

## Ukraine's War For Survival

# GCOMM Delivers Critical Aid To The Frontlines

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine enters its sixth month Great Commission Media Ministries teams in Ukraine continue to deliver food, and medical supplies to front-line villages as well as to provide resources for the evacuation of residents trapped along 200 kilometers of active shelling by Russian forces.

While this ministry is a life-saving ministry for thousands of Ukrainians, it does not go without danger.

The vision and purpose of Great Commission Media Ministries continues to be the proclamation of the Gospel to our generation. Humanitarian aid on this scale is unusual for Great Commission Media Ministries.

Yet we are honored to be on the frontlines helping provide for those who were classified by Jesus as "the least of these", in the middle of a horrific war.

GCOMM provides for the maintenance and fueling of twenty vehicles run nonstop to transport food, water, and medical supplies into villages suffering from unending shelling by Russian forces as well as taking mothers and children to safety. Thank you for standing with us and enabling us to do so.

You may be wondering, "What can we actually be doing to help?"

Diesel fuel, for instance, sells for up to \$15 per gallon depending on whether you are able to buy from a service station or end up buying from black market "fuel trucks".

The war is taking its toll. In East Ukraine infrastructure has practically collapsed. Food markets, gas stations, pharmacies, schools, and utilities have been bombed and are no longer functional. Paying jobs are hard to find. 50,000 women serve in the military of which 5,000 are fighting on the frontlines. Thousands of women and children take cover in bomb shelters day in and day out.

Most volunteers will not have the resources to financially contribute to this crucial ministry. So, GCOMM helps with transport costs. To date, our three partnering logistics centers in Ukraine have delivered over 100 tons of food, water, and other aid to the frontline villages. Yet, the need is acute and ongoing as long as the war continues.



Our team members unload food and water in the village of Novoselovka south of Zaporozhiye. Shelling by Russian forces is ongoing as we hurry to unload the vehicles.



The lead vehicle in our convoy was severely damaged in a near-fatal accident when we were caught in intense artillery shelling and rocket fire in this frontline village. As we sought an escape route from escalating Russian artillery we ended up in a high-speed collision with a Ukrainian forces jeep which threw our vehicle uncontrollably cartwheeling sideways. The roof, sides, windshield, and rear of our vehicle were severely damaged.

There were no casualties, but two of our volunteers were transported by military ambulance to a military



hospital in a major city 100 kilometers away.

Ukrainian military medics arrived on the scene quickly and administered first aid. The other vehicle involved had been called in to provide reinforcements to defending Ukrainian forces facing. Prior to the collision, we were able to successfully unload the humanitarian aid as well as minister to over 100 people taking cover in a makeshift bomb shelter in the basement of a village public school.



Above: Villagers receive much-needed food, water, and medicine as Ukrainian and Russian forces clashed amidst rocket fire and shelling not far away.

Below: Chaplain Albert speaks to children who had come out of the basement of the school for a brief moment to get specially prepared backpacks with clothing, sweets, and a toy. The war has severely disrupted the lives of families living in frontline villages and towns.



It is dangerous to remain above ground for any length of time. There is a constant fear of being hit by Russian artillery or GRAD rockets. Yet, despite the danger, food and medical supplies are delivered by GCM to the residents of frontline villages.