



# “I Was Like Dead but Now I Have Come to Life”

## A Poem by a Rescued Street Girl Who Found Faith

The street patrol in Moscow, led by Marina Dolbina, has been going to the streets five times a week for fourteen years! The team helps drug-addicted street youth survive by providing essentials, such as food and warmth, and offers rehabilitation for those willing to commit to a program. Last year the patrol helped 35 youth leave the streets, which means they completed their rehabilitation successfully.

Marina testifies, “I am glad that the Lord has given me this ministry because without it life would be incomplete. You end up taking part in the life of each kid, whether you want to or not. You worry with them, struggle with them, and then you rejoice with them. All of this brings immense satisfaction; you are needed and your life isn’t in vain.

The past year, for some reason, seems to have been the best – the kids’ hearts appear to be especially open, they trust us, follow us, and it is easy for us to be with them.”

The following testimony is a result of Marina and her team’s hard work on the streets of Moscow.



MARINA DOLBINA  
Moscow Street  
Patrol Leader

You would not believe that Ruslana is only nineteen years old. Her hunched back falsely ages her. She was a young girl when she ran away from her alcoholic home, and ten years on the street have left their scars on her. She sniffed glue in hopes of numbing painful memories. My heart hurt as I watched this sweet, pretty girl. How could life damage her this badly? What was she feeling inside? What was she thinking?

We had tried so many times to encourage her to leave the street and go to a rehabilitation center, but she didn’t want to. Drugs were not permitted there, and she wasn’t willing to give hers up. Four years passed, but nothing changed, until...

One day something unexpected happened at our street patrol outing. Ruslana approached us and asked quietly, “Would you like me to read you a



poem I wrote?" We didn't even know that she could write!

As Ruslana read, tears began to flow from her eyes - and from my eyes as well. Her voice trembled. Verse by verse her heart seemed to melt more and more. Her eyes gleamed brighter.

After that day everything was different. Ruslana began to attend church. She received a job and a bedroom in a dormitory. Her life completely veered from its destructive, hopeless course!

Below is the poem Ruslana wrote. She tore the page from her notebook and gave it to us as a gift.

*Lord, bless me, I pray.  
I come to You with my soul empty  
To seek help from You!  
I bow before you guilty.*

*I beg, please make me Your own,  
Fill me with Your light.  
Without You my life is mere pain,  
I cannot love without You.*

*You know how proud I have been.  
I have forgotten You.  
The evil took me captive.  
I searched comfort and strength in glue.*

*I was like dead but now I have come to life.  
I pray just for one thing:  
Make me Your own, fill me with Your Spirit,  
Make me alive,  
Bless me and walk by me!*

We are incredibly happy for Ruslana! We believe that the Lord will take care of her and will answer her prayers.



PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT

Dear Friends,

Please pray with us that the Lord would change the hearts of many more needy children, youth, and their parents on the streets. We know from experience that it is the only hope for them to be delivered from their dire situations and receive new life.

May the Lord bless you this summer and answer your prayers.

Yours in Christ, Ignat Ivanov, President of MP

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