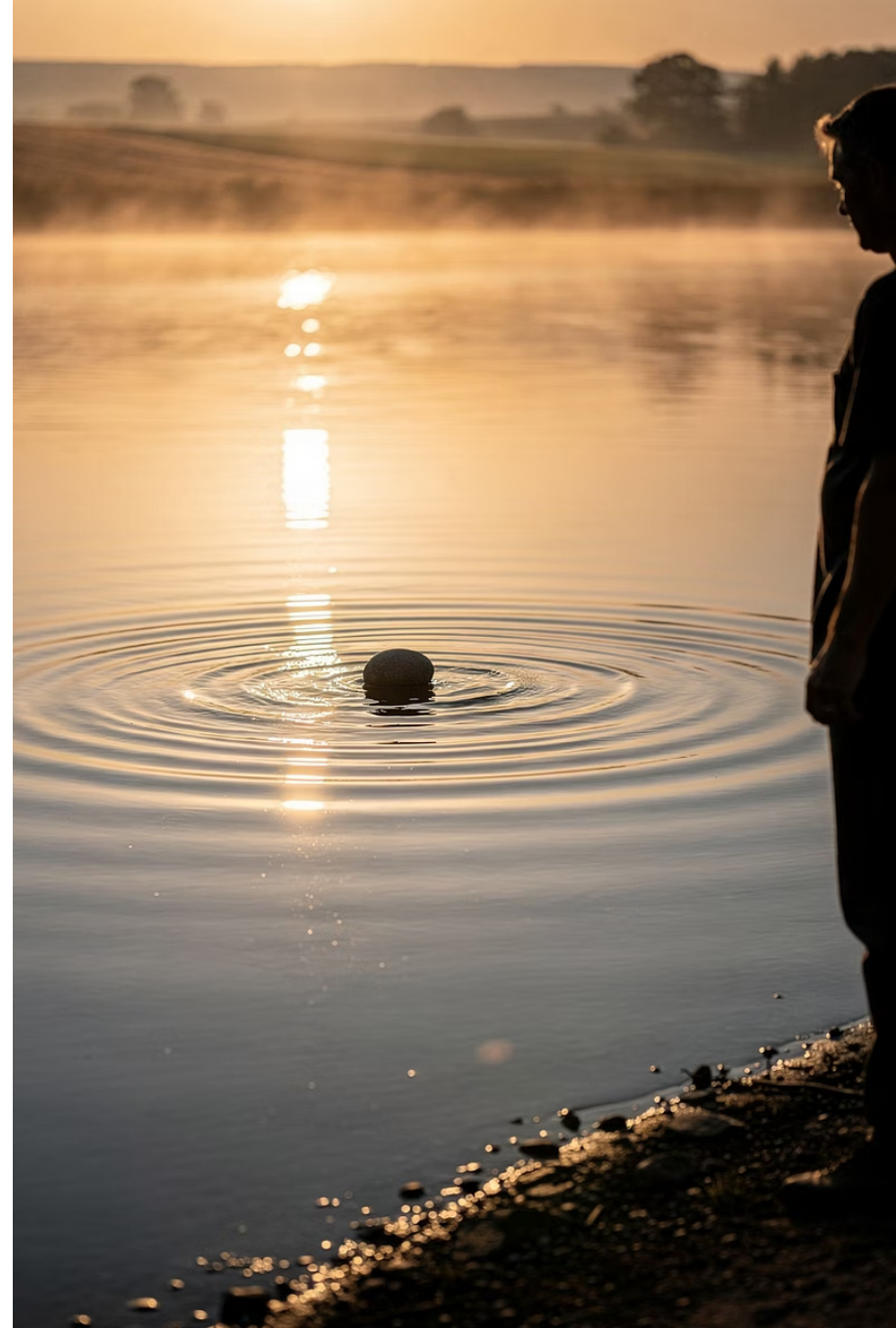


The Ripple Effect of Grace

From an alcohol addiction to a father of 120

In the world of charity, we often talk about "impact," but it can be difficult to picture how one donation, one prayer, or one step of faith can help change the course of history. The story of Oleh Horiachenko is the perfect example of how the multiplication of God's grace works — a story of how support crosses the ocean, empowers local ministers in Ukraine, and helps rescue whole generations from the edge of despair.



