



International Bible Society

## The Life-changing Power of the Gospel

[By Pavel Novak, IBS-Europe Director of Communication]



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***“The Parable of the Sower stuck in my memory and spoke to me the most.  
I also used to be unfertile soil, but things are different now ...”***

**IBS is reaching out to the young generation for Christ. Here are some of testimonies we received after the distribution recently in Russia. We can see that the Gospel of Mark can bring Jesus’ light and life to many:**

*I grew up in a Christian family but I didn’t see any sense in attending church or studying the Bible. When I started to attend high school I stopped any contacts with church. Recently a group of young people gave me a piece of Scripture, the Gospel of Mark, and invited me to a meeting. I accepted the invitation and started attending the study group. I liked the study very much and I was deeply impressed by Jesus’ life and deeds; all was presented comprehensibly and it was easy to understand. I fell in love with Jesus, and He is a great inspiration to me. The Parable of the Sower stuck in my memory and spoke to me the most [Mark 4]. I also had been such unfertile soil until recently but things are different today. Thanks to IBS for the helpful study tool.*



Alexander Bykov



Dima Buchnev

*I liked the Bible text and notes as well. The book teaches us to love others as they are and to pay attention to them in spite of weaknesses they might have. After all, God loves all people equally. I wish that all young people around me will have the opportunity to get this book. It helps us to face up to the troubles of life and to find the true source of life-changing power.*

*We both grew up in typically secular families. We saw how alcohol can disrupt relationships, cause quarrels and unrest. When we met young Christians for the first time we considered them to be strange, but their habits have influenced us for the better. While studying the Gospel of Mark we recognized that lives can be changed, and we hunger for those changes. This desire led us to study the Word of God more deeply. Thank you so much for the nice and helpful study tool.*



Tatiana Khrapova and Natalia Afanasieva



Ivan Petrovich

*I am only 24 years old, yet I have gone through many difficult periods. Faith seemed artificial to me, and only for occupying people somehow. Over a period of time I became acquainted with many religious movements, even Islam and Satanism. However, I did not find any reason for faith or God's existence. Later God spoke to me very clearly: During my military service I made friends with Dima and he assured me that God loved me very much. He even repeated this after being mortally wounded while I was holding him in my arms. I became aware that God was very close to him and wanted to be close to me too. I realized then that life without God is hopeless. When I was given a Gospel of Mark I read it eagerly. I recognized that God loves everybody in every life situation.*

***There are many youth who need the Gospel in Russia. Please join us in prayer that this need can be fulfilled soon.***



***International Bible Society believes that every person has a need for God's Word, and should have access to Scripture. IBS provides the Word to anyone in need wherever possible, so that people can meet Jesus Christ.***