

## How did we get here?

Pete and Nomes track six key moments in their journey from New South Wales to Central Asia.

Our journey towards intercultural work began in 2005, when Nomes and I went on a short-term overseas trip. As we spent time in another culture, we deeply sensed God's heart for people of all nations. Together we prayed a prayer of commitment: whatever God's calling might be for us, we were open to His leading.

In order to discern God's call on our lives, we felt that we needed to take steps to actively pursue Him and listen to His voice. Over the next few years, we studied at Bible College, worked in local pastoral ministry, journeyed with intercultural agencies and visited the Global Interaction team in South East Asia. During this time, we felt a growing call to full-time ministry, but we still didn't know in what capacity.

We joined Global Interaction, but still didn't know where we were being called.

Over time, through various conversations and circumstances, the Holy Spirit increasingly put the H people of Central Asia on our hearts. In mid-2016, we spent a week with the team serving there. As we debriefed and prayed afterwards, we were convinced that God wanted us to go to Central Asia.

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Seven years passed, during which we got married, moved to Sydney and had our first child. In 2012, we began to look into buying a house. During this process we realised that we really needed to seek God's leading in this decision. Was He calling us to settle down and be in Sydney for the long-haul? Or did He have other plans for us?

In mid-2015, we went away on a Global Interaction discernment weekend. During a time of quiet prayer and reflection, Nomes and I both felt deeply convicted that God was calling us to intercultural work with least-reached peoples. Although we felt inadequate for such a task, 2 Corinthians 12:9 assured us of His call and enabling, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Having spent 18-months in preparation, in early 2018 we finally boarded a plane destined for Central Asia. On reflection, our story is one of God's persistent prompting and our trying to remain open to His call. We are so grateful for His faithfulness and patience through it all.