**Russia 2016**

Outline

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 **Russia Facts**

**Government**: Federal semi-Presidential Republic

### President: Vladimir Putin

* Elected every 6 years
* Allowed to be President only for one term

**Language:** Russian

**Population (2012 est.):** 143,000,000; birth rate: 12.6/1000; death rate 14.3; life expectancy: 69 years; Population below poverty line: 11.2%

* Death rate is higher than birth rate. In hopes to increase the birth rate among citizens, the government will offer a mother a one time payment of $9,200 for the birth of her second child and monthly payment of $55 if she qualifies.

**Capital (2009 est.):** Moscow – Population 11,514,300

**Labor force:** 75.5 million; Labor force by occupation: Agriculture 4.4%, Industry 37.6%, Services 58%

**Main Exports:** Petroleum, natural gas, metals, wood, chemicals and a wide variety of civilian and military manufactures

**Ethnicity/race:** The 2010 census recorded 81% of the population as ethnically Russian, and 19% as other ethnicities:[1] 3.7% Tatars; 1.4% Ukrainians; 1.1% Bashkirs; 1% Chuvashes; 11.8% others and unspecified

**Religion:** Russian Orthodox 41%, Muslim 6.5%, Unaffiliated Christian 4.1%, Other Orthodox 1.5%, Neopagan 1.2%, Tibetan Buddhist .5%, Other religions 1.7%. Spiritual but not religious 25%, Atheist and non-religious 13%, Undecided 5.5%

**Literacy rate:** 99.6% (2012 est.)

**Popular Russian Phrases:**

**привет** (“pree-vyet”) – Hi (Informal)

**меня зовут** (“min-ya za-voot”) – My name is…

**Как тебя зовут** (“Kak vas za-voot”) – What is your name? och-en pree-yat-na – Pleased to meet you.

**Как дела?** (“cog-del-a”) – How are things?

**Хороший спасибо** (“ha-ra-sho”) – Good/Well Thank you

**Плохой** (“Blo-ha”) – Bad

**Пожалуйста** (“spa-see-ba”) – Please (and You’re Welcome)

**да** (“Da”) – Yes

**нет** (“nyet”) – No

**До свидания** (“da-svee-da-nee-ye”) – Good-bye

**Пока** (“Pa-ka”) – Bye (Informal, slang)

**у вас есть** (“ooh-vas-yaest”) – Do you have…?

**что** (“shto”) – What?

**Сколько это стоит?** (“skol-ka stoit”) – How much is it?

**Дайте, пожалуйста** (“die-te pa-zhal-sta) – Give me please

**С молоком и сахаром** (“Sma-la-kom y sa-xha-rum”) – With milk and sugar

**Где туалет?** (“gdye to-al-lyet”) – Where is the toilet?

**извините** (“Izvinite”) – excuse me/sorry

**Вы говорите по-английски** (“Vwee gavarite pa angliyski”) – Do you speak English

**Не понимаю** (“Y ne pani mayo”) – I don’t understand

**Я живу в Техасе** (“Ya-zhi-voo v ta-has-a”) – I live in Texas Ya amer-kan-yets – I am American (Guys)

Ya ameri-kan-ka – I am American (Girls)

**Где телефон?** (“Gde telephon-nay-ya”) – Where is the phone?

Cack vwee gavarite pa Ruski – How do you say in Russian?

## Numbers:

1 – (“a-deen”)

2 – (“dva”)

3 – (“tree”)

4 – (“chye-tir-ye”)

5 – (“pyat”)

6 – (“shest”)

7 – (“syem”)

1. – (“vo-syem”)
2. – (“dyev-yat”)
3. – (“dyes-yat”)

Russia TRIP PREPARATION INFORMATION

### Important Dates to Remember:

* Russia Trip: May 16th – May 31st (Give or take a day or two depending on plane ticket pricing)
* Application & Non-Refundable Deposit ($25) Due: December 5th
* Support Raising Training: December 5th at 10:00am-2pm (**Mandatory**)

- Meet at Foothills Church

* Summer Trips Missions Training: April 29th-30th (**Mandatory**)

### TO DO LIST

* + Apply for Passport if you do not have one. MUST be applied for BEFORE January 19th.

