



## Ministry stories 2019

### Oleg Tsykra, Ternopil region, Ukraine (123)

#### Greetings!

Every person in the body of Christ has a personal story of conversion and repentance. Thanks to your help and support, we are the witnesses of so many of such stories and every time we praise the Lord for giving us an opportunity to be a part of His great plan of salvation. I want to share a story of Larisa Zakalska, who is now responsible for woman ministry in our church!



[WEBSITE](#)

"I was born in 1949. From the youngest years, I've never experienced father's love and care, even though I had a father. The reason was that he once had delivered an ultimatum to my mother: "You have to choose - me or God". Of course, my mother chose God... Since that day, despite the fact that they didn't divorce, I lost my father. However, my mother gave me a greater gift. She showed me Christ. God was always responding to her prayers. In 1993 during one evangelical outreach, I repented and soon became a member of the church. But I did that in secret, for I was very afraid of my own husband. Despite all fears and worries, it was the most amazing feeling - to become God's child and give my heart to my precious Savior. I started serving at the church, became very active in different ministries. The greatest joy I found in studying God's Word. I was even learning some psalms by heart."



"My husband never approved my Christian life... It was painful. But I hoped for better. In 1995, my physical condition got worse. A terrifying diagnosis was a shock for my family. When I first heard that I had cancer, I realized that a

long journey of faith and suffering was ahead of me. So I kneeled before the Lord - He was my only hope. The doctors didn't give good predictions. But before the surgery, I blessed their hands and gave that situation under God's control. I decided to accept that trial with humble heart and without complains. My recovery and rehabilitation period was difficult, but I kept trusting the Lord. In the time of weakness, the learnt by heart psalms became my declaration of faith and determination to fight this disease. After two years, the Lord mercifully healed me and brought back to life. Since those days, 24 years have passed. I'm blessed and thankful to God for all He's done in my life."



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### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Larisa asks to pray for her husband and her son to come to know the Lord.



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