

# Cheston Furrow

## Missionary to the Former Soviet Union

Sponsored by:  
Caprock Baptist Church  
3627 East 29th Avenue  
Amarillo, TX 79103-6510  
(806) 373-7575

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your prayers. I am grateful for what God has done in my life and ministry this past year and am looking forward to what our Lord will do this next year.

I am now making plans to return to Russia in February. Please pray for this process. I will need a new visa to stay in the Country, which involves obtaining an invitation from an organization inside Russia. The organization then sends the invitation to the Russian embassy in Washington D.C. I will have to send my passport to the embassy, and the embassy will in turn place the visa inside my passport. It sounds simple, but it involves many officials who could hold up the entire process. Please pray that all the proper paperwork arrives at the proper time, and that there are no problems with this process.

I am continuing to report to churches and raise new support. Not long ago, I was able to travel to Monterey, Mexico, to a mission's conference. I was greatly encouraged by the Churches there. They have taken on the responsibility of sending missionaries, not only to their own people, but also, to other parts of the world. Many in Russia cannot understand the concept of independent Baptist Churches. They say the American way of organization cannot be done in Russia. I believe that the example of the Monterey church will be a great example of how the local church should work.

I have heard of a few missionaries who have had some troubles staying in Russia. The government has been using any excuse for keeping missionaries from building churches in Russia. Living in Russia takes much determination in dealing with the bureaucracy, which seems like a never-ending ordeal. Pray for me that I will be able to develop relationships with those in authority, so that they will understand what I will be trying to do.

God has taught me never to underestimate the power of prayer. The prayer of the saints in America can affect the ministries of missionaries in all parts of the world. Even in so-called "closed" countries. I know in my own ministry that life goes better with prayer. May God richly bless you in 2005.

Thank you for your Support.

For Souls still waiting,

Cheston Furrow