

## DIRECTING ATTENTION TO THE MINISTRIES OF KIEV THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



### KTS STUDENT INVITED TO LEADERSHIP ROLES

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On the first day of the fall semester, Sergei, our Assistant Academic Dean, walked into my office. "I have some news for you, Rick." I glanced up, still thinking about my work. "David Karabula just called to request permission to transfer from the residential to the modular program." Now Sergei had my full attention.

David, having completed only one year in our residential pastoral program, was asked to become both the director of music in the Chernovsti Bible College and youth leader at the Chernovsti Central Baptist Church. David is an exception to our KTS student body. He has already completed a Bachelor's degree in a Ukrainian college and has government accreditation to teach. I knew David had strong leadership potential. However, I did not expect him to be asked to lead in such capacities so soon. He is only 20 years old.

Thirteen years after the fall of communism and the independence of Ukraine, there remains a dearth of leadership within the churches of the former Soviet Union. The need to invite such a young man to not one but two key ministries, testifies to this shortage. Nevertheless, God is raising up young (and older) men and women to heed the call to proclaim His fame throughout the earth. David Karabula has said, "Yes" to God's call and the challenges placed before him. We too have said, "Yes" to his transferring to the modular program. Please pray for David, that the Lord would make him wise above his years. Moreover, we thank you, who help make the training at KTS available for all the Davids that come to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord here.

*"For the Lord will not cast away His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord, to make you a people for Himself."* - 1Sam 12:22

### MATCHING GIFT

*Everett Henderson, Area Director SEND Ukraine*

The construction project on Kiev Theological Seminary continues with piers and footings being prepared for the super-structure of the building. The challenge matching gift of 700K is very present in our minds as it is due by December 31, 2004. Only if 700K or more is received by that date will the matching gift apply. As of early November, more than 70% of the challenge had been receipted or promised by students, missionaries, foundations, Ukrainian and Western individuals and churches. We are grateful for this provision of the Lord and trust that the remaining 30% will be received from His Hand through His people.

### CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS to KTS

can be made payable to:

**Rick Campana Ministries  
141 Muirfield Circle  
Naples FL 34113  
Phone: 239.775.7180**

All contributions for KTS will be forwarded in full to the seminary.

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### NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

*Established on KTS Campus*

level courses in youth ministry philosophy, culture and programming. "I understand that the term youth pastor is rarely used in Ukraine and this is correct," said Manna. "Very few youth leaders in Ukraine have a Bible College

or seminary degree. In our program, each student is being trained to be a pastor or leader with a specialization in youth ministry programming and culture. We hope that someday many churches in Ukraine will have Biblically-trained and culturally-relevant leaders ministering to the young people of their community." The Center for Youth Ministry also offers seminars and conferences at various times of the year. In October, the Center invited all oblast youth leaders and their wives to

If you have walked down the corridor on the third floor lately, you may have smelled the sweet aroma of cappuccino. This pleasant aroma is coming from the newest office on campus—the National Center for Youth Ministry. But this office has a lot more to offer than just a great cup of cappuccino. Through this office, the first youth ministry major in the former Soviet Union is being developed. Youth Ministry International in partnership with Kiev Theological Seminary has a big vision.

"Our first goal is to train youth pastors and youth leaders, but it does not end there," said Mike Manna, Center for Youth Ministry Director. "We are planning on equipping the next generation of Youth Ministry professors for Ukraine and other Russian-speaking countries. We hope graduates from this new program at KTS will be equipping youth pastors through other Bible colleges."

Mike is in his second year of teaching at KTS. He has been a youth pastor and camp director for the past 18 years. He grew up in Los Angeles, California, a city of 10 million people, but has spent his last 12 years of ministry in rural South Dakota. He and his wife, Judy with their 3 children have been living in Kiev for the past two years.

The Bachelor's of Theology in Youth Ministry at KTS has 12 college-



a marriage conference at Hope Church in Kiev to help equip them as leaders.

