

If you don't know where you are going, you might end up somewhere else.
Yogi Berra

Praises!!

† We made it back safely to the USA with ALL our bags. We have a beautiful home to live in, a luxury sedan to borrow, and a purchased mini van. God has has met our needs and then some!

† Mark made it back to his family without trouble and is busy planning how where to minister next.

† A great welcome from family and friends.

† One of our main sending churches has adopted unreached people groups in S.

Russia! We very excited about this step of faith and for the opportunity to participate in their plans for engagement.



Pray For:

- Ω Our adjustment to the USA has not been easy. We are pretty tired!
- Ω Curt will be traveling for a month: two leadership meetings in Europe, back to Colorado for two weeks, then one week of meetings in Florida. Pray for strength, fruitfulness for Curt; peace and protection for the family.
- Ω We must choose a school for the girls this week. We are torn between one we like that is 40 minutes away, and a bigger more expensive one 10 minutes away.

*God is good - and kind, very kind,
Curt & Diana, Lauren, Victoria, Veronica*



Chandas in Kazakhstan

July 2017

For His Glory!

The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

He looked familiar standing there in the airport, talking with great animation on his cell phone. He was clearly upset...but it couldn't be him. He lived in Europe now after fleeing for his life. Still...I moved closer for a better look.

Perceiving someone was looking at him, the man looked up and saw me. He looked again and literally dropped his phone and ran over to hug me. It was Mark! It was Mark, the Karakalpak pastor who had been imprisoned for four months, for whom we and thousands of others had prayed.

"I can't believe it is you - here in the airport - today of all days!" He blurted out breathlessly. "God has sent me an angel; and more than one I see," he continued with relief coming to his face as he spotted Diana and the girls.



For the next twelve hours, Mark's story unfolded. Several months earlier, he had received his European citizenship. After weeks of prayer and fasting, he decided he would try to come back to Kazakhstan to strengthen the church he had planted. But he did not tell anyone in country. Previous experience had taught him that the eyes of the secret police from the former USSR are everywhere.

Mark's mother in law had come to visit them a year ago. Upon her return to Uzbekistan, she, her family and her neighbors were interrogated and hassled for months. Shortly after his father in law was interrogated, he had a heart attack and died. The secret police also seemed to know things that were only communicated by e-mail and even information from personal meetings. So, Mark wanted to take no chances.

Tax-deductible donations designated for Curt & Diana in Kazakhstan can be sent to:

Frontiers • P.O. Box 60730 • Phoenix, AZ 85082-0730

or to

ZOE Ministries International • P.O. Box 17036 • Boulder, CO 80308-0036

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Arriving with two other Europeans, Mark was immediately detained at passport control. His tall, blonde traveling companions protested loudly and demanded to see the boss. The boss did not arrive, but armed escorts did who marched Mark into an airport detention room where he spent the next two hours.

Mark reasoned with his guards, "Tell me my crime! I have no criminal record in Kazakhstan and now I am a European citizen. How can you detain me?" Not knowing that he spoke Kazakh, he overheard them talking with their boss on the phone. "Ask him to tell you what I have done!" He called out in Kazakh to their surprise. Ashamed, they cast their eyes down and refused to answer.

Two hours later, Mark was deported – without being charged – and joined our flight. What a joy it was to see him again!

We laughed, cried and prayed together as he told us the trials he had endured and the intense longing he had for his people. At one point, he confessed, he was so discouraged he thought of leaving his wife and family to find a job in another city. He confessed, "I felt that I was nothing, being denied the opportunity to live out my calling in Jesus to reach Mu Slims." But God saw him through those dark days.

"Seeing you again has strengthened my faith to remember that my Heavenly Father is always watching out for me," he continued, "and I know that this is part of his preparations for the future."

Daughters Dialogues



Dad: (at church) Hey, sing along with us!

Nica: Are you with the FWP – Federal Worship Police?

Tori: When the car was sliding on the ice, I got really afraid. I started composing my will in my head.

Lauren: When Nica & Tori get together with their best friends, who are also twins: *They are two of a kind - those four!*



Tori: I like chewing on cinnamon sticks. It's like potpourri for the mouth.

Nica: Just get me a simple glass of water, not expensive, because I am a simpleton.

Dynamic DTS

I get the privilege of teaching in a local YWAM school every year. This year's students were a more seasoned group than usual, which made for interesting discussions. We talked about how to minister the Good News cross-culturally, which is usually a challenge for the Slavs.



Yuliya – a Russian married to a Kazakh - got more animated each day of my lesson. "This is fantastic!" She exclaimed. "I understand my husband's family so much better now and THIS is exactly what we need in our church to help us reach Mu Slims." I was honored that she took my lessons to have them translated!



A Reunion
We got to see some great friends together – for good laughs and fond memories. Alex, pastor of the church we planted in Kyzylorda, came to Almaty.

What a joy when we arrived for meetings to be seated with he and Matthew – our good friend and fellow minister from Almaty.