Rock Bottom in Maliivka

It all started in 2008 in Maliivka, a small village in the Cherkasy region of Ukraine. At that time, Oleh Horiachenko had hit absolute rock bottom. Driven by severe alcohol addiction, he had lost everything — literally drinking away two houses and two cars. His family, consisting of his wife Natalia and their young daughter Diana, was barely surviving. Often, they had absolutely no food in the house. It was a picture of total despair, the kind that strips a man of his dignity, his purpose, and his future.

Oleh's story is not unique in the villages of rural Ukraine, where economic hardship, generational trauma, and lack of community support have pushed countless men into the grip of addiction. Families dissolve. Children grow up in chaos. And the cycle repeats itself — generation after generation — unless something, or someone, intervenes.

For Oleh and his family, that intervention was about to arrive. Not in the form of a government program or a rehabilitation clinic, but in the form of a man who believed that walking alongside the broken was the most powerful thing a church could do. That man was Vitalii Yevtushenko, a local pastor, a man of faith, and a now-beloved HART partner.

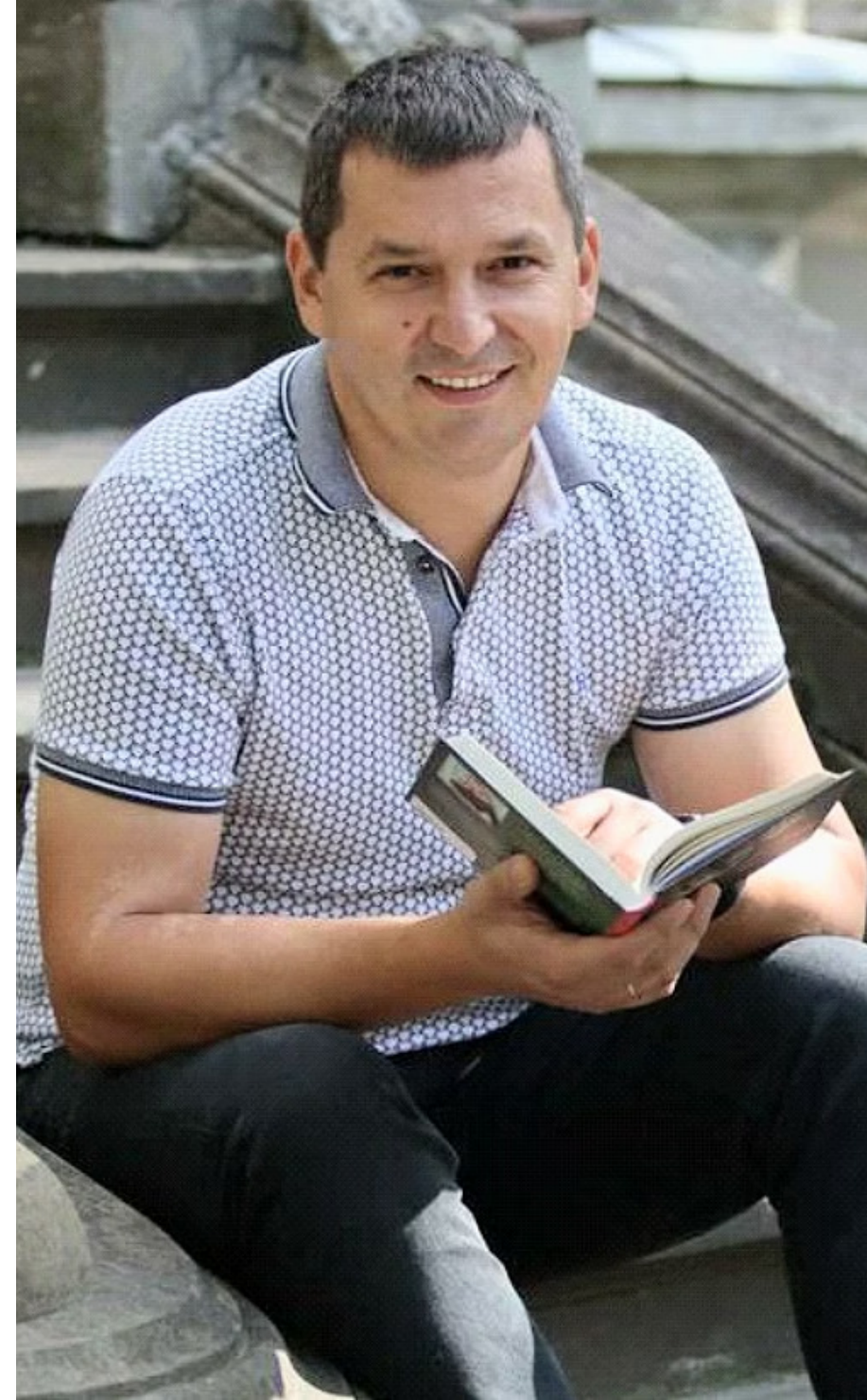
Every story of redemption begins in the darkest place. For Oleh, the darkness was complete — and that is what made the light, when it came, so extraordinary.

