

DM Multiplied Inc.
PO Box 7758
Beaumont, TX 77726-7758 USA
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Spiritual warfare is real. The Scripture clearly states, *“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”* Ephesians 6:12

It has been said that if there is no opposition, we may need to check what we are doing. Well, we are certainly finding that there is a battle raging. As we travel from field to field and as we plan regional workshops, the enemy uses various methods and attacks to stop our plans. As Paul said, *“So that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.”* 2 Corinthians 2:11

This year one of the churches that does DM2 training in Africa lost its building due to fire. An overseas organization that wears the name Christian has viciously attacked people we train. There have been setbacks from sickness and injury. Workshops have come near to being canceled because of either insufficient finances or lack of a place to meet. We have found some of those we work with using deception for monetary and logistical advantage. But in all these things, we have seen our God win the victory. Thankfully even when there are difficulties, we are winners in these battles; though yes, at times we “suffer” setbacks or some small “defeats.”

Workshops 2017

- October 20-23 and 27-29
October 12-21
- October 27-29 + November 4
October 29 – November 6
- October 31 – November 7
- October 31 – November 10
November 8-12
- December 2-11
December 7-17

- TYLER, TEXAS – Romans 1-8 Youth Workshop**
- ZAMBIA, AFRICA – Acts Workshop**
- LVIV, UKRAINE – Hebrews 10-13**
- BARYSHIVKA, UKRAINE – Galatians**
- KIEV, UKRAINE – DM2 Panorama of the Life of Christ part I**
- KIEV, UKRAINE – Life of Christ**
- NIKOLAEV, UKRAINE – Hebrews 8-13**
- MYANMAR, ASIA – Romans 1-8 Workshop**
- LOS NEGROS, BOLIVIA – Daniel Workshop**

Prayer Requests

Praise the Lord with us for the completion of the Daniel curriculum. Pray with us as we now have the task of translating the curriculum into Spanish and preparing PowerPoint presentations. By God’s grace, we will teach the Daniel curriculum in Bolivia in early December. Pray for our Ukraine efforts, especially for our Regional Ministry Director, Mark Musser, as he works hard to present several workshops there this fall. Pray for youth workshops coming this summer. Also, pray for a national women’s DM2 workshop in the planning stages for the first week of August 2017.



www.DM2USA.org
(405) 833-4432
PO Box 7758
Beaumont, TX
77726-7758
USA



Should we expect opposition? When Jesus sent forth His disciples, He told them, *“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.”* Although Jesus was speaking directly to His disciples, the application remains true for us as well. In John 15:18-19 Jesus said to His disciples and directly to the church, *“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”*



DM2 – Siberia 2017

is exactly what Paul did in Colossians and the DM2 Colossians curriculum strongly emphasizes this grace perspective.

Based on the doctrine in Colossians and on the inward commands to change our thinking, Paul finally added teaching on Christian practice. Only after discussing the person of Jesus and our identification with Him does the book introduce the section on Christian ethics. Thanks to the focus of the DM2 Colossians curriculum, we have come to understand that ethics without grace is legalism.

The family relations part of the curriculum was mind-blowing. There are so many problems in Christian families and our people desperately need grace-based, yet strong and straightforward, teaching on marriage and parenting. We'd like to thank the authors of the curriculum for paying special attention to the relationship sections of the epistle.

Unlike the DM2 Hebrews workshop we did last year, this time we did not have many guests from other churches in attendance. We think that on one hand this was due to the fact that many Christians don't want to invest the time necessary to study the Bible intensely. On the other hand, persistent opposition from a leading denomination has done much harm. Christians from the other churches who

were formerly positive have been turned away from our church because of the grace focus of our teaching. Nevertheless, the ministry of DM2 has reached Siberia.

