



Christian Radio for Russia

Sponsor of the New Life Satellite Network—Odessa, Ukraine
Broadcasting worldwide at www.NLRadio.net

October 2021

www.CRFR.org

NEW LIFE RADIO—TWO years since our transition to Odessa: A look at the opportunities and challenges ahead for ministry to the Russian-speaking world!

A historical lookback: September 2019

After 20 years of operating New Life Radio from studios in Moscow, Russia, the CRFR directors determined in June 2019—due to a multitude of factors negatively impacting the freedom and ability of this radio ministry to conduct its broadcasts—that a change of venue was demanded, and the city of Odessa, Ukraine was selected to become the new home of the NLR network. Immediately thereafter, the transition started as new staff from Odessa went to Moscow to dismantle the station and then reassemble it in a greatly expanded facility space located at *the Christian Economic and Humanitarian Open University*.

For three furious months of studio construction, organizing, and program preparation, NLR operated as an automated radio station, void of live interaction, while the new missionary team prepared for a startup date of live broadcasting on September 20, 2019. On that day, with the flick of a switch, New Life Radio went live via satellite and Internet radio, with station manager Ivan Zhurakovski and CRFR's Daniel Johnson at the controls to initiate a new era of NLR's Christian radio for the Slavic world.

Despite the new location, the outreach area continued on, focusing first on delivering Christian content to cities and remote areas throughout Russia and the former Soviet Union, then globally to Russian-speakers tuned in via www.NLRadio.net. Listeners from Moscow to Minnesota heard the new format in a seamless transition!



NLR's initial live broadcast: 9/20/19

It's not an easy step to uproot a complex thing like a radio network, but as we made a leap of faith trusting that the Lord was behind the move, He graciously gave us numerous confirmations that this transition was indeed according to His purposes. As one door closes, another one opens!

Fast forward to Fall 2021. The Russia that allowed New Life Radio to develop back in 1993 has become a nation in turmoil, suffering from repressive state actions against the evangelical Church, freedom of the press, and dictatorial actions across every facet of society that makes an operation like NLR impossible to operate. NLR left Moscow just in TIME!

TODAY, NLR is in a stronger position to carry out its mission mandate like never before! The possibilities for communicating Christian truth and the Gospel message are vast and motivating for our missionary team!



TEACHING a new generation over multiple media wherever they live

In the last newsletter, we described the many program themes and doctrines of the faith that NLR consistently produces for airing. More than ever, we are convinced that a major portion of our broadcasts need to focus on teaching the solid meat of sound Christian doctrine for a Slavic church that is malnourished in the Scriptures. And as we labor intensely to deliver doctrinal content, there is a noticeable upsurge in the amount of listener responses we get, with a majority asking us for more content and how they can access previously aired programs.

What is clear to NLR is that evangelism takes place as we explain the Gospel while delving deep into expository teaching from Genesis to Revelation, adding extensive programs analyzing Church history and theology. If the new listener tunes in and doesn't understand everything at once, we can offer great Christian music, live DJ encouragement, and then trust the Spirit of God to open their minds as they hear the Word of God and the call to repentance. Whether on an i-Phone, computer, satellite receiver, or street loudspeaker, NLR is getting the Bible into the ears and hearts of our audience scattered from the Russian Far East, to Israel, Europe, and wherever God touches people to tune in. IT IS A MOST EXCITING time for ministry!

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: Teaching the Bible with Alexey Kolomitsev

For many years, NLR has been looking for particular and special Bible teachers who are well equipped to explain the Scriptures, and since our move to Odessa, we have found a man of God who is now making a big impact on our audience on a daily basis: Alexey Kolomitsev!

Alexey is pastor-teacher at *Word of Grace Bible Church* in Battle Ground, Washington. He is also the head of *Word of Grace Ministries*, which aims to train leaders and spread biblical preaching over diverse media. Alexey has Masters of Theology degrees from *The Master's Seminary*, Sun Valley, CA.



NLR features Alexey's daily short teaching slots while having him deliver the main morning and evening sermons. We thank God for providing us this man who delves as deep into the Scriptures like the great teachers of past generations, and our audiences are often in awe at how the Bible comes alive through the expository lessons offered by Pastor Alexey.

The NLR rehabilitation broadcast ministry continues to expand!

We are amazed at how many requests NLR continues to receive from Christian-operated rehabilitation centers in Russia and other countries. In September, we now have **60** centers with satellite equipment to listen to NLR's 24/7 broadcasts, offering residents Christian programming that can lead to their recovery, and discovery of the new life that God has for them!



NLR listeners in Perm, Russia

A sample of LISTENER comments from August/September



RUSSIA. "NLR is super! Thank you for the subject of security of salvation; it's an important theme! I love your radio for such theological teachings! I am building my house and listening as I study in your radio seminary--even my neighbors are listening! You have a good team! Continue to strengthen and make wiser our superficial, shallow, and immature contemporary Christianity. Thanks!" Alex

--"I want to thank all the leaders on the air who so well pick out themes that are very needed for us!"

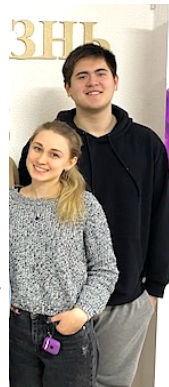
--"To everybody I recommend God's Word on radio. It inspires and spiritually feeds! All day long I am working and listening at home--even on the road. New Life Radio silenced the sound of this world in which there is vanity, fear, and everything that does not edify. I did not expect that such a radio was possible!"

--"Dear Friends at NLR, the Lord is with you! You are doing very wonderful work sharing the love of the Lord with children in our Christian summer camp!"

--"I am pouring cement and listening to your radio with my pastor." Victor

STAFF NEWS: Wedding Bells

Our two young radio staff persons, Lina Stepanenko and Dima Gumushlu found love at NLR and were married in August! Pray for their marriage and their ongoing ministry service at the radio network!



SEEING IS BELIEVING...



CRFR has a new 2 minute video overview of the ministry of NLR, suitable for a Sunday church missions moment. Contact our office if you would like a copy, and we will send it via WeTransfer.com. It's a great way to show people what NLR is and does!

MORE listeners write in September:

"Greetings to you. It's a really good and helpful radio! I am listening to you for one month and I got so much benefit from it. I receive answers from my questions through sermons that you broadcast that I never even asked you. The Holy Spirit fills us and gives us answers! Be blessed!" Andre Titov

"Shalom friends! A year ago at this time in your program called "Setting the heart," you were discussing the Psalms, and even till today, those programs are encouraging me!" Victor

"Praise Jesus for you friends!" From a true disciple.

Note: Each day, NLR receives numerous letters that assure us we are on the right track! Thanks to our CRFR donors who help us stay on the air each month to reach out with the Gospel! If you can, tell others about our ministry, so we can strengthen NLR!

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