

Pray for Russia

Population: 140,366,561

Unevangelized: 27.1%

Spiritual Climate: written freedom of religion, but in reality that is not the case. The Orthodox church has major influence, including in political realm.

Major Religions:

Christian 66.9% (1.2% evangelical)

Non-religious 19.15% Muslim 12.5%



PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that the people in Russia who have not yet heard the Gospel would be given that opportunity and be open to accepting the truth of Christ.
- Pray for Bible training for church leaders. Leadership training is probably the primary church need in Russia.
- Pray for God to break through the veil of religion (Russian Orthodox Church) to reach the hearts of people to see their need for Christ as Savior.
- Pray for Russian Christians to be light to those around them.

Interesting Facts:

- Communism fell two decades ago, but its effects are still deeply felt in society.
- Russia is the largest country in the world, spreading over 17 million square miles and 9 time zones.
- There are 162 people groups and 135 languages within Russia.

Russia

How can we pray for Russia?



This month we have the opportunity to pray for the nation of Russia, the largest country in the world (by land mass), which also has a great need for the Gospel.

The current religious climate of Russia is mixed, both spiritually open and closed at the same time. Orthodoxy is culturally strong yet spiritually weak in the lives of most followers. Pray that the Russian peoples' hearts will be hungry for the truth and open to the Gospel. The window of opportunity for open ministry and religious freedom appear to be closing. Pray that those who seek to thwart God's work will instead see it prosper and grow. Evangelicals in Russia are in a time of both growth and pressure. Times have changed from the euphoria of the 1990s and the rapid growth of the Church when the Iron Curtain fell allowing access and freedom to share Christ. Pray for growth of the Church, both in numbers and in depth. Pray for a stronger evangelical culture and for church unity among the evangelical groups.

Christian leaders, who are few in number, must rise to many great challenges. Lack of training in the past, need for funding today and loss of many pastors and educators through emigration contribute to this lack of leaders. The role of foreigners will be highly limited; solutions must come from within Russia. Pray for Biblical leadership patterns need to be instilled; many pastors operate with an authoritarian leadership style. Many churches across all evangelical groups are filled with younger folk from non-Christian backgrounds. They need grounding in Scripture and a Christian worldview. Pray for discipleship patterns to be strengthened and multiplied, and for theological education to be indigenized and strengthened.

Pray also for a vision for outreach and church planting to develop within the Church, that they would be active in sharing their faith and missionaries would be mobilized and sent out. There are 78 ethnic minorities considered unreached in Russia (totaling over 13 million in number). Pray for effective partnering and viable strategies to plant church among these groups.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. (Revelation 7:9)