

“Millions of Evangelists” Continue to Proclaim the Gospel in Russia

One of the largest communist era printing facilities in Russia. It was called “Soviet Siberia” in Novosibirsk. Over 7 years we would print more than 7 million Gospel books and Scriptures.

“A door of opportunity is open...and there are many adversaries.” The Apostle Paul, 1 Corinthians 16:9

On February 24, 2022, the Russian ministry of GCM to millions in Russia hit a dead end. It was the day when Russia invaded Ukraine.

Since February of 2022, Vladimir Putin has instituted draconian laws and their supporting infrastructure. This threatens long prison terms for anyone who is seen as opposing his Ukrainian war.

Today, all church activity in Russia has been boxed in, restricted to four walls. Men and boys

from churches across Russia have been sent to the front lines to fight for Russia.

How Did This Happen?

The saga started three decades ago. It was Christmas Day, December 25th, 1991. The Soviet flag with the hammer and sickle was lowered for the last time over the Kremlin.

The hope of a free “Russia” was not to be.

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In the Ural Mountains, church volunteers unloading scriptures and evangelism books for massive evangelistic activity in Siberia. We were blessed with faithful sponsors. Over 7 years we would print more than 7 million books.



A happy moment! A transport truck has arrived full of literature from the “Soviet Siberia” printing facility in Novosibirsk. Church volunteers are prepared for winter weather in Siberia.

After the collapse of the USSR, political turmoil and a time of unprecedented religious freedom swept across Russia. For a few brief years, there was hope for democracy and new beginnings. But alas, it was to be short-lived.

Today, the word “Russia” invokes shattered dreams, tragedy, suffering, suspicion, fear, hatred. Russia appears to be a beast out of control, conquering by the shedding of blood, leaving behind a trail of devastation. And not least, a system that persecutes any church or individual that opposes the Kremlin and its war machine in Ukraine.

Short-lived Freedom

The Church rejoiced at the abrupt collapse of

the Soviet Union. It was a dream come true! It was the answer to the prayers of millions of believers both inside and outside Russia.

Communist ideology was bankrupt. What followed was a time of unhindered proclamation of the Gospel in this former atheistic superpower. But, the Church was not prepared for the immensity of this freedom. There were those who refused to believe that this new freedom was real. Others believed it would last forever.”

Amidst the euphoria, there were specific warnings that all was not well.

In 2001, well-known evangelist and senior pastor of Times Square Church in New York, David Wilkerson, stood before 4,000 pastors addressing a national pastors’ conference in Moscow.



Yuri and the publishing staff of Great Commission Media Ministries, Russia holding the covers of a fresh run of 100,000 copies of the New Testament at the printing facility in Novosibirsk.

In the middle of his message, David Wilkerson stopped preaching to deliver a strong and emotional prophetic message: “The time of freedom in Russia will be short-lived! Pastors, you must do everything in your power to reach the nation, while there is time. Did you hear what I just said?”

Warning Unheeded

Some pastors were stunned. Others shook the warning off as “out of season.” Instead of uniting in prayer on behalf of their nation, many pastors simply smiled in disbelief. There could be no return to the religious persecution of the Soviet era, so they thought.

Little did they know that in a few scant years the new-found time of freedom would be over.

In 2005, warning signs had already started to appear. Restrictive legislation, one law after another was rubber-stamped and approved. The KGB became more aggressive. They embarked on their own mission to disarm the Church of its mission.

Dark, menacing storm clouds gathered over Russia. There was no time to lose. The new restrictive laws hindered the Church in the fulfillment of its mission to reach their nation with the Gospel by conventional means.

Storm Warning!

Not knowing what the future would hold we at GCMC believed the call given through David Wilkerson. We embarked on a massive challenge to print millions of New Testaments, The Gospel



Hannu Haukka of Great Commission Media Ministries with project co-ordinator Yuri at the large printing facility called "Soviet Siberia" in Novosibirsk. Over 7 years we would print more than 7 million Gospel books and Scriptures.

of John, Bibles, and full-colour 120-page evangelism books.

We found one of the largest communist era printing facilities in Russia. It was called "Soviet Siberia" in Novosibirsk. Over 7 years we would print more than 7 million Gospel books and Scriptures for millions of Russians.

No one knew that on February 24, 2022 Russia would invade Ukraine full force and the doors to the propagation of the Gospel would close. Freedom in Russia would be history!

Mega City Media Campaigns

Looking back, we were able to conduct unprecedented massive media campaigns across Russia in 70 major cities reaching over 70 million people.

