Russia

As the largest country in the world, Russia spans two continents: Europe and Asia. Such an immense area encompasses vast contrasts between warm beaches and frozen tundra, mountains and plains, European and Asian, old and new, and religious and atheistic. Although Russia briefly opened to missionaries in the 1990s, restrictions on evangelism are again increasing. Yet spiritual needs remain abundant, and God continues to open opportunities to those willing to pursue them.

NEEDS

Russian Orthodoxy, with its elaborate buildings and rituals, is Russia’s traditional religion. However, after seven decades under Communism, only 20-30 percent of Russians practice their ethnic religion, whether Russian Orthodoxy, Islam, or Buddhism. For most, religion is merely part of their nationality, while their lives are consumed with pursuing wealth and worldly pleasures.

The most effective ministries are relationship-based, whether small Bible studies or opportunities to talk with English teachers or students on an individual basis. Yet developing a relationship of trust can take years, and with few workers in such an expansive country, there are many that are still unreached.

HOW YOU CAN SERVE

- English conversation partners and teachers in the classroom and in one-on-one settings
- Relationship-building to reach those seeking the truth and to disciple believers and help start churches in large cities and numerous scattered villages
- Orphanage ministry
- Outreaches to the ignored minority groups, including the deaf, Buryats, Chinese, Muslim groups, and others
- Campus ministry to university students from Russia and surrounding countries, including Creative Access Nations.

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