



Ministry stories 2019

Serhiy and Natasha Bolchuk, Fimiam Church, Agape rehabilitation center, Lutsk, Ukraine (106)



Greetings!

In all our struggles and trials, we praise the Lord for His love and mercy and thank Him for always being by our side! We are also deeply grateful to all of you who participate in our ministry through your prayers and donations. It is a gift of partnership and fellowship in Christ that is so precious to us. May God bless you richly. We want to share some amazing testimonies with you that are uplifting and encouraging and always remind us of God's perfect plan.

[WEBSITE](#)

Roman's story:

Roman was born in an ordinary poor family in Lutsk, Volyn region. He has always been very active and interested in sports. When he was 10, the boy started practicing swimming, cycling and some other sports. He didn't plan on going into professional sport, however he was still very serious about whatever he was spending his time on. After the grade 9, Roman entered an IT college. He had great plans for life - to start a family, find a good job. He realizes that in order to be successful, you have to work hard and learn as much as possible. Roman always had very high standards and good moral values. His life seemed to be nicely planned until one event changed everything. In August 2016, Roman went to Europe to buy a car for his father (the cars in Europe are cheaper than in Ukraine). After he found one, he decided to drive home right away without stopping at the hotels so that he could save some money and time. It was August 26. Roman was driving near Warsaw. The last thing he remembers was that he tried to bypass an animal on the road and suddenly drove into the ditch. When he came out of coma on September 2, Roman realized that he was at the hospital and couldn't move his legs and neck. There, at the Polish hospital he spent 89 days. Later, he was transported to Ukraine and spent another 10 days at Lutsk hospital in Ukraine. After numerous surgeries, Roman realized that he had a very serious trauma that has already put him in a wheelchair. This thought was even more unbearable to Roman when he recalled the old days, his active lifestyle,



swimming and cycling. Even worse, he couldn't even dream of walking, not to mention any sports. However, Roman's family didn't lose hope and sent the boy to one rehabilitation center. Although it was very expensive, the treatment didn't give any results. Soon after that, Roman was recommended to go to Agape Rehabilitation center. There he was surprised at how friendly the staff was, how highly qualified and how much love they put in what they were doing. Roman became interested in what made them so open and caring. This is how he got to know about God and church. In 2017, the boy was invited to his first Christian summer camp. It was the first incentive to read the Bible. Soon, he realized that God had been working on his life since his birth. Even that terrible trauma was part of God's plan. Now, Roman knows God and studies the Bible eagerly. He understands that God had to use the instrument of pain to draw him close to Jesus.

Galina's story:

"When I realized that my newborn second son was going to be disabled, it felt like God had just cut my wings," says Galina, who has faced a terrible challenge in her life. Sasha was born two months earlier the term. Although, he had good weight, the baby was very weak. After the first day, the boy got cramps and convulsions and soon his brain got swollen. The doctors didn't know what to do, for it was happening rapidly and unexpectedly. They tried different methods and medicines, however nothing seemed to help... Galina had a very difficult life. She was married to a military man and had to travel with him all over the Soviet Union. In 1988 their first son was born and soon after that Galina also became a military. Unfortunately, the couple got divorced in the early 90s. The woman was doing her best to make two ends meet on her own. Soon, she met her second husband, they got married and the family moved to Lutsk. The life seemed to come back on tracks. Until Sasha was born... Galina was crushed and desperate, however she tried her best to make her son's life as comfortable as possible. Once, by chance she met a man who told her about Agape Rehabilitation center and gave her Natalia Bolchuk's phone number. Soon, the women got in touch and Galina was invited to Agape, as well as to their family retreats. It was a life-changing experience for them. Galina realized that Jesus is the most important person in her life. Three years after their first family retreat, Galina started to attend church and soon repented. She joined the church and now serves to the disabled people as her son. Together with her husband and Sasha they live a very active life, attend sport events and participate in running marathons. Recently, they were presented a sport wheelchair for Sasha, so that he would be able to run the marathon with his parents. "God has put hope and faith in my heart and I want to share this treasure with my son", says Galina. "I also want him to live this life to the fullest and never feel underestimated or weak. Agape rehabilitation center not only helps my son to live with dignity and ease his pain, but also leads us to God and gives us a precious family of like-minded people."



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please, pray for our rehabilitation center for the disabled people to be helpful to it's patients and to

serve as a bridge that leads people to God;

- Pray for Roman, Galina and her son, so that they would never lose hope and be always faithful to God, Whose love has a healing power.



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