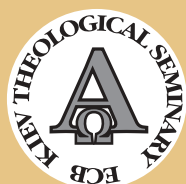
"This long-term project is a team effort—no one could do this alone," continued Manna. "We are so glad to be part of the seminary family. Our office at the seminary has two full-time translators. Lena Serduk, my assistant, translates notes, tests, quizzes, and produces

PowerPoint presentations for each class. Oksana Prose, works from home, and translates our reading materials and resources. But none of us could do this work without the assistance of the International Center for Youth Ministry on the Southern Seminary campus in Louisville, KY."

The International Center for Youth Ministry sends the KTS office all their notes, syllabi, and resources to support the Center here in Kiev. The International Center also supports Centers in Nairobi, Kenya; Mexico City, Mexico and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This past summer, Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr. President of Southern Seminary, presented Mike Manna and KTS a plaque of recognition that is now hanging in the seminary lobby.

"It is absolutely exhilarating to know that so many people from around the world share our concern for youth ministry and are working with us on this model to equip a generation of young people for Christian leadership," said Dr. Mohler. "Nothing is more important to this generation than evangelizing and training young Christians for leadership in the world of the future.

I was greatly encouraged by the conviction and vision of these international friends. I can only hope to see this kind of vision spread throughout the entire globe."



**KTS COMPASS** is a publication of Kiev Theological Seminary, associated with the Evangelical-Baptist Union of Ukraine.

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# A GLIMPSE OF THE THEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE OF UKRAINE

Mark Saucy: Professor of Theology

Dr. Mark Saucy, a SEND International missionary, is Professor of Systematic Theology and Head of the KTS Executive Committee.

It was theologian J. I. Packer, I believe, who once described his task as “a sewer control worker of the church.” With that colorful turn of phrase he highlighted two points of the theologian’s job description. That is, first, theologians are those who check the purity of the ‘water’ flowing into the church from the surrounding world. Are there harmful influences to the Church from the constant and ever-changing barrage of contemporary values, ideas and methods? Second, theologians check the flow from the church into the world. Is the Church remaining faithful to her identity as she proclaims the gospel and addresses contemporary issues?

The two-fold task outlined by Packer is very much the function of a seminary, or more to the point, it is very much the function of our own KTS. The rapid growth of the church, the new freedom for outside influences, an uneducated clergy (because it was denied the chance), and new recognition by the State, are just a few of the challenges that have faced the church since Ukraine gained independence in 1991. They are also the circumstances that now make the task of a place like KTS simply critical.

Allow me to give you a brief glimpse of what I will call the theological landscape in this part of the world. Serving at KTS as a teacher of theology since the seminary began now almost 10 years ago has left some deepening convictions about the challenges before us. Let me mention two.

## The challenge of rapidly changing paradigms

As we know from our own experience, the winds of change constantly blow in all modern societies, and of course, the church is not exempt either. Theological trends and movements in the west are hot for a time and then ebb and wane for something else. The church in Ukraine faces the same dynamic for change, but the pendulum moves much faster here than in the west. A rule of thumb I use to help others understand where the church was after Communism is to think back to what Evangelicalism was like in America during the 50’s or early 60’s. The same topics that were ‘not talked about’, the same practices that were forbidden or permitted of Christians, the same kind of internal church practices,—and all with precise biblical support,—was the status quo. However, what we in the west confronted in the course of four or five decades, the Church here has already done or will do in half that time or less. When the walls fell, the west’s fully developed 1990’s evangelicalism flooded over a church that was itself still in the 50’s. The challenges of progressive versus traditional, younger generation verses older, evangelical versus ‘charismatic’ worship styles (is raising hands during worship OK?), education of leaders versus Holy Spirit anointing (are the two antithetical?), Christian versus biblical psychology, evangelical feminism,

western versus eastern all hit with locomotive force. And where do all sides collide together? That’s right—in the classroom. Helping the church respond and think biblically about the fast changing menu of options presented by the Christian world is a major role for us here at KTS.

