

Christian Radio for Russia & Ukraine

Sponsor of the New Life Radio Satellite Network—Odessa, Ukraine
Serving the Slavic world with Christian truth through Biblical programming

August 2024



www.CRFR.org

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds... 2 Cor.10:4

Odessa, Ukraine: New Life Radio remains on the air, transmitting theological and doctrinal truth in two languages to nations at war.

The challenges of operating Christian radio during this time of war in some ways can be compared to the trials faced by the Apostle Paul in Corinth, who dealt with a different type of warfare in challenging mind and spirit.



NLR Odessa staff: Zhenya, Damyr, Olga, Yuri, Dan

One of the tragedies of this conflict (alongside much suffering, death, and destruction) between Russia and Ukraine is the seeming absence of truth. While one does not expect this from governments, society has historically looked to religious entities to find it, but such is often not the case from the traditional faiths that take center stage in these countries we now serve. For people desperately looking for hope, truth, and answers during these hellish times, there has always been only one source for it: JESUS.

Christianity, since the time of the Apostles, has always had to counter the forces of evil that seek to confuse those seeking the truth of God and His Gospel—that alone can save mankind. Whether in the 1st Century or the 21st, our work as Christian communicators is to take on the command to proclaim the Gospel to a lost world, understanding the priority of the task and the issues faced in revealing the saving faith in Christ.

We have noted that NLR is a *Seminary of the Air* that seeks to provide Biblical instruction where there is a lack of it locally and nationally across these countries. Digging deep into God's truth is our work, helping believers put on the whole armor of God through knowing His Word. And while Paul did not have to deal with incoming bombs or power outages that can stop our radio and satellite transmissions, we share his trials as revealed by his understanding of the nature of the real war we fight. Like him, our programmers have the task of 2 Corinthians 10:4 in dealing with spiritual warfare by using the Word to *pull down strongholds; casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ*. The clarity of the Scriptures destroys falsehood and gives ultimate hope, so NLR is focused on sound theology and doctrine to guide the listener.

Summer Update from Odessa

Looking at news headlines about the war, Odessa has been featured daily as the intensity of the fight has only increased and the suffering multiplied. New Life Radio has had to deal with constant troubles relating to ongoing electrical shutdowns and missiles whizzing past their facility. As Russia targets electrical infrastructure, CRFR&U partners have helped us purchase electrical battery backup systems that will keep us on the air, which is important as the upcoming fall and winter's prospects for stable electricity in Odessa seems dim.

Another challenge has been in staffing the station. While war mobilization has truly impacted our ability to find and keep staff, we are fortunate this past month to add some part time workers who will help us with doing productions for the Russian and Ukrainian channels. They include Zhenya Bolgar, Damyr Agalarov, and Daniel Gordienko. They join our staff in Austria and Germany (Ivan, Lena, and Dima), along with our studio coordinator Yuri, and his wife Olga, who is now part time (and expecting their first child). As *Radio Nove Zhitya* is growing in its program output, we are still in need of three full time missionaries for it.

Fortunately, the quality of our broadcasts in teaching and music are not impacted by the staffing issues, as our 24/7 schedule, assisted by radio automation allows us to combine new programs with an outstanding archive of the best Bible teachers and music across genres. In fact, NLR has never sounded better and we praise God for His provision in these areas.

A new voice on the air is always good, and we are pleased to have Zhenya Bolgar join us. A seminary grad who is eager to serve at NLR while also assisting a local church, Zhenya is an experienced voice that we hope will be with us for the long term. Please keep him in your prayers.



MORE NEWS...



In July, NLR completed its 5 year lease agreement with the Christian University on Kutuzakia Street for renting our seven radio studios. The director of this university—that has stopped its operations since the war began—has agreed to a new 5 year extension for NLR to remain in the building. While our stay is tenuous from a war situation, we hope to remain and continue working from this facility that is perfectly suited to our needs and sufficient for operating two distinct radio services.