## WHAT TO BRING

HEALTH: We recommend you bring the following items:

* + - An adequate supply of any prescription medications you take as well as pepto bismol, sunscreen, and insect repellent are recommended. Also some type of hand cleaner such as Purell or wet wipes.

TOILETRIES:

You will want to bring an adequate supply of the toiletries you normally use as well as keep toilet paper on hand.

CLOTHING:

Here is a suggested list:

* + - Comfortable walking shoes!!
		- Lightweight Jacket or Sweater
		- Shower flip flops or slippers
		- 1 pr. Jeans or Khakis (skirts)
		- 1 pair of work clothes
		- 4-5 shirts or tops
		- PJ’s and underthings
		- 1 nice set of clothing for Church
		- Swimsuit (no bikini’s unless worn with a shirt; Guys: PLEASE no speedos)

MISCELLANEOUS:

* + - Personal Bible
		- Towel and wash cloth
		- 3 – 5 Christian books to leave behind (CS Lewis, Novels, etc.)
		- Gifts to give to students you connect with. Do not need to be spendy. Think $3-5
		- Small flashlight
		- Backpack
		- Sunglasses
		- Camera
		- Photo album or pictures of your life in the US.
		- Cash for any souvenirs you’d like to buy
		- A few granola bars are helpful for times you may have to wait for a meal

WHAT NOT TO BRING

* + - Expensive jewelry, equipment you can’t live without if lost or stolen (computer, etc)

## LUGGAGE

Don’t bring more than you can carry up and down stairs and for long distances. You are limited to **ONE BAG, UNDER 50LBS,** for your checked baggage allowance. Anything over this and you will be charged high prices for overweight luggage. Unless you have a lot of money, we suggest you limit yourself to 1 bag under 50 lbs and 1 small carry-on.

Support Raising Details

**Deposits:** Please note these numbers on the installment date are NOT cumulative. Russia teammates will need a

*grand* total $3,000 by May 8.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| December 5 | $25 |
| January 23 | $800 |
| February 27 | $725 |
| April 2 | $725 |
| May 7 | $725 |

## Random Info:

### Please have people send checks to:

Nicholas Greeff 1736 Bedford Circle

Fort Collins, CO 80526

The checks MUST be made out to Chi Alpha or else we will be unable to cash them. Make sure they put your name in the FOR: section.

### Credit or Debit Cards:

* Have them call Nate Banke at (970) 690-2212
* Have them inform Nate that they want to donate money towards your mission trip via credit or debit card
* There is a 3% processing fee that will be deducted from the donation

## Support Raising Accountability:

The idea behind this is to maintain accountability with support raising as well as ensuring that we, as a team, are there for each other to brainstorm ideas and for encouragement through this process. Every person is crucial for this trip and Jesus wants every one of us to be able to share His gospel to these people. **Let’s be faithful to do our part!**

### What it will require:

* Please send a weekly email to Nicholas at nicholas.greeff26@gmail.com
* Email must be sent every **Sunday by 11 pm**
* Include your progress for last week and your plan for the upcoming week (example: How many letters you sent, number of phone calls made, monetary promises, etc.)

### What you can expect:

* Reply to your email by **Tuesday by 11 pm**
* Moral support or brainstorming ideas

Support Raising Game plan:

“My people perish for lack of vision…” Proverbs 29:18

We all want to strive to be and do all the Lord has asked of us. Here is a game plan to ensure that you stay on track and eventually be the first person to share the good news of Jesus Christ to someone in Northern Asia.

