

The K people of the Silk Road Area

The People Group

K people are warm and hospitable and tightly connected to their family and community. They are strong and resilient people, traditionally nomadic, living in a large country on the ancient Silk Road trade route between the Middle East and China. Their cultural roots are still strongly rural.

K people are predominantly Muslim, while those surrounding them practice Orthodox Christianity. Their Muslim faith is intertwined with traditional animistic beliefs relating to ancestors and shamanism. While the number of believers is growing in the cities, still less than 1% of their ethnic group are Christian. While they are transitioning into a globalised world, the cultural differences make it difficult for K people to connect with Western or Orthodox style churches.

Global Interaction team among the K People

Life among the K people is one of community and relationship. As our cross-cultural team share their lives with the K people, their homes are open to guests and passers-by and many meals are enjoyed in the homes of their friends. The team also enjoy being part of family and national events as they celebrate the important moments of life with the K community.

Our team continues to learn culture and language from local K people and engage with the community more widely through the English Teaching and Community Centre. The Centre offers many natural opportunities to build friendships with students and gives the team a visible presence within the community. The team continues to pray that as friendships grow, so too will the K people's interest in hearing more about the life-giving message of Jesus.

Prayer Needs

- God to be revealing Himself to K people
- K people whose hearts are open to responding to the Good News will connect with our team and explore faith together
- Continued culture and language lessons will enable the team to grow in their ability to share the Gospel in a way that makes sense to their K friends
- Ease in obtaining visas to allow the team to live among the K people
- Those stirred to serve among the K people will act on God's promptings

Pray for the Team Member

Ben and Petra

David and Eliza

Walt (team leader based in USA) and Jeanine

Stories of Hope from the Silk Road Area

Nurturing Seeds

It can take a long time for someone to choose to follow Jesus, especially in least-reached communities where cultural and political barriers work against the understanding and acceptance of the Good News.

In the Silk Road Area, there is a K woman, Ka, who has been connected with our cross-cultural team for many years. While over the years team members have developed good friendships with her and shared the Gospel, it has only been recently that she has been initiating deeper conversations. Team member Petra has had good discussions with Ka about Jesus and the need for Him to die and rise again.

Thank God for the faithful cross-cultural workers who have gone before and planted the seeds that are now slowly growing within Ka. Pray that she will continue to grow closer to God and be increasingly open to conversations about Jesus. Pray also that God would be giving Petra the words to say so she can share the Good News with Ka in a way that makes sense to her.

A Common Thread

Over the past year, a friendship has grown around shared interests and hobbies. Team member Ben and a K man, Ned, initially began getting to know each other through English lessons. As their relationship has developed and trust has grown, more meaningful discussions around family have occurred.

For cross-cultural team members friendships take time, and the small breakthroughs in learning language and culture through friendships make a world of difference. On one occasion Ned caught up with Ben and wanted him to try a local K milk product. Through this simple act, Ben was being invited by Ned to experience, in a small way, more of K culture.

Ben is looking forward to going fishing with Ned over summer. God is working in this friendship. Common interests, shared experiences, time, and the building of trust are forming the foundation of this friendship as opportunities open for them to share life and faith. Jesus is moving...

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