

## OPERATION CENTURION

### VICTORY DAY IN RUSSIA

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#### **PRAYER NEEDS:**

**Pray for the soldiers that are stationed in Afghanistan & Iraq and their families**

**Pray for the salvation of soldiers in Russia and Germany**

**Pray that the seeds that were planted in St. Petersburg will take root and grow**

**Pray for wisdom and strength for these important people who touch the lives of the military:**

- 1. Church of the Nazarene**
- 2. Nazarene Pastor Pavel Kupchik**
- 3. Harvest Church Pastor Igor Sokolov**
- 4. Olga & Alexei**

Every time I think of Victory Day I always think of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ! Victory over sin and death is the only true victory we can have!

So many people cannot celebrate as we Christians can because they do not realize that Satan, the enemy of our souls has been defeated. "The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8

We desire that the Good News of this Victory be proclaimed throughout the former Soviet Union and the rest of the world!

This past May Roger and I along with some of the members of the Nazarene Church were on the streets in St. Petersburg passing out God's Word to soldiers and veterans. We especially targeted the veterans because many of them still have an atheistic mentality. God wants them to know that there is still time to believe. Olga approached some men waiting at a bus



**Veterans Marching in May 9th Parade**

stop on Nevsky Prospect. The first man said I have several Bibles already but the two men next to him expressly asked "Could we have one for each of us." Of course, we were delighted to accommodate.

Oleg and his friend from church went to a park near Palace square to reach out to many of the veterans

there. It was a beautiful warm day and there were many people on the streets.

Margaret and Olga reached out to a lady on the bus who had served in the Soviet military. She had received many medals as you can see in the photo below. She graciously received the Bible I gave to her and put it in her purse.



Let us believe for a great harvest of souls from planting the precious Word of God in the soil of Soviet hearts.

According to Wikipedia, "Over 800,000 women served in the Soviet armed forces in World War II; nearly 200,000 of them were decorated and 89 of them eventually received the Soviet Union's highest award, the [Hero of the Soviet Union](#). They served as pilots, snipers, machine gunners, tank crew members and partisans, as well as in auxiliary roles."

Russia and Germany

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**Church of the Nazarene**

Roger and I were asked to share at the Nazarene church in St Petersburg on May 8th. We both shared about the need to share the love of Christ with the people that we come in contact with (friends, neighbors, and co-workers). We also shared about the great opportunity that we will have on May 9th to reach out to all the people that will come to the celebration in the city and that there will be many soldiers involved in the parades and helping with security.

Many of the WWII veterans celebrating the end of the war had not the opportunity to have a Bible under Communism. Through Operation Centurion, they will.

This Nazarene church has been in the city since 1996 and has played a big part in reaching out to the military throughout Russia, Kazakhstan and Armenia.

We are so thankful that they are continuing to “fight the good fight of faith.”

*Operation Centurion is a Christian non-profit organization reaching out to Russian and NATO soldiers and their families. The organization provides Bibles and Christian reading material along with Christian music. Basic hygiene items such as soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and disposable razors are provided for single soldiers in Russia. Roger and Margaret are the Founder and President of the organization. Bibles have been printed with camouflaged covers to be given out to German and Russian soldiers. Every Bible has the Plan of Salvation along with a forward, written by Roger to encourage the soldiers to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.*

*Your contribution is tax deductible.*

*Operation Centurion is a 501 © 3 Non-profit ministry.*

*Our tax I.D. number is: 81-0558115*

# HARVEST CHURCH

While in St. Petersburg we had a wonderful surprise with Pastor Igor Sokolov from Harvest Church contacting us. His church has a wonderful building now which houses not only the church but a Christian School. Now he also plans to start a Christian Serviceman’s Center and we are praising God for it.

Pastor Igor himself grew up in a military family and has a heart for soldiers and their families. We were really pleased that many of the people who will be helping Pastor Igor were people that we knew or had helped us with our Center.

It is always so good when the nationals want to win their people to God. Missionaries can motivate and help show the way to evangelize, but it is really God at work in the heart which helps us to “Love our neighbors as ourselves.”

We were able to give this church 1000 Russian Military



**Margaret, Roger & Pastor Igor**

Bibles to be able to do an outreach to invite the soldiers to come to their Center.

Let us keep Harvest Church and Pastor Igor in our prayers as they start this new adventure with Christ! This Church has been in existence for fifteen years and has been faithful to persevere in

their faith. May we do what we can to encourage them.

“ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds.” Heb. 10:23 &24