### Ultimate Goal = You need 30 people to support you at $100

**Goal #1** = 8 people supporting you at $100 by January 23rd

***Step 1:*** Send 18 of your top “High Priority” letters by Sunday, Dec 27th

***Step 2:*** Call those 18 people by Sunday, Jan 3th

***Step 3***: Meet with 10 of those people individually by Sunday, Jan 17th

***Step 4***: Have 8 people supporting you at $100 by Jan 22rd

**Goal #2** = 8 people supporting you at $100 by February 26th

***Step 1:*** Send 18 “High Priority” letters by Sunday, Feb 1st

***Step 2:*** Call those 18 people by Sunday, Feb 14th

***Step 3:*** Have 8 people supporting you at $100 by Feb 26th

**Goal #3** = 7 people supporting you at $100 by April 2nd

***Step 1:*** Send 16 “High Priority” letters by Sunday, Mar 7th

***Step 2:*** Call those 16 people by Sunday, March 21nd

***Step 3:*** Have 7 people supporting you at $100 by Apr 2rd

**Goal #4** = 7 people supporting you at $100 by May 7th

***Step 1***: Send 16 letters from your “High Priority” and regular lists (as needed) by Sunday, Apr 11th

***Step 2:*** Call those 16 people by Sunday, April 25th

***Step 3:*** Have 7 people supporting you at $100 by May 7th

**SUPPORT RAISING HOMEWORK:**

* Spend time in your devo life to study the Biblical perspective of ministry support (Appendix A)
* List 100 people to ask for support (Appendix B)
* Read Article “No Little People, No Little Places” before trip (Appendix C)

Appendix A.

Biblical References to Fundraising

## What you believe will affect your behavior and response. -Ellis Goldstein

## For what a man thinks in his heart, so is he

## -Proverbs 23:7

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of scriptural references but rather a launching pad for you to think Biblically. I would challenge you to include a study of ministry support as part of your devo time through your fundraising season. It will fill you with faith in God’s provision, and a Biblical understanding of why to do missions this way.

* Matthew 6: 26-33
* 2 Corinthians 9:5-15
* Matthew 17: 24-27, Luke 8:1-3
* God’s method of provision to the priestly tribe of Levi in the Old Testimate
* Read about God’s provision of Elijah in Kings
* 2 Chron 31:4
* Num 18:21-24
* Deut 14:22-29
* 1 Sam 9:7-8
* 1 Kings 17:1-6
* Psalm 104:27-28
* Neh 2:1-8
* Matt 10:5-15
* Luke 10:1-12
* Rom 15:20-24
* 1 Cor 9:1-14; 16:6
* 2 Cor 1:16
* Gal 6:6
* Phil 4:10-20

Appendix B.

2016 Fundraising Pre-Work

**Support Raising Basics**

The most successful and Godly way to raise support is to follow the example from the Bible. Look at Appendix A of your trip Facts handout for Scriptural references to do during your quiet times

Before fundraising training go through this scripture

**Biblically Raising Support**

2 Corinthians 9:5-15

Who gets what?

God

 9:11-12\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 9:13 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Receiver

 9:12 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Giver

 9:8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 9:10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 9:11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 9:14 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Support Raising Thoughts:**

Five things that will happen as you raise support:

1. Your prayer life will increase.
2. The people you ask will have their prayer life increase, too.
3. You will grow closer and more dependent on God.
4. You will become a better communicator. As you share with others, you will develop skills in sharing your passion for missions and the Kingdom of God.
5. God will confirm the need for laborers through the giving of others. It’s exciting to see God provide!

Support raising is vertical, not horizontal. Supporters give to the Lord’s work. God provides funds for His work.

How much do you ask for? How much is the work you’re doing for the Lord worth?

**Support Raising Plan**

“Where there is no vision, the people perish” Proverbs 29:18

We need a plan!

A big portion of the mission trip experience is seeing God provide as you work hard for a mission, through raising support.

**List 5 reasons why you don’t want to raise support:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**List 5 reasons why you should raise support:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**How to raise Support:**

There are many ways to raise support. The most successful way that we have found is by sending a letter to your potential donor explaining your *desire* to go on the trip and the *goal* of the mission trip. Follow up by promising a phone call to discuss further.

Take time to list ideas of how you personally are going to raise support.

**Ten things to-do to Raise Support: Date Accomplished:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Support Raising Team Members**

Think of all the people that you have met in your life. You’ll be surprised who *can* and who *cannot* be a part of your team. Brainstorm at least 100 names. Leave no one out!