A Pastor Who Walked Alongside

Vitalii Yevtushenko and his newly formed church didn't just preach at people from a pulpit — they rolled up their sleeves and walked alongside them. They understood that transformation rarely happens through lectures. It happens through relationship, presence, and the courageous act of showing someone they are worth loving.

One day, Vitalii made a decision that would change the trajectory of an entire family — and ultimately, more than 120 young lives. He took Oleh on a three-day men's camping trip deep into the forest. No distractions. No alcohol. Just nature, brotherhood, and the quiet but relentless voice of the Holy Spirit. Surrounded by the acceptance of Christian brothers, Oleh felt a profound conviction about his addiction unlike anything he had experienced before.

Deep in the woods, Oleh and a close friend made a covenant — to one another and to God. They would never touch alcohol or cigarettes again. It was not a resolution made in a clinic or a courtroom. It was a promise forged in the forest, witnessed by brothers in Christ, sealed by the grace of God.





Instant Deliverance

What happened next was nothing short of a miracle. Without any professional rehabilitation center, without medical intervention, without a structured twelve-step program — God instantly and completely delivered Oleh from his addiction. **His life was radically, visibly, undeniably transformed.**

Oleh found a job. Food appeared on the table. The darkness that had settled over the Horiachenko household for years began to lift. Natalia, who had endured years of suffering and uncertainty, watched her husband become the man she had always believed he could be. **Within a year, both Oleh and Natalia were baptized, publicly declaring their faith and stepping into a new identity as followers of Jesus Christ.**

Stories like Oleh's are a reminder that while systems, programs, and resources matter deeply, the foundation of lasting transformation is spiritual. When the root is healed — when a person encounters the living God through the love of His people — the fruit that follows can be breathtaking. And in Oleh's case, the fruit was about to multiply far beyond what anyone could have imagined.

Before

Lost two houses, two cars. No food. Family on the verge of collapse. Total despair.

The Moment

A forest. A covenant. A God who meets broken men exactly where they are.

After

Employment, food, baptism, and a family rebuilt on the foundation of faith.



A Family Without Borders

But God had a much larger plan for this family than personal salvation alone. As Oleh and Natalia grew in faith, their hearts broke open for the orphaned and abandoned children around them. They could not look away from the need. Initially, they adopted four children. Then more. Then more still.

Today, the Horiachenko home is a family-type orphanage raising fourteen children. And here is what makes this family extraordinary: there is no division between biological and adopted. All fourteen children call Oleh and Natalia "Mom" and "Dad." They function as one big, beautiful, gloriously loud and loving family. No labels. No hierarchy. Just belonging.

The depth of the community that has formed around this family is perhaps best illustrated by one beautiful detail: Vitalii's son — the son of the pastor who first reached out to Oleh in his darkest moment — is marrying Oleh's daughter this summer. What began as a pastor walking alongside a broken man has become a bond between families, woven together by grace across more than fifteen years.

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Children at Home

All calling Oleh and Natalia "Mom" and "Dad" — biological and adopted together as one family.

2008

Year of Transformation

The year a camping trip in a forest changed the trajectory of a family — and eventually, 120 young lives.

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Covenant Made

One promise to God in the forest. Zero compromises since. A testament to the permanence of divine deliverance.

Love That Could Not Be Contained

The love of the Horiachenko family could not be contained within just one home. Oleh and Natalia looked out at the streets of Zolotonosha and saw children from broken and struggling families roaming without direction, without purpose, without anyone to tell them they mattered. They could not unsee what they had seen. And so, they acted.

House on the Rock

Oleh founded the **House on the Rock project** — a community initiative centered on the belief that every child deserves a safe place where they are heard, seen, and given the chance to believe in their own future. The name itself is a declaration of faith: this house is built on something that does not shift, does not collapse, does not abandon.

The project creates structured programs, mentorship opportunities, and a spiritual foundation for children who have often experienced nothing but instability. It is a place where the word "home" begins to mean something again.

