



Unusual Practicums with Unexpected Results

A Missionary College is unthinkable without a practical training programme in evangelism.

We had a field trip to Layeeshevo. It's a town with the population of 15,000 40 km from Kazan. Our students did street evangelism and distributed invitations to do a correspondence Bible study. To some of them this was quite extreme but we saw 1 person accept Jesus during our street evangelism and around 4,000 people received the invitations to join the Bible study correspondence course.

We also arranged another practicum. In early May a puppet show team came and organized a seminar for volunteers from the College and local churches. They taught for several evenings and then did their puppet shows at orphanages, churches and outdoors in some playgrounds. It was a good opportunity for the students to learn new skills in class and participate in evangelistic events with the puppet team. During one of the shows at a playground we were opposed by one of the community leaders – he didn't allow us to do a puppet show in this particular place. There were about 15 children there, but we had to pack up and go to another playground. To our surprise, this unpleasant move turned out to be great. In that other place nobody opposed us. People were happy to hear the Gospel story and we had about 50 kids attending.

Our students are going to have another opportunity for a practicum this summer. It's going to be a short mission trip. The biggest obstacle for local practicums is the lack of time – our evening program students either have full-time jobs or study somewhere else.



Some students on practice with Puppets team

They have a desire to participate in our practicums but they don't always have the opportunity to do so since they often have to work when we have the practicum. Please pray for the summer practicum, for all of our students to have the opportunity to go on this short mission trip.

Over the past few weeks we've had several courses for the evening program students in Nizhnekamsk, Bugilma and Kazan. There was also the seminar "Evangelism in the Islamic context" taught by Jay Smith.

The end of May and early June will be full of activities. In these weeks we organize a course for our graduates in Russia, Northern Caucasus and Central Asia within the Bachelor of Missiology program. It is taking two weeks in May 19th -31st.

Please pray that the students will have good time for refreshing, encouragement and continue in this program successfully. They will take two courses. First is Missiology second is Teaching and Learning for Impact.

We're also planning to take part in training youth teams for short-term trips to cities in Tatarstan this summer. We thank you for your support. Please keep praying about ministries in Tatarstan.

Academic dean of the EMC
Arthur Shakurov



People from churches and students Puppets training

May 2008

College News

- **Puppet shows as opportunities for evangelism**
- **Summer time as opportunities for Short-term mission trips**

«When thou prayest, rather let thy heart be without words than thy words be without heart».

John Bunyan

Prayer Points:

- **Successful practicums for our students**
- **Continued Bachelor of Missiology program**
- **Short-term missionary trips this summer**