By 2011 the KGB, now known as the FSB (Feder-

al Security Bureau), has embarked on systematically blocking Russia's mainline media and evangelical churches from taking part in these high impact media campaigns. From then on, we poured all our resources into accelerated printing of Scripture.

November 2021

Just 90 days before Russia's forces invaded Ukraine, we had ordered another 200,000 copies of the Gospel of John and 100,000 high impact evangelism books.

At the same time, Ukrainian military intelligence reported that Russia had deployed almost 200,000 troops equipped with tanks, artillery, fighter jets, bombers along the border with Ukraine.



Between 2014-2022 teams of church volunteers traveled from village to village across Russia's vast Siberian territory, equipped with evangelism books that were printed by GCMM in Central Siberia. The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, (Romans 1:16). The Word of God is food for the hungry soul, and encouragement for the weary heart.

December 2021

Satellite images revealed that Russia had continued to amass troops on the Ukrainian border. We knew that whatever we wished to do for Russia's millions of citizens and its churches had to be done asap, without delay!

January 2022

Our last order for books was placed at the printers in Siberia. We ordered 100,000 New Testaments and 200,000 Gospels of John. Those

books were sent "special delivery" to one hundred Russian cities and churches across Siberia and the Russian Far East.

Russian churches were dedicated to continuing the Great Commission, their mission despite the draconian restrictions and adversity.

D-Day!

Russia had repeatedly promised the world that its military forces would not attack Ukraine.



GCMM was able to print and deliver over 7 million New Testaments, The Gospel of John, and evangelism books before the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

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In January 2022, a few weeks before Russia’s full invasion of Ukraine, we attempted to place one more order for more books at the Siberian printing facility.

On February 24th, 2022, Russia launched its merciless invasion of Ukraine. Consequently, all travel to Russia was halted. All bank transfers were discontinued making it impossible to continue “business as usual.” Our world had changed overnight!

The storm hit Russia’s churches with full force. But, in the middle of the storm, and providentially so, each book printed with GCMM donations was a “missionary” in the hands of its reader. Every one of those over 7 million books continued to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to millions as they turn the pages of

these books.

By God’s grace, and thanks to your sacrificial giving and your prayers, we did all that we could and all that needed to be done.

Our friends of the ministry, supporters and our intercessors praying for the work, made this miracle in Russia possible.

According to the senior pastors in Russia more than a million Russians had prayed the prayer of salvation between the years 2014-2021. The scriptures and evangelism books had been a primary tool in the process.

Please keep us in your prayers and if you are able, please support this crucial lifesaving, life-restoring outreach of GCMM in Russia in the middle of this devastating war.



Over 35 million people listened to our shortwave radio broadcasts weekly during the Soviet era in the 1970's. Now we are entering a similar situation as Russia scrambles satellite TV and internet feeds.

Dear Ministry Friend,

We have been privileged to be a part of God's Great Commission for Russia by providing millions of Russians with the Gospel in literary form. Yet we do not stop there. There is an ever-increasing urgency to press on! GCMM has received an unexpected and almost incredible offer to reach into the homes of over 100 million Russians via super-power radio from Finnish soil.

The radio station has a footprint that covers an area with over 100 million people in western Russia alone.

People in Russia do not have access to media content independent of the Kremlin. Russia has reined in every form of media not in line with Moscow. Consequently, there is no room for the Gospel.

Our Mission

The station is a powerful **1,000 kilowatt (one million watt)** medium-wave radio station. It was built and used by the Finnish government during the Cold War. A few years later, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the radio station was decommissioned.

The station can be compared to a highway into millions of homes in Russia.

GCMM via it's partner ministry in Finland has been offered a broadcast license and rights to use the station.

The Footprint

European Russia has a population of **113 million** people (2020), making it the most populous country in Europe. About **77%** of Russia's total population lives west of the Ural Mountains.

Almost all of Russia's largest cities are in the western part of the country including Moscow and St.Petersburg.

Listeners who speak Russian

Western Russia	113 million
Belarus	10 million
Northern Ukraine	25 million
Poland	3 million (mostly Ukrainian)
Lithuania	1.5 million
Latvia	1.2 million
Estonia	0.9 million

Potential listeners 150 million

Together, we can make this a reality. Every dollar will reach 300 people (or 75 households) with the Gospel for an entire year!

We can reach 10,000 Russians with 12 months of Gospel programming for only **\$35** bypassing heavy government censorship and accelerate the pace of proclaiming the Gospel to millions of Russians.

Yours for millions for whom Jesus died,

Hannu Haukka, President GCMM

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