

RUSSIA

Christ to the World Ministries began its outreach in the Russian-speaking countries sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in 2005. We began with our broadcast partner, the Far East Broadcasting Corporation (FEBC), the translation and production of the radio drama series, *Persons Who Met Jesus*, and have continued to produce new program series; the most recent called *The Life of Jesus Christ*. Each series is translated and produced in the Russian language from our studios in Moscow and St. Petersburg. We also are adapting our printed Bible study guides that provide the listener a simple application of the central truth of the scripture and the path to accept Jesus as Savior.

We believe many millions of listeners will hear and understand the message of Jesus Christ, many for the very first time, from the radio drama series. Many individuals and families have come to know the one and only true God and accept Christ as Savior and Lord. It takes courage and is a walk of faith for many. Our letters and listener feedback confirm that simple stories of Jesus are making a difference in people's lives.



Country Profile: Russia is a country of over 140 million people. The country has vast amounts of natural resources and is potentially the world's wealthiest nation. In many ways the Russian government and local leadership continue to limit individual freedoms and keep watch and restrictive controls of Christians. There is concern for safety of Christian evangelical leaders who are a witness for the gospel of Christ Jesus, although Russia claims freedom of religion in its constitution. Russia has many challenges for an effective Christian witness. Less than 12% of the population is thought to be evangelical Christian, with the overwhelming majority being associated through history with the Russian Orthodox Church; although **it is estimated that around 90% of Russians claim to have no affiliation to a church, with the majority being non-religious or atheists.** Whereas some say there is religious freedom, the government is both consistent and inconsistent in keeping watch or controls over Christians. Christian activities give rise to concerns on how best to share the gospel of Christ.

We believe that in a country where such government involvement in people's lives give concern, reaching everyday people by radio and a fast-growing Internet broadcast and pod cast with the radio drama stories of Jesus will yield great results. In a country so vast and fast-paced the opportunity to make a real impact in sharing the gospel is ever present and growing.

GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS.



Our Broadcast Partner: We are blessed to partner with FEBC, one of the largest Christian broadcasting networks in the countries of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Siberia. Producing programs and broadcasting using FM, AM and Short Wave in selected cities throughout the country, the FEBC partnership with Christ to the World currently and in the future will result in reaching hundreds of thousands potential listeners through the radio dramas, Internet broadcasts and on the ground teaching and training of house church leaders. We are preparing to share with the prisons throughout Russia our radio drama programs and Bible study guides.

Prayer Needs:

- Pray for the correct translation and production of the radio drama series and Bible study guides, for the actors and the post-production studio requirements.
- Pray that non-Christian listeners will receive the muchanticipated broadcasts with open minds. Pray that they will understand the gospel message and that the Holy Spirit will open their hearts to accept Christ as Savior without fear of their neighbors or those within their own families.
- Pray for the freedom of Russian Christians and their leaders to proclaim the gospel without intimidation. Pray that those opposing the gospel will be tolerant of those who accept the truth of the gospel.
- Pray for the FEBC broadcasting partners and for the increase in effectiveness of the grassroots leaders and (unofficial) house churches.