



To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light ... that they may receive forgiveness of sins... Acts 26:18

May 2025

### New Outreach!

In March, we were able to start an English Café at a local restaurant called Uyut, (in Russian means comfort) which was started by a wonderful Christian woman. She graciously lets us use the back tables for free to hold our English classes. When she heard that the café would be used to connect with people who don't yet know Christ, she was overjoyed. Her heart for outreach has been such a blessing, and the café has already become a warm and welcoming place where meaningful conversations are beginning to happen.

### Max loves philosophy

One of the students I've gotten to know through the café is a college student named Max. He's studying to become an English teacher and is deeply interested in philosophy and reasoning—something I also enjoy. Though he grew up in a Russian Orthodox family, Max now identifies as agnostic. Still, he's been eager to meet weekly to talk in English about worldviews, reasoning, and philosophical ideas. Our conversations have been thoughtful and rich, and we've both enjoyed the time.

This week, we had a breakthrough moment. Max concluded, "I want to be a good person, but not necessarily a Christian." That opened the door for me to share the gospel a bit more directly. I gave him the short essay by C.S. Lewis called "Man or Rabbit?" from the book *God in the Dock*, which wrestles with that exact idea. I also gave him two books: *Done* and *One Heartbeat Away*—both have a clear and compelling presentations of the gospel.

### Would you please pray for Max?

- That God would open his eyes to the truth of who Jesus is.
- That he would wrestle honestly with what he reads and what we talk about.
- That the Holy Spirit would be at work in his heart, drawing him toward genuine faith.
- And that our conversations would continue to be fruitful, respectful, and Christ-centered.

Also pray for the other 11 participants in our English Cafe!

Thank you for praying and for being part of this ministry. The Lord is using your partnership to plant seeds and build bridges—one conversation at a time.

For lost Russian souls,

*Keith Sampson*

Keith, Lisa, Candice, Corissa, and Phillip Sampson

Baptist Bible Fellowship International P.O. Box 191 Springfield, Mo 65801 . keithsampson.com . russia4christ@hotmail.com . 417 833 8326