* Close friends
* Friends from church
* Friends from previous churches
* Relatives and family friends
* College and high school friends
* Friends from sporting and social organizations
* People you’ve worked with or worked for
* People you’ve ministered to
* People you sent high school graduation announcements to
1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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14. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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**Letter Contents**

*Tell them your deadlines:*

*Give them instructions on how to donate\*:*

* + Cash - mailed or in person

 If you turn in cash from a donor, we need the ***donor’s name and address*** so that the donation can be tax deductible.

 *-* Check – (Preferable) - made out to “Chi Alpha” with your name in the memo.

 ***We cannot accept checks made out to your name****.*

 Send checks to your team lead. Look at Trip Facts section.

* + Credit/ Check Card - in person, or over the phone, but **not** online. (That might change soon).

 Donors can call (970) 690-2212 to donate over the phone.

 *\*All donations are tax deductible!*

*Specific Details:*

 Many people, when they read your letters, want this question answered: “What exactly will you be doing on the mission field?” You want to give two or three things you will be doing. Then toward the end of the letter, state what the goal of the trip is. Be sure to ALWAYS include a personal note directed specifically to the person. We want to invite them to be a part of the team, not just to send their money, so make the letter have a personal touch. Sometimes adding a line at the end of the letter explaining that you will make a follow up call next week, and then CALLING them when you say you will, allows you to share more of your heart behind going and they are more likely to support you and not just leave your letter lost in a pile of mail.

*Brainstorming and Recording:*

- Email everyone in your email address book or on Facebook and get their home addresses or do youtube video letters

- Invite friends to help you brainstorm for names

- If your small group isn’t going, they should help send you.

- Go through photos, Facebook, and address books.

- Name storm with alphabet ( everyone that begins with the letter “A” )

- Christmas card list

- Parent’s address book ( with permission )

- Church directory, home church pastor/ staff

- Parents and relatives of your friends

Dec 1, 2012

(Potential supporter’s name)

4321 First Street (Potential supporter’s address)

Anytown, State ZIP (Potential supporter’s city, state, and zip)

Dear ( Potential Supporter ),

Personal Paragraph ( Hi, how are you? etc... )

 As you know, while I have been here at Colorado State University, I have been an active member of the Outpost (www.xacsu.com), a part of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries (www.chialpha.com - if they’re interested), a Christian ministry on over 300 campuses nationwide! ( 2 lines about what the Outpost means to you... )

 This year, I have a chance to be a part of a team of students which will be traveling to ( place ), during ( Spring Break/Summer ) on a mission trip. We will be working with a ( college ministry/organization ). It is a tremendous opportunity, and trips like this in the past have been very successful in increasing the existing ministries!

 The ( week-long / two week long ) trip will cost ( trip amount ). However, to a college student like myself, ( trip amount ) is a small fortune! I am asking all of my family and friends to think and pray about what you can do to help me get there. This mission trip is a great opportunity to help reach the beautiful people of ( country ) with the Good News of the Gospel!

 I need to turn in ( first amount due ) for the ticket by ( first date ); the rest of the ( total amount ) is then due on ( second date ). If you can help, you can donate with check or cash, or you can donate by credit card over the phone by calling (970)231-5678. If donating by check, please make your checks payable to “Chi Alpha” with my name in the memo section. This way, the office can receipt you for income tax purposes. I have included a self-addressed stamped envelope for your convenience. This is a sure thing as far as investments go. God is doing great things in ( country ). I am making a note to give you a call a week after you have had a chance to read this letter and discuss with you the trip in further detail.

 Thanks so much for your support and prayers! ( End with personal goodbye. )

Sincerely yours,

**( SIGN YOUR NAME IN INK!!!)**

John Smith

(123)456-7890 (Your phone number, in case any questions)

Include a personal PS written in ink....

Appendix C.

No Little People No Little Places

## By Francis A. Schaffer

Those of us who understand that there are no little people or little places in the Kingdom of God, if we commit ourselves to Christ and live under His leadership and Lordship in the whole of life can by Gods grace change the flow of our generation

## No Little People, No Little Places

As a Christian considers the possibility of being the Christian glorified (a topic discussed in True Spirituality), often their reaction is:

I am so limited.

