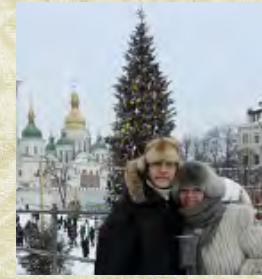


RUSSIAN TRIP



ALEX AND HELENA IN KIEV

Our Russian Language Coordinators, Alex and Helena Bogat (pictured to the left), just returned from a seven-month trip through several Russian-speaking countries to record interviews, form new partnerships, speak at global conferences, and translate our curriculum. Below are some of the highlights of their trip.

CENTRAL ASIA CONFERENCE IN KYRGYZSTAN

Alex, Helena, and Igor Bogat (another member of the Russian team) met up with Third Mill's President Richard Pratt to attend the Central Asia Conference in Kyrgyzstan. Picture on the cover, pastors, seminary students, and church leaders from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Azerbaijan attended to hear Richard speak on biblical prophecies.

INTERVIEW WITH REV. SERGEY NAKUL



ALEX AND IGOR INTERVIEWING REV. NAKUL

In July, Alex and Igor met with the pastor of Grace Reformed Church in Kiev, Rev. Sergey Nakul. Rev. Nakul is a graduate of the Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Ukraine and is pursuing a second degree in Intercultural Reformed Theology. His interview will appear in our future lessons.

PARTNERSHIP WITH EUROPEAN BAPTIST FEDERATION

Twice last year our Russian team presented at European Baptist Federation (EBF) conferences. The coordinator of Russian-speaking churches for the EBF was so impressed by the quality of our curriculum that he decided to place our materials in *all languages* on their Resources for Ministry web page. Now 1,346 Russian-speaking churches have access to our curriculum.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS FORUM



ALEX WITH WORD OF LIFE INSTITUTE

In August, the Russian team presented at the Christian Missions Forum of the Baptist Union in Kiev. More than 1,500 attendees from all over the world – including Egypt, Syria, Uganda, and Germany – met to discuss how to encourage evangelism and equip churches with tools for ministry. This forum was a great opportunity for our Russian team to meet key people and distribute our materials.

EURO-ASIAN ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION



ALEX WITH REV. DR. SERGEI SANNIKOV

The Bogats met with Rev. Dr. Sergei Sannikov, the president of the Euro-Asian Accreditation Association. The Euro-Asian Accreditation Association belongs to the family of evangelical agencies involved in the accreditation of Christian education. Their mission is to help educational institutions reach international standards. Dr. Sannikov wants to incorporate Third Mill materials in EAAA's new online education project.

EASTERN EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP FORUM IN KIEV

In November, the team presented at the Eastern European Leadership Forum in Kiev. This forum is designed to equip Christian leaders to build a more biblical church. There were more than 650 attendees from countries like Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Poland. Not only did their presentation go well, but they were also able to meet with the director of Emmanuel TV and the dean of Poltava Theological Seminary. As a result, Third Mill is now working on a formal partnership with Poltava Theological Seminary.

ST. PETERSBURG CONFERENCE OF REFORMED CHURCHES

Igor attended a conference of Reformed Churches in St. Petersburg, Russia. The theme of the conference was the Works of the Holy Spirit. Igor was able to give a presentation on Third Mill and gave away DVDs. He also met a pastor of a small Reformed church in Siberia who is planning to start a Third Mill network in other cities around Siberia.

COMPLETED THREE NEW SERIES



Even while attending conferences, our talented Russian team completed three new series in 2016 alone! *The Pentateuch*, *The Epistle of James*, and *We Believe in God* (DVD cover pictured to the left) are all available on our Russian website (r.thirdmill.org) and have been delivered to our countless partners in the Russian-speaking world.

We are very thankful to have Alex and Helena back in the United States with us. They will continue to work on translating our Russian curriculum and making connections with key people to distribute our curriculum. Please pray for our Russian team as they work to ensure every Russian-speaking Christian has access to sound, biblical education. If you would like to donate to the ongoing efforts of our Russian team, visit thirdmill.org/donate and click the Russian button.





HE GAVE US SCRIPTURE IN SPANISH AND ARABIC

At Third Millennium, we believe solid biblical training is a necessary foundation for true evangelism and discipleship. Unfortunately, inadequate pastoral training and loose interpretation of the Scriptures has led to countless problems in areas where the church is growing quickly. Our series, *He Gave Us Scripture*, is designed to address this issue by giving pastors and church leaders the tools necessary to interpret scripture and instruct their communities on how to live a God-centered life today. Because of this, we are pleased to announce the completion of *He Gave Us Scripture* in both Arabic and Spanish.

