

The Lowedown

Remembering One Amazing Summer

“You’re going to Bishkek.”

These were the words I heard 20 years ago before heading out on my first overseas summer project as a staff member with Cru. I had requested to go to St. Petersburg but instead was assigned to this Central Asian city that until that summer, was pretty much closed to outsiders.

Our team was really supposed to just be a scout team, gathering information for a future team to hopefully plant a ministry there. But when our team arrived in Bishkek, we were met by Vicki, a shy Kirghiz gal who had been hired to be our interpreter. Before we even left the airport, she showed us a book she had been given and wondered if we had ever seen it. It was a copy of *“More than a Carpenter”* by Josh McDowell. At that moment, a box we brought containing 2 dozen of those exact books showed up on the luggage conveyer.

Vicki had just finished her first year of studying English at the University and was very fluent. We



Vicki turned out to be our key connection in Bishkek

asked Vicki if she could introduce us to other English speaking students and before we knew it, we had set up an American club on the campus and we were talking to students who had never met Americans about life and

Prayer Requests

- Pray for us as we start the Fall. It is sometimes hard to switch from the summer schedule to the Fall
- Pray for Jacob and Joshua as they enter their last year of elementary school
- Pray for Jen as she finishes work on a 6 month research project she has been working on. The big presentation is in October. She is in charge of the presentation for her team
- Pray for the Lord to sustain us physically, spiritually & financially.

culture in America, including our views on God.

A few days after we arrived, I shared Christ with Vicki and she accepted Christ. As the summer carried on, we saw nearly 30 students come to Christ and a new ministry was established.

About a month ago we received a newsletter from a friend of ours who serves with Cru in Bishkek. They’ve opened up a coffee shop that serves as employment for locals who are involved in the ministry and also a meeting place for conversations about God.

It’s amazing to me to think about what God did that summer and how He continues to work in this area of the world to reach students for His glory.

Thanks for your partnership that allows us to continue reaching out to university students from every culture with the life-saving message of Christ!



By the end of the summer we had seen nearly 30 students come to Christ. A ministry was established that is still there today!