

# Cheston Furrow

## Missionary to the Former Soviet Union

Sponsored by:  
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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Once again I am back in Russia, and I have arrived just in time for the Russian winter. It has not been much of a winter here so far though. It has been the warmest December on record. I am still hoping that we will have a white Christmas. As I travel from church to church in America, I am always amazed at the generosity of the people that I meet. My support was increased, and I was spiritually uplifted.

In my last letter, I mentioned that next year two new missionary families are coming to Cheboksary. The first family was to arrive in January, but they have informed me that they will not be arriving until June. The second family will be arriving in September. It will be a great blessing to have these two families nearby. I am excited to see God sending new missionaries to Russia.

My meetings these first few weeks have been going well. I am praying that God will increase the number of people attending. I will be traveling to some of the outlying villages to preach. I will be going with a Russian man named Sergie, who is trying to start a work in one of the villages. He has just surrendered to be a missionary to the villages of Chuvashia. I hope to encourage him in his ministry. Working in the villages is difficult because there is a lack of jobs and alcoholism is rampant.

I had a small problem registering this time. I had, in the past, registered through a local church with the INS office in Cheboksary. This time they wanted a letter directly from the organization in Moscow through which I receive my visa. I was able to get this letter and register. This made me aware of a new law that was passed concerning foreigners in Russia. The Russian government wants greater oversight of foreigners living in Russia. It will be requiring more paperwork from me about my work here in Cheboksary. This new law is in response to the Russian government's suspicion of foreign governments using non-governmental organizations to spy on them. Churches will be affected by this new law. Please pray about how the government implements this new law, and that its affects on missionaries would be minimal.

Continue to pray for Vladimir and Igor. They are continuing their studies in the Bible, and I am praying that Igor will be saved and that Vladimir and his wife will allow God to work in their lives.

Thank you for your continued support.

Serving Our Savior in Russia,

Cheston Furrow