



An article written from the heart by Caesar who died January 28, 2006 in a bus accident outside of St. Petersburg, Russia

The Christian Students' Vision for Their Ministry

Greetings in the name of Lord Jesus Christ.
I am a Christian student of the Volgograd State Medical University in Russia.

I thank God for the spiritual inspiration which is existing amongst we few foreign students in this university. We pray for one another, encourage each other spiritually, respect each other and help one another in times of social or spiritual difficulties. We normally meet on particular days of the week for prayers, Bible study, counsel, or other teachings.

However, we still have one big task of reaching the majority of our fellow students with gospel. Some of them come from their respective countries to Russia while strong believers but after reaching here they start losing their spiritual life slowly until they remain like non-believers. This happens due to several factors: firstly; due to language problems, almost all new students can not understand the Russian language at all, so when they just arrive from home in their beginning life here in Russia they start attending Russian churches where the whole entire service is conducted in Russian. So when they find that they can not understand anything they tend to reduce their attendance gradually and finally they stop. Secondly; due to distance from student residences to the church's location. Russian churches are few and located a distance away from student's hostels. According to a lack of security for foreigners here in Russia, most of the students fear to travel far away from their hostels and as a result they find themselves spending a number of Sundays in their hostels without visiting churches.

So, in order to solve such problems, we have made a decision to begin our own student ministry, specially for foreign students in which the whole entire service will be in English language so that we can easily help one another. However, in order to achieve this goal there are some costs we must incur, first; prayers, we have been praying to God to make it possible for us. Secondly; we need to hire a building in the town center which can be easily reached by almost every student. In order to hire a building in the town center money would be needed. We pray God so that someone somewhere can be spiritually touched to donate for this student ministry.

We believe that the almighty God will provide a way for all these plans that we have so that we can manage to bring many souls of our fellow students to Christ Jesus. *"Caesar"*

Caesar was a special guy. He had become almost as a son to Lora and me. He would often come by the flat to pray with me for the student ministry. He was so excited when one of our friends in the US sent him a leather Thompson Chain Bible. Such a Godly and dedicated young man. So responsible and caring. He and I, as well as others, have been praying for a worship center for students. He would ask me everyday "how is it progressing". Caesar brought such encouragement to me in my life. His friendship and care (often calling me to see how I was doing) is already missed. We prayed and grew in Christ together with other men from around the world. His quiet presence and wise counsel and desire to grow and serve were so very precious to me. A man half my age became not only a son, but a brother to me. I feel that the best way I can honor his life is to honor Christ and pick up the mantle that Caesar carried. To fervently pursue Caesar's desire of having a worship service in English for the students in a safe building. By God's grace we will see Caesar's dream come true. What a privilege it was to have known such a precious man....my brother Caesar. Frank Hamer February 1, 2006

We do.... "not grieve as others do who have no hope."

**Less than three months later the first service for
Koinonia student fellowship was held on April 16, 2006**