transforms the hearts of people. Our magazines are regularly received by prison ministers, and we also send them directly to prisoners who are incarcerated, if they ask for them. Many of these prisoners receive Christ, are baptized and then work in the field of God. Today we are sharing a recent report we received from the prison ministers in the Novosibirsk region of Siberia, Russia, who carry our magazines into prisons:

In 2023, we visited 10 prisons in the Novosibirsk region. God also allowed something big to happen - the opening of the UFIC (correctional centers) to small groups! For a long time, believers were not allowed to gather together on the premises of these institutions, but this year the barrier was removed and they even allocated a separate room for Bible study in some prisons. Praise the Lord!



A new UFIC opened in Zvezdnaya. Our brother Sergei Shupta (see arrow in the photo to the left) was transferred there. He had been the head of the small group at penal colony No. 18, and he has the desire to serve the Lord at this new correctional center by starting a small group for studying the Bible here, too. The Mayak Church does prison ministry at this center, and a group of brothers visits here on a regular basis. Sergei Shupta attends church and is preparing for baptism.

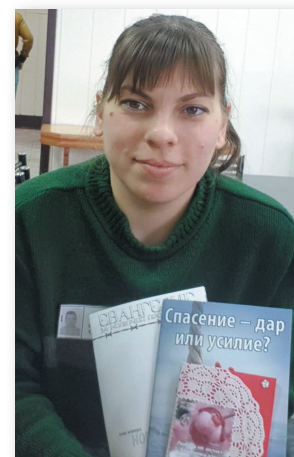
Visits to the juvenile detention center continue. The brothers conduct sports games with biblical themes, in which a large number of convicted teenagers, about 60–70 people, participate. Trusting relationships are built with the prisoners here and with the administration.

Yegor Shadrin (photo at right, standing in front), who served his sentence in high security prison No. 13, was released this year. He learned about the Lord in prison and attended a Bible study group. The church welcomed him on his release. At the moment, he has undergone rehabilitation, lives at the church, works, and serves in the Evangelism and Mercy ministries, feeding people who are in difficult life situations.



Maria Afanasyeva is also involved in the Mercy ministry at the church. She was reconciled with the Lord in a women’s prison, and after being released, she was baptized last winter. And in June, Marina Nikolskaya, who also became a believer in the same prison, was baptized too (photo at left), She and Maria attended the Bible Study at the same time.

Praise the Lord for His work in people’s lives! We could tell you about many more changed lives. He opens doors for evangelism and we try to use these opportunities.



Alexander Leontiev – “I firmly decided to be useful to God.”



My name is Alexander; I'm 48 years old. I grew up in a dysfunctional family, my grandmother took care of my upbringing, or more precisely, I was raised by the street and shaped by friends. I started smoking at the age of seven, and at the age of 12 tried soft drugs for the first time. At the age of 16, I went to jail and received a real sentence. The sentence was short and I was released with the thought that my own strength would decide a lot in my life.

That same year, I met believing missionaries who told me about a house of prayer (church) in our village. I started attending it, but due to moving to another city, I no longer attended church. On the advice of my father, I went to study in the city of Omsk, from where I was quickly expelled. At the age of 18, I was called up for military service. It is interesting that even there in my young years, the Lord continued to knock on my heart. A believing soldier served in the same company with me, whom I remember for his naivety and also for his deep faith and sincere joy, which ordinary people did not have.

After the army, I quickly got married, but unfortunately, after some time, my wife and I became addicted to drugs. Soon I went to prison again for a longer term.

Here I met a friend of mine who believed and repented in prison. I saw serious changes in him, which for me became evidence of the action of God in a person's life.

Upon release, I tried to start life from scratch: I moved to another city, got a job, and got married a second time. But sin defeated me, and I again found myself behind bars. After my next release, I started drinking alcohol and by 2012 I had lost everything: relationships with loved ones, my friends, my belongings, etc. Soon I met Igor, a childhood friend who was serving a long term in prison. Igor turned out to be a believer, and for the first time he told me in detail about Jesus Christ. He convinced me to go to a center for spiritual development (rehab center) in the Omsk region.

Arriving at the center, I saw unusual people. They were attentive to me and showed concern. Their lives, in my opinion, was very joyful. Two months later we were at an event where there were sermons and a lot of words about Christ. At that moment, for the first time in my life, I realized that I was a sinner. I sincerely prayed the prayer of repentance and realized that the Lord had forgiven me. But without being strengthened in my new faith, I again decided to live the way I wanted. At the end of my program, I returned to the old worldly path and began to drink alcohol. During this time in my life there were many different events and attempts to quit alcohol, but I constantly lost.

In 2021, I found myself at one of the Moscow train stations without documents and money, and very badly beaten. And then I remembered that there was a believer who could help me get out of my dead-end situation. He happily agreed to help and sent me to the Pirkko Home center in Zheleznogorsk, Kursk region.

The time in this program served as a good spiritual boost for me. My relationship with God began to be restored, and I was able to analyze many things. I reflected on my mistakes and falls, asked God for forgiveness and tried to make efforts in the processes of my change.

After I completed the Pirkko Home rehabilitation program, I firmly decided to be useful to God and stayed to work with the guys in the adaptation center at Solnechnogorsk, Moscow region. Strangers who found themselves in difficult life situations began to occupy a large place in my life. Currently I serve as an assistant to Artem Panin, the leader of the Pirkko Home adaptation center, and try to live according to the Gospel, which teaches us to act with dignity, as Jesus Christ did.

I am glad that God is using me in His plan of salvation. I am honored to serve in the church and bear fruit for Him. I rejoice that the Lord is working in my life, changing me and my values. I also thank Christ for the brotherhood and support that I have in our team of servants, the leaders of the “Pirkko Homes.”

Praise God for all things!