"We believe this course is a much-needed, one-of-a-kind course in Arabic to sharpen the hermeneutical skills of Arabic-speaking pastors and church leaders to rightly handle the word of truth for the ultimate purpose of edifying God's people and building up Christ's kingdom," said Rev. Sherif Gendy, Third Mill's Arabic Department Coordinator.

You can find the Arabic version of *He Gave Us Scripture* at arabic.thirdmill.org and the Spanish version at espanol.thirdmill.org.



THIRD MILL IN CUBA

At the end of January, Third Millennium's Vice President of Development Len Hardison and one of our ministry partners, Brad Downs, traveled to Cuba to visit several groups who are using the Third Mill curriculum.

Few families in Cuba own a car and those who do drive a used mid-century car. In fact, most Cubans consider themselves fortunate to own a bicycle. Geraldo, a 26-year-old translator and Third Mill student, typically hitchhikes to his church from where he lives since his wife uses the family bike. He mentioned that his dream is to own a used car by the time he is 60. Despite having so little, Cubans are incredibly inventive and ingenious. One of the seminaries they visited did not have a cable to transfer audio files from a laptop to an MP3 player, so they decided to make their own connector. It took about two hours and a lot of wire, but with their effort they created a functioning connector.



WIRE THEY MADE TO TRANSFER AUDIO FILES

One of the first places they visited was Los Pinos Nuevos Seminary in Placetas. The group there had been going through our Spanish curriculum for the last three years and most of them had seen every lesson we had available in Spanish. At the seminary, their goal is to use all available resources to train indigenous leaders who will then teach and train other church leaders. Because Cubans rarely leave the city where they were born, distributing Third Millennium's curriculum is the most effective way they can get seminary education to the pastors in the rural parts of the country.



COPY CENTER FOR LOS PINOS

A leader at the seminary shared how the local pastor in Cuba is highly respected in their community and congregations. Without the buy-in of the pastors and the leaders, the local church congregations likely will not be as enthusiastic about going through the curriculum.

Len and Brad also traveled to the little town of Báez to meet with a group that had finished studying *The Book of Acts*. They were eager to share what they learned from the lesson. One person said, "I didn't know Luke wrote Acts. Now I read Luke and Acts together, and it makes so much more sense." Another shared that before watching the lesson, he thought Luke was one of the original disciples.



THIRD MILL GROUP IN BÁEZ

The meeting with the group in Santa Clara was one of their most encouraging meetings. Everyone was speaking simultaneously about how much Third Mill meant to them. One man in his mid-70s said, "I would never have dreamed I could have gotten this kind of education at my age. And I don't have to go anywhere. I have a Ph.D. in my living room, teaching me about God's Word, and not just any Ph.D. They are the best Ph.D.'s in their field."



SANTA CLARA CHURCH



FROM THE FIELD

We crave this kind of learning. These lessons are exactly the kind of thing churches who wish to systematically train workers but lack teachers and good materials need because these lessons are suitable for brothers and sisters at all levels.

~ (Name withheld due to security concerns), China



WILL YOU JOIN US?

At Third Millennium Ministries, we are developing a multimedia curriculum to be used in the theological education of church leaders everywhere in the world. Third Millennium's ability to produce and distribute our curriculum is directly tied to the support we receive from our loyal donors. Will you consider partnering with us today in the exciting work God is doing through Third Mill?

You may return your donation in the enclosed envelope, or if you prefer the convenience of online giving, visit thirdmill.org and click the "Donate" button. Thank you.

THIRD MILL IN SOUTH AFRICA

"Some of the biggest obstacles to biblical education in South Africa is access. Due to our history, it is difficult for [those studying to become pastors] to cope with the level of English that is required. However, because Third Mill resources are in DVD format, people can watch the lessons [as opposed to just listening or reading]. And some of those people who might be semi-illiterate can see what is happening and see the impact and the significance of the Scriptures. I think also the visual material that comes with some of the materials—for example, Paul's journey, where you see it on the map and the movement and in the commentary—it helps to bring a picture to people's minds of the biblical world."

~Vuyani Sindo, South Africa

EGYPTIAN COLLEGE STUDENTS LEARN THEOLOGY THROUGH THIRD MILL VIDEOS

A few months ago, Third Mill established a formal partnership with the Evangelical Youth Ministry (EYM) in Sohag, Egypt. Established in 1992, EYM strives to minister to and disciple college youth from different evangelical denominations. Yousry Yassa, the leader of EYM, recently sent us a picture of him leading a group of 87 Egyptian college students through *The Gospels* series in Arabic. Because of the success he is having with his current group, Yousry was asked to start another study group with college students in a different city and requested we send him 38 more USBs filled with our Arabic curriculum for them to use.