## The challenge of winning AND training

Many have heard about the harvest of souls for the Kingdom of God that atheistic communism prepared for the church of Ukraine, and it is indeed true. The evangelical group that KTS is affiliated most closely with has averaged more than 100 new churches every year since the early 90’s and is now more than 2,600 churches in number. So growth has truly been phenomenal. But again, contrary to the tone of some western ‘church growth’ movements now tugging at our sleeve, Jesus said make disciples. He did not say make converts. The many new believers in the church of Ukraine must be taught to observe Jesus’ teachings or great numbers will fall prey to false teaching or dry up on the spiritual vine as they have following every rapid advance of the gospel where there was no discipling infrastructure. Without trained leadership in the Ukrainian church there will be no resistance to the cults that have also flooded in with freedom. There will be no hedge against legalistic tendencies of the old ways or the possibility for abuse of Christian freedom in the new. There will also be no blunting the coarse and syncretistic Russian or Ukrainian Orthodoxy practiced by the new believer’s ‘religious’ neighbors or co-workers. Without training and discipleship the first love of Jesus will wane like it did in the Ephesian church of Revelation chapter two.

Practical sanctification is the five-dollar word for this second part of the discipling process that begins for all believers with their conversion to Christ’s claims. It is also a particularly critical landmark on the theological horizon for the quickly growing church of Ukraine, and a very important component of the mission of KTS. As theological education develops in Ukraine and Russia there are mounting pressures in academic venues to repeat what has proven to be disastrous to the church in Europe. That mistake was to force theology to take its place with all the other disciplines of the university curriculum and pursue the “Truth” independent of the Church—as if the two were mutually exclusive. However, theology that does not serve the Church with its truth, and theology that does not make disciples of Christ first is theology not worthy of Christ’s Church, no matter how erudite.

These are just two challenges before the Church of Ukraine and KTS. No doubt the list of such challenges could be longer. Pray for the faculty, staff and students of KTS as they seek to fulfill the mandate as ‘water’ tester for this dynamic Church.



Graduating Class of 2004

# THE BIBLICAL STUDIES PROGRAM AT KTS

By J. Mark McDonnel, Program Director

This year in Ukraine there will be presidential elections. People are wondering which direction the country will go. More and more, people read about current events in the newspaper and wonder what the future will hold. Thankfully, we Christians have the Bible, which is God’s sure Word for us. We don’t know all about the future, but we know God, who has told us how to live in light of the future He has planned. This is why Kiev Theological Seminary puts such an emphasis on the Bible.

In the past few years, Kiev Seminary has continued to grow and develop. There are now three possible majors that students can specialize in. The church planting major and the youth ministry major are wonderful options to the seminary’s program. But I would like to talk about the third major that was formed, the Biblical Studies major.

Now, all students, regardless of the their major will receive a thoroughly Biblical education. Everyone will be taught through the entire Bible. However, the Biblical studies program goes further. For instance, all students will receive some courses in Bible exposition, but Biblical studies majors will have many more electives of studies through different books of the Bible. All students will learn Greek in order to understand the New Testament. But Biblical studies majors will also learn Hebrew in order to also better understand the Old Testament.

Now as believers who know the importance of the Bible, it may sound like the other programs are not as ‘Biblical.’

However, this is a false impression. The three majors represent three different forms of ministry. We need church planters in Ukraine. And of course, these people must teach and proclaim the Bible, and the church planting major prepares them to do that. We need youth ministry workers who can effectively work with youth, and do so in a Biblical way. And the youth ministry major will prepare students to do that.

So for whom is the Biblical studies major designed? It is designed for those who wish to focus on teaching and writing, either in church or in a school. We will develop, beyond the other majors, the skills of research and Bible study, and the knowledge of the Bible and theology, in order to speak clearly and Biblically to our modern world. Biblical studies majors may become pastors and teachers at all levels in churches and in schools. They may become writers for journals or newspapers. They may write books on the Bible or on theology for people in the church or for other students in Bible colleges and seminaries. They will become leaders in fields of Biblical education in this country and wherever they serve.

And wherever they go, they will take with them the commitment to the absolute truth of the Scripture, and a deep love for the Lord who gave us the Scriptures, and gave us his life so that we might be saved and love him forever. This is our commitment at Kiev Theological Seminary, and it is our joy to pass it on to our students.