



December 2019

**Dear Friend of UBTS,**

I am happy to let you know that we are finishing this year at UBTS with **total enrollment of almost 800 students**. We have been tracking student growth as the mark of our effectiveness among churches and are excited that **God has blessed us with students from every region of Ukraine!**

This growth in students also demonstrates that UBTS needs to grow as an organization. I think we are at the tipping point in our understanding of who we are and what resources we have and will need to support future growth. I would like to share with you three of the growth areas we have been thinking about.

First, UBTS started in 2012 as a small school with less than a hundred students. Our primary means of growth and impact are our students, who hold a strong conviction that lives and communities can be transformed by Christ. They are committed to bringing the hope of the Gospel to their regions and active life to their churches. **As our critical mass of students grows, we can start a movement among our churches throughout Ukraine.**

**Second**, innovative educational practices and mentoring are at the heart of our ministry. **We have concluded that in order to make students' time more effective at the seminary, we will devote 20% of in-class time to mentoring, case studies, and workshops, beginning next year.** We will add a Chief Mentoring Officer to our staff who will make sure that we deliver high quality mentoring to each student across all programs.

Third, we are happy to announce the launching of a **Master's Program in the Church Leadership Department**, a Church staff development program, and other leadership-focused programs. We are convinced that many local churches need assistance in the area of church leadership. With these programs, we are striving to teach current and future leaders the skills needed to help utilize the potential of each believer in the church and turn them into agents of God's Kingdom.

We recognize and rejoice that God is behind everything that has happened and will continue to happen at UBTS. **Thank you for allowing God to use you to become an essential part of the UBTS miracle.**

*Slavik*

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President of Ukrainian Baptist Theological Seminary