Surely it does not matter much whether I am walking

as a creature glorified or not. Or, to put it another way:

It’s wonderful to be a Christian, but I am such a small person, so limited in talents —

or energy

or psychological strength or knowledge —

that what I do is not really important.

The Bible, however, has quite a different emphasis with god there are no little people.

## Moses’ Rod

One thing that has encouraged me, as I have wrestled with such questions in my own life, is the way God used Moses’ rod, a stick of wood. Many years ago, when I was a young pastor just out of seminary, this study of the use of Moses’ rod, which I called God So Used a Stick of Wood, was a crucial factor in giving me the courage to press on.

The story of Moses’ rod began when God spoke to Moses from the burning bush, telling him to go and challenge Egypt, the greatest power of his day. Moses reacted,

But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” [Exodus 3:11]

And he raised several specific objections:

What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say,

“The LORD did not appear to you?” Then the LORD said to him,

What is that in your hand? A rod, he replied.

[Ex. 4:1, 2]

God directed Moses’ attention to the simplest thing imaginable — the staff in his own hand, a shepherd’s rod, a stick of wood somewhere between three and six feet long.

Shepherds are notorious for hanging onto their staves as long as they can, just as some of us enjoy keeping walking sticks. Moses probably had carried this same staff for years.

Since he had been a shepherd in the wilderness for forty years, it is entirely possible that this wood had been dead that long. Just a stick of wood — but when Moses obeyed God's command to toss it to the ground, it became a serpent, and Moses himself fled from it.

God next ordered him to take it by the tail and when he did so, it became a rod again. Then God told him to go and confront the power of Egypt and meet Pharaoh face to face with this rod in his hand.

Exodus 4:20 tells us the secret of all that followed: the rod of Moses had become the rod of God.

## The Rod of Moses as the Rod of God--part one

Standing in front of Pharaoh, Aaron cast down this rod and it became a serpent. As God spoke to Moses and as Aaron was the spokesman of Moses [Ex. 4:16], so it would seem that Aaron used the rod of Moses, which had become the rod of God. The wizards of Egypt, performing real magic through the power of the Devil (not just a stage trick through sleight of hand), matched this. Here was demonic power. But the rod of God swallowed up the other rods. This was not merely a victory of Moses over Pharaoh, but

of Moses’ God over Pharaoh’s god and the power of the Devil behind that god.

This rod appeared frequently in the ensuing events:

Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he goes out to the water. Wait on the bank of the Nile to meet him, and take in your hand the rod that was changed into a snake. Then say to him, “The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to say to you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the desert. But until now you have not listened. This is what the LORD says: By this you will know that I am the LORD: With the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water of the Nile, and it will be changed into blood.”

[Ex. 7:15-17]

The rod of God indeed was in Aaron’s hand [Ex. 7:17, 19, 20], and the water was putrefied, an amazing use for a mere stick of wood. In the days that followed, Moses stretched forth his rod and successive plagues came upon the land. After the waters no longer were blood, after seven days, there came frogs, then lice, then thunder and hail and great balls of lightning running along the ground, and then locusts [Ex. 8:1 -10:15].

Watch the destruction of judgment, which came from a dead stick of wood that had become the rod of God.

Pharaoh’s grip on the Hebrews was shaken loose, and he let the people go. But then he changed his mind and ordered his armies to pursue them. When the armies came upon them, the Hebrews were caught in a narrow place with mountains on one side of them and the sea on the other. And God said to Moses, Lift thou up your rod [Ex. 14:16].

What good is it to lift up a rod when one is caught in a cul-de-sac between mountains and

a great body of water with the mightiest army in the world at his heels?

Much good, if the rod is the rod of God.

The waters divided, and the people passed through. Up to this point, the rod had been used for judgment and destruction, but now it was as much a rod of healing for the Jews as it had been a rod of judgment for the Egyptians. That which is in the hand of God can be used in either way.

## The Rod of Moses as the Rod of God--part two

Later, the rod of judgment also became a rod of supply. In Rephidim the people desperately needed water.

And the LORD answered Moses,

“ Walk on ahead of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the rod with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.” So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel.