Sport Kids Zolo

Alongside the House on the Rock, Oleh founded the **Sport Kids Zolo football club** — a vehicle for reaching children where they naturally gather: on the field, in competition, in the joy of play. Football became his language. A language accessible to every child, regardless of background, regardless of what was happening at home.

The club gave children something to belong to. A team. A coach who showed up. A routine built on discipline and encouragement. And quietly, beneath every practice and every match, the seeds of faith, character, and hope were being planted.



Sport Kids Zolo football club

Football as a Language of Love

Today, the Sport Kids Zolo football club unites over 120 children. For Oleh, sports are not the goal — they are the tool. Football has become his language of love, trust, and mentorship, spoken fluently to every child who laces up their boots and steps onto that field.

Through training and teamwork, Oleh teaches these kids discipline, respect, and faith. He does not hide his past. Instead, he uses it — his journey from an alcoholic who lost everything to a respected coach, a devoted husband, and a father of fourteen — to reach not only the children but their parents as well. His story is his most powerful sermon. And he preaches it every single day, not from a pulpit, but from a touchline.

A house is not walls. It is when a child feels safe. When they are heard. When they believe they have a future. We don't just train athletes; we are shaping human beings. — Oleh Horiachenko

Vitalii and his church continue to walk alongside Oleh and the football club, serving as mentors, providing spiritual literature, and helping organize camps and retreats. The same pastoral DNA that reached Oleh in 2008 now flows through an entire community of children and families, multiplying the grace of God one life at a time.

The Ripple Effect Visualized

This is what the multiplication of grace looks like in practice. A single act of generosity, a single step of faith, sets off a chain of transformation that no single person could have planned or predicted. Follow the ripple from a donor in North America all the way to a child on the streets of Zolotonosha, Ukraine:

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Every step in this chain matters. Remove any single link, and the chain breaks. **The donor who gives faithfully in Canada is as essential to this story as Oleh standing on that football field.** This is the theology of partnership — the belief that God uses many hands, across many borders, to accomplish His purposes in the world. Your giving is not a transaction. It is a step of faith that God multiplies far beyond what you can see.

What Your Partnership Makes Possible

The story of Oleh Horiachenko is not an isolated miracle. It is a window into what becomes possible when faith-based organizations, local pastors, and generous donors align their resources and their hearts toward the same mission. Through HART's work with partners like Vitalii across Ukraine, stories like Oleh's are being written every day — in villages, in cities, on football fields, and around dinner tables filled with children who once had no one.



Empowering Local Ministers

HART identifies and equips faithful local pastors like Vitalii who already know their communities — and gives them the resources to go deeper, reach further, and sustain their work over the long term.



Restoring Broken Families

From individual transformation to family restoration, HART's model creates ripple effects that extend across generations — rebuilding what addiction, poverty, and abandonment have torn apart.



Rescuing the Next Generation

Through community programs like Sport Kids Zolo, children who might otherwise roam the streets without direction are given belonging, mentorship, and a future built on faith and purpose.

You Are Part of This Story

The story of Oleh Horiachenko begins with despair in a small Ukrainian village — and it ends, so far, with over 120 children who have a coach, a mentor, and a father figure who believes in them. But it does not end there. Those 120 children will grow up. They will have families. They will carry within them the seeds of what they experienced on that football field, in that home, through that community of faith. The ripple continues, long after any of us will see its full reach.

You are invited to be part of this chain of grace. **When you partner with HART, you are not simply writing a check to an organization — you are stepping into a divine network of transformation that stretches across oceans and generations.** You are equipping pastors like Vitalii to go into the forest with broken men. You are funding the programs that give coaches like Oleh a field to stand on. You are giving 120 children a place where they are heard, where they belong, where they believe they have a future.

The ripple effect of grace is real. And it starts with you.

Pray

Lift up Oleh, Natalia, their 14 children, and the 120+ kids of Sport Kids Zolo. Pray for Vitalii's ministry and for all HART partners serving across Ukraine.

Give

Your financial partnership empowers local ministers, funds community programs, and sustains the kind of long-term relational ministry that changes the course of history.

Share

Tell Oleh's story. Share it with your church, your small group, your family. Stories are seeds — and every person who hears this story is invited to become part of its continuing chapters.

- ✓ Every generation rescued from the streets is a generation that will rescue the next. The ripple of grace does not stop — it multiplies.

Support Sports Ministries