

## Russia 2019 – Day 5

Richard Taylor

We are half way through our week. The schedule has been very similar each day though slightly different. Today, breakfast at the hotel (oatmeal, apple pancakes, and bacon washed down with orange juice and coffee). Off to Light of Hope. The lesson was Jesus and the ten lepers. We should overflow with thanks so Debbie planned a baking soda and vinegar volcano. Point made. God delights when we overflow with thanks. One of the activities was a tug of war. Again, lots of fun and laughter which are good for all. Russians do not smile a lot so laughter is welcome. A group of older girls were sitting together during activities. I got up my courage and started a conversation. Soon we were joined by our girls and I became a spectator. These are great opportunities. Today was the end of the program at Light of Hope so the staff served us a lunch of soup and chicken and rice. We often exchange gifts. They gave us bars of chocolate (right now I have no plans to share so don't even bother to ask). We gave Avenir and Andre a bag of things which included a multi-tool kit. On to New Corners for the afternoon program. Same story and crafts. Because they have a play ground, outdoor activities are available. Some ball games and blowing bubbles. While they did handicrafts indoors, they watched a video. As the afternoon went on, I noticed three children eating in the kitchen. The staff was providing food. Normally they are fed at school but school is out. Their source of food otherwise is a dumpster. Enough said. We went to supper at a nearby restaurant and had the experience again. Apparently they cook one item at a time. So we were one and a half hour, one order at a time. Patience required. Fortunately, the food was good. Back in my room now. Somewhat warm. 10:00pm. Just starting to get dark. We are all well including Leo who was with us all day. More tomorrow.



*Images from John Roach*