[Exodus 17:5, 6]

It must have been an amazing sight to stand before a great rock (not a small pebble, but a face of rock such as we see here in Switzerland in the mountains) and to see a rod struck against it, and then to watch torrents of life-giving water flow out to satisfy thousands upon thousands of people and their livestock.

The giver of judgment became the giver of life. It was not magic. There was nothing in the rod itself. The rod of Moses had simply become the rod of God. We too are not only to speak a word of judgment to our lost world, but are also to be a source of life.

The rod also brought military victory as it was held up. It was more powerful than the swords of either the Jews or their enemy (Exodus 17:9). In a much later incident the people revolted against Moses, and a test was established to see whom God had indeed chosen. The rod was placed before God and it budded (Numbers 17:8). Incidentally, we find out what kind of tree it had come from so long ago because it now brought forth almond blossoms.

The final use of the rod occurred when the wilderness wandering was almost over. Moses’ sister Miriam had already died. Forty years had passed since the people had left Egypt; so now the rod may have been almost eighty years old. The people again needed water, and though they were now in a different place, the desert of Zin, they were still murmuring against God. So God told Moses,

“Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink.” So Moses took the staff from the LORD’s presence, just as he commanded him.

[Numbers 20:8, 9]

Moses took the rod (which 20:9 with 17:10 shows was the same one which had been kept with the ark since it had budded), and he struck the rock twice. He should have done what God had told him and only spoken with the rod in his hand, but that is another study. In spite of this, however, water came out abundantly [Numbers 20:11].

Consider the mighty ways in which God used a dead stick of wood. God so used a stick of wood can be a banner cry for each of us. Though we are limited and weak in talent, physical energy, and psychological strength, we are not less than a stick of wood. But as the rod of Moses had to become the rod of God, so that which is me must become the me of God. Then I can become useful in God’s hands.

The Scripture emphasizes that much can come from little if the little is truly consecrated to God. There are no little people and no big people in the true spiritual sense, but only consecrated and unconsecrated people.

The problem for each of us is applying this truth to ourselves: is Francis Schaeffer

the Francis Schaeffer of God?

is [insert your name]

the [insert your name] of God?

## No Little Places--part one

But if a Christian is consecrated, does this mean he will be in a big place instead of a little place? The answer, the next step, is very important:

as there are no little people in God’s sight, so there are no little places.

To be wholly committed to God in the place where God wants him — this is the creature glorified.

In my writing and lecturing I put much emphasis on God’s being the infinite reference point, which integrates the intellectual problems of life. He is to be this, but He must be the reference point not only in our thinking, but in our living. This means being what He wants me to be, where He wants me to be.

Nowhere more than in America are Christians caught in the twentieth-century syndrome of size.

Size will show success.

If I am consecrated, there will necessarily be large quantities of people, dollars, etc.

This is not so.

Not only does God not say that size and spiritual power go together, but He even reverses this (especially in the teaching of Jesus) and tells us to be deliberately careful not to choose a place too big for us.

We all tend to emphasize big works and big places, but all such emphasis is of the flesh. To think in such terms is simply to hearken back to the old, unconverted, egoist, self- centered Me.

This attitude, taken from the world, is more dangerous to the Christian than fleshly amusement or practice. It is the flesh.

## No Little Places--part two

People in the world naturally want to boss others.

Imagine a boy beginning work with a firm. He has a lowly place and is ordered around by everyone: Do this! Do that! Every dirty job is his. He is the last man on the totem pole, merely one of Rabbit’s friends-and-relations, in Christopher Robin’s terms.

So one day when the boss is out, he enters the boss’s office, looks around carefully to see that no one is there, and then sits down in the boss’s big chair.

Someday, he says, I’ll say “run” and they’ll run.

This is man. And let us say with tears that a person does not automatically abandon this mentality when he becomes a Christian. In every one of us there remains a seed of wanting to be boss, of wanting to be in control and have the word of power over our fellows.

But the Word of God teaches us that we are to have a very different mentality: Jesus called them together and said,

“You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them,

and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you.”

“Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first

must be slave of all.” “For even the Son of Man

did not come to be served,

but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

[Mark 10:42-45]

Every Christian, without exception, is called into the place where Jesus stood. To the extent that we are called to leadership, we are called to ministry, even costly ministry. The greater the leadership, the greater is to be the ministry.

The word minister is not a title of power, but a designation of servant hood. There is to be no Christian guru. We must reject this constantly and carefully. A minister, a man who is a leader in the church of God (and never more needed than in a day like ours when the battle is so great), must make plain to the men, women, boys and girls who come to places of leadership that instead of lording their authority over others and allowing it to become an ego trip, they are to serve in humility.

## No Little Places--part three

Again, Jesus said,

But you are not to be called Rabbi, for you have only one Master and you are all brothers. And do not call anyone on earth father,

for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor are you to be called teacher,

for you have one Teacher, the Christ. [Matthew 23:8-9]

This does not mean there is to be no order in the church. It does mean that the basic relationship between Christians is not that of elder and people, or pastor and people, but that of brothers and sisters in Christ. This denotes that there is one Father in the family and that his offspring are equal. There are different jobs to be done, different

offices to be filled, but we as Christians are equal before one Master. We are not to seek a great title; we are to have the places together as brethren.

When Jesus said, He that is greatest among you shall be your servant (Matt. 23:11), He was not speaking in hyperbole or uttering a romantic idiom. Jesus Christ is the realist of all realists, and when He says this to us, He is telling us something specific we are to do. Our attitude toward all people should be that of equality because we are common creatures. We are of one blood and kind. As I look across all the world, I must see every man as a fellow-creature, and I must be careful to have a sense of our equality on the basis of this common status.

We must be careful in our thinking not to try to stand in the place of God to other men. We are fellow-creatures. And when I step from the creature-to-creature relationship into the brothers-and-sisters-in-Christ relationship within the church, how much more important to be a brother or sister to all who have the same Father.

Orthodoxy, to be a Bible-believing Christian, always has two faces. It has a creedal face and a practicing face, and Christ emphasizes that that is to be the case here. Dead orthodoxy is always a contradiction in terms, and clearly that is so here; to be a Bible- believing Christian demands humility regarding others in the body of Christ.

## No Little Places--part four

Jesus gave us a tremendous example:

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

“You call me Teacher and Lord, and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet,

you also should wash one another’s feet.” “I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

I tell you the truth,

no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater

than the one who sent him.

Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. [John 13:3-5, 13-17]

Note that Jesus says that if we do these things, there will be happiness. It is not just knowing these things that brings happiness; it is doing them.

Throughout Jesus’ teaching these two words know and do occur constantly and always in that order. We cannot do until we know, but we can know without doing. The house built on the rock is the house of the man who knows and does. The house built on the sand is the house of the man who knows but does not do.

Christ washed the disciples’ feet and dried them with the towel with which He was girded

— that is, with his own clothing. He intended this to be a practical example of the mentality and action that should be seen in the midst of the people of God.

## Taking the Lowest Place--part one

Yet another statement of Jesus bears on our discussion:

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable:

When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, “Give this man your seat.” Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, “Friend, move up to a better place.” Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

[Luke 14:7-11]

Jesus commands Christians to seek consciously the lowest room. All of us — pastors, teachers, professional religious workers and nonprofessional included — are tempted to say,

“I will take the larger place because it will give me more influence for Jesus Christ.”

Both individual Christians and Christian organizations fall prey to the temptation of rationalizing this way as we build bigger and bigger empires. But according to the Scripture this is backwards:

we should consciously take the lowest place

unless the Lord Himself extrudes us into a greater one. The word extrude is important here.

To be extruded is to be forced out under pressure into a desired shape. Picture a huge press jamming soft metal at high pressure through a die, so that the metal comes out in a certain shape.

This is the way of the Christian: he should choose the lesser place until God extrudes him into a position of more responsibility and authority.

## Taking the Lowest Place--part two

Let me suggest two reasons why we ought not grasp the larger place. First, we should seek the lowest place because there it is easier to be quiet before the face of the Lord.

