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Mission to Ukraine

Honoring life with the love of Christ, Mission to Ukraine serves women in crisis pregnancies and children with disabilities, while influencing society on their behalf



A Fairy Tale about Forgiveness That's True

As I listened to her story, I was sure I was listening to the plot of a movie.

Lana attends one of my Bible studies. Here's what happened to her...

During Lana's first two visits to Bible study, she seemed distant and

aloof. At her third meeting, we began to talk of forgiveness. She screamed, "Forgive? How can you forgive this? I gave birth to a little girl who was traumatized during labor. When I returned home, my husband and my mother-in-law said, 'Pack your bags. You gave birth to an invalid, now raise her yourself. We don't need a child like this'!

During the last 5 years I haven't shed a tear. I have become hard like a rock to fight for my little girl's health. I did everything possible to help her walk and develop.

Last year I had my kidney removed. I begged God to keep me alive, to not orphan my girl. I cried out, "If you save my life, I will read the Bible every day for 2 hours." When I recovered from the anesthesia, all my inner being leapt with joy! I was alive! I have kept my promise to read the Bible."

I told Lana, "You need to forgive - you need to take this heavy burden off. You will feel better." We made a circle, joined hands and began to pray. Lana became hysterical and sobbed violently. She embraced me so strongly, I could hardly breathe.



"In five years this is the first time I have shared my helplessness. I feel so good, I feel I have wings and I can fly".

Next week she returned to Bible group shining with joy and triumph. "You all need to sit. You won't believe this!" She shared her story so excitedly she was gasping for air.

"I returned home to find my husband and his mother waiting for me. They came with papers for me to sign saying that I didn't want alimony from them. Earlier I would have spit out all my hatred on them, but now I was free. My husband didn't even look at his little girl. I learned he had a different family and his second daughter had leukemia. I was surprised to have so much compassion for them!"

"My mother-in-law screamed, 'During all this time, nobody has needed you with an invalid child.' Suddenly, a voice behind her said, 'I need her and I came here for her.' They looked around to see a man that I had dated 8 years ago. He regretted the separation and when he learned that I was single again, he sought me out."

Lana was stunned that Andrei appeared after so many years just as she needed his care and concern. Both her ex-relatives lowered their heads and left.

Indeed, there is nothing impossible for God. When we forgive, God blesses us with so much more!

Olga Chebanova
MTU Bible Study Teacher



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