

Decisions for Christ in Ukraine

God worked mightily through this summer's English camp in Ukraine, with the majority of the 78 participants making positive decisions for Christ by the close of the program.

"Some of the teens made initial decisions to trust in Jesus and most grew in their knowledge of and commitment to God, Jesus, and discipleship," staff member Russ Hammerud shared upon returning from the program. "I believe this program will result in lots of changes in Ukrainian kids' lives. We know the program was much prayed for and we are very grateful to those who upheld us. 'The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.' (James 5:16)"

The camp was jointly led by ACCTS and Olive Branch Ukraine. The morning program started with exercise and worship followed by two hours of English classes and two hours of Bible messages and study. The rest of the day was filled with fun team-building activities such as sports, competitions, crafts, a bonfire with s'mores, free time for thought and fellowship, and an evening assembly with skits and songs.

About 60% of the program participants were children of Ukrainian military personnel. Russ relates that the participants had many questions on various biblical topics, especially the fall of mankind, its consequences (Satan's lies, alienation, human depravity, resulting conflict, and war) and God's promise of a Savior who would destroy Satan and restore paradise.

"Seeing relationships develop between the kids and the teachers, as well as among the kids themselves, is always a highlight. At the end of the program, when so many of the kids responded to the challenge to follow Christ, there was much rejoicing, tears, and hugs. The Ukrainian military Christians will follow up with the participants and invite them to churches in their areas and to weekly English clubs, which also include discipleship." The follow-up started quickly, as the day after camp seven participants attended worship service at the church of Valentyn Korenevych, the camp program director.

Thank you for your prayers and support of this summer's English camp. Please pray that the participants who made decisions for Christ will continue to get to know Him and follow Him.