Note: In September of 2013, the author of this article, Vladimir Zuev, became acquainted with DM2 through a Romans 1-8 workshop he attended while still a student at the Word of God Bible College in Kiev, Ukraine (James F. Myers Ministries). After Vladimir and his wife Lena graduated and moved back to their home town in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, they facilitated two DM2 workshops through their local church. In the summer of 2016, they first studied Hebrews and this year Colossians. While they received some outside help from DM2 teachers, Vladimir and Pastor Sasha have done the majority of the training, which has been enthusiastically received by their church. There in Siberia, churches are becoming more and more controlled and repressed. Also, opposition from denominational churches has placed a damper on workshop attendance. In spite of all this, DM2's team teaching style has fortified at least one local church's disciple-making efforts there in Siberia. Would you pray for the Sun of Righteousness Church to become an oasis for grace and disciple-making there in the heartland of Siberia?

Last year (2016) by God's grace our church, Sun of Righteousness in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, was able to host our first DM2 workshop where we studied the book of Hebrews. The workshop went very well and the church was greatly edified and encouraged. As a result, our people understood more clearly the precious heavenly ministry of the ascended Lord. Some have testified to their prayer lives being changed. Thanks to their greater faith in Christ's complete work, they have now learned how to approach the throne of grace with greater confidence.

When that workshop was over, we all agreed to have a DM2 Colossians workshop the next year (August 23 – September 3, 2017). So, ever since last fall, we were looking forward to studying Colossians; however, the Colossians curriculum was not yet translated into Russian. We dove in and did the translation of this excellent material. Even during the translation stage, Colossians helped us correct some difficult marriage issues that were happening in our church.

In our local church, we are blessed to have two Bible teachers – Pastor Sasha and his assistant. As we prepared the workshop schedule, they began digging into the epistle. It was immediately edifying to both of them personally.

The majority of our church members attended the workshop. According to the schedule, on weekday evenings we planned 3 hours of teaching and 5-6 hours on the weekends. It was hard to follow our schedule because during the breaks everyone was so active in fellowship and discussion of the truths they were learning. The people enjoyed the teaching very much.

When interpreted and understood properly, the book of Colossians provides liberation from the creeds of legalism, mysticism and worldly philosophy that are so prevalent in Russian churches. There are many different Bible courses available in Russian, including studies on Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, and Colossians, but none of them put as much emphasis on positional truth as the DM2 curriculum does. We especially enjoyed the focus on Jesus' person as the one and only God-man, His redemptive work, and His present priestly activities in heaven. It was reviving and empowering to hear over and over again that we are identified with the Lord in His death, burial and resurrection and that faith in these truths is the only way to live pleasing to God. The book of Colossians shatters all human systems of counterfeit spirituality. As we taught, you could almost hear crashing sounds in the room as false ideas were torn down one by one.

As with the book of Hebrews, the book of Colossians emphasizes the heavenly ministry of Jesus Christ, but this time from Paul's perspective. Colossians highlights our position in Christ, a position that is accompanied with supernatural spiritual blessings and a responsibility to follow godly principles appropriated supernaturally.

Besides the doctrine in the book of Colossians, Paul gave many unusual commands that are almost entirely ignored by churches today. These are grace commands that deal with the invisible thinking of a Christian. Sadly, many Christians are not concerned with the unseen issues of the heart and tend to put the focus on external conformity. It is hard to shift people's attention away from the external, but that

Siberian Testimonies



Pastor Sasha: It was good to dive into the Word of God. The workshop was really edifying. Some concepts became clearer to me, for example, our *completeness in Christ*. Other things were actually new to my understanding, like *seeking the things which are above*. I thank all those who worked on these materials.

Vladimir: Through the DM2 Colossians curriculum and workshop, I was able to see the biblical pattern for solving spiritual problems. I now realize that Paul's letters, including Colossians, are like having "counseling" written down. Therefore, I can now follow Paul's biblical pattern in my life and ministry through a grace-first perspective!

Natalia, an elderly lady: The workshop helped me to know the will of God better and to realize the relevance of the Word of God to our present time. Also, I learned about the superiority of Jesus Christ. The workshop provided the necessary nourishment for my spiritual growth. I thank you for making this workshop so valuable and helpful.

Elena: Through the workshop, I once again had the opportunity to establish myself in the simplicity of the Gospel. I saw that the true joy of living with Christ can be spoiled by a focus on rituals. Legalism in any form can take away your humility, elevate your pride, and lead to not needing Christ. Away with legalism in our hearts and in our churches!