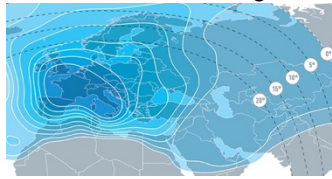


Russia: losing western Internet access?

On August 1, the Kremlin took new steps to interfere with Internet service from the west and is preparing a shutdown that *could* preclude NLR's ability to reach that nation. YouTube, Russian's main source for outside information is quickly being terminated. There is little that the Russian public can do as the Kremlin uses media enforcement as part of their war strategy, so NLR will continue using the *Hotbird* satellite to reach the most populated parts of Russia. CRFR&U pays \$1800 per month for this coverage area and is always looking for sponsors to help us guarantee Gospel radio access for this nation in great need of hearing it. This is one media channel the Kremlin cannot control and all cities can receive it.

NLR satellite coverage

A sample of NLR listeners writing in from around the Slavic world:



Sergey: *For the third day I am listening to your radio and I really like it! I feel a Christian spirit! Before that, I listened to Christian radio from Estonia, but now it is gone so I was sad. For a long time I was looking for suitable radio and now found you. Listening to NLR for many hours at a time. Praise God, I like everything! I receive substantial edification. May the Lord bless you. I am glad to have fellowship with you!*

Vladislav Krivsov (Russia): *Hello favorite radio! Thank you for your labor! Praise to the Lord God for you! May the Lord bless you and protect you!*

Yuri (Russia): *Thank you for the sermon on the Book of Ecclesiastes! WOW! I am trembling internally, so unexpectedly.*

Listener in Russia: *Hello favorite radio. I want to express my huge gratitude that you broadcast the Word of Truth. Thanks that we can simply write about our needs or ask for a musical request. I thank the Lord for such an opportunity!*

Anonymous: *Good day most favorite radio NEW LIFE! May the Lord bless the broadcasts of HIS TRUTH! I would like to express a huge thanks to DJ Olga. Yesterday Olga was talking about some need in one town. Thank you for that! Today I wanted to hear a live air shift but could not due to work. Constantly we need to remain in the condition of not being afraid of talking about the Lord, or simply praying with someone. May God protect you.*

Anonymous from Israel: *Thank you brother for these studies of the Word! Paul wrote such an instruction to Timothy: preach the Word! 2 Tim 4:2. God bless you.*

Peter Chebonenko (Ukraine): *I was listening to a sermon by Shkarovski—sensible, and clear teaching. It very beautifully reveals the Lordship of Jesus. Thank you!*

Alexander: *Thank you brother for the words of faith. Every day being reminded about faith, you get strengthened in your faith and move forward.*

Georgi Alexandrovich: *Peace of God blessed radio! Love to all brothers and sisters. Greetings from Kaliningrad region, city of Sovetsk. I thank all the radio staff for your work. May you expand that we could listen to God's Word from every receiver, even at the end of the earth! Amen.*

Laura: *Thank you very much. May the Lord bless you in your labor for the sake of Christ.*

Ivan Ivanov: *Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus! Radio New Life is the kind of radio from which you get charged up for the whole day! Thanks for your labor!*

Vladimir: *Greetings to you. Lately I have been often listening to NLR—good songs, God's Word for edification. Big thanks! Lord bless you!*

Tatiana Mayourovna: *Greetings to all dear brothers and sisters of the team of this beautiful radio station! I am thankful to God for your precious labor!*

Prayer concerns: Over 600 churches

in Ukraine have been destroyed and evangelical churches shut down in Russian-occupied Ukraine. Pray for our ability to reach people there, and for the safety of our radio staff.

LISTEN to us at www.NLRadio.net (NLR) or www.NoveZhitya.net (RNZ)

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR CRFR&U partners for all you do to keep NLR on the air, every day! Your spiritual investment in the Gospel makes our ministry a reality!

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