I did not say easy; in no place, no matter how small or humble, is it easy to be quiet before God. But it is certainly easier in some places than in others. And the little places, where I can more easily be close to God, should be my preference.

I am not saying that it is impossible to be quiet before God in a greater place, but God must be allowed to choose when a Christian is ready to be extruded into such a place, for only He knows when a person will be able to have some quietness before Him in the midst of increased pressure and responsibility.

Quietness and peace before God are more important than any influence a position may seem to give, for we must stay in step with God to have the power of the Holy Spirit. If by taking a bigger place our quietness with God is lost, then to that extent our fellowship with Him is broken and we are living in the flesh, and the final result will not be as great, no matter how important the larger place may look in the eyes of other men or in our own eyes. Always there will be a battle, always we will be less than perfect, but if a place is too big and too active for our present spiritual condition, then it is too big.

We see this happen over and over again, and perhaps it has happened at some time to us: someone whom God has been using marvelously in a certain place takes it upon himself to move into a larger place and loses his quietness with God. Ten years later he may have a huge organization, but the power has gone, and he is no longer a real part of the battle in his generation. The final result of not being quiet before God is that less will be done, not more — no matter how much Christendom may be beating its drums or playing its trumpets for a particular activity.

14

So we must not go out beyond our depth. Take the smaller place so you have quietness before God. I am not talking about laziness; let me make that clear. That is something else, something too which God hates. I am not talking about copping out or dropping out. God’s people are to be active, not seeking, on account of some false mystical concept, to sit constantly in the shade of a rock. There is no monasticism in Christianity. We will not be lazy in our relationship with God, because when the Holy Spirit burns, a man is consumed. We can expect to become physically tired in the midst of battle for our King and Lord; we should not expect all of life to be a vacation. We are talking about quietness before God as we are in His place for us. The size of the place is not important, but the consecration in that place is.

It must be noted that all these things which are true for an individual are true also for a group. A group can become activistic and take on responsibilities God has not laid upon it. For both the individual and the group, the first reason we are not to grasp (and the emphasis is on grasp) the larger place is that we must not lose our quietness with God.

## Taking the Lowest Place--part three

The second reason why we should not seek the larger place is that if we deliberately and egotistically lay hold on leadership, wanting the drums to beat and the trumpets to blow, then we are not qualified for Christian leadership.

Why?

Because we have forgotten that we are brothers and sisters in Christ with other Christians.

I have said on occasion that there is only one good kind of fighter for Jesus Christ — the man who does not like to fight. The belligerent man is never the one to be belligerent for Jesus. And it is exactly the same with leadership. The Christian leader should be a quiet man of God who is extruded by God’s grace into some place of leadership.

We all have egoistic pressures inside us. We may have substantial victories over them and we may grow, but we never completely escape them in this life. The pressure is always there deep in my heart and soul, needing to be faced with honesty. These pressures are evident in the smallest of things as well as the greatest. I have seen fights over who was going to be the president of a Sunday school class composed of three members. The temptation has nothing to do with size. It comes from a spirit, a mentality, inside us. The person in leadership for leadership’s sake is returning to the way of the world, like the boy dusting off the boss’s chair and saying, “Someday I’ll sit in it, and I’ll make people jump.”

One of the loveliest incidents in the early church occurred when Barnabas concluded that Paul was the man of the hour and then had to seek him out because Paul had gone back to Tarsus, his own little place. Paul was not up there nominating himself; he was back in Tarsus, even out of communication as far as we can tell. When Paul called himself “the

chief of sinners, ... not meet to be an apostle” (1 Tim. 1:15; 1 Cor. 5:9), he was not speaking just for outward form’s sake. From what he said elsewhere and from his actions we can see that this was Paul’s mentality. Paul, the man of leadership for the whole Gentile world, was perfectly willing to be in Tarsus until God said to him, “This is the moment.”

## Being a Rod of God

The people who receive praise from the Lord Jesus will not in every case be the people who hold leadership in this life. There win be many persons who were sticks of wood that stayed close to God and were quiet before Him, and were used in power by Him in a place which looks small to men.

Each Christian is to be a rod of God in the place God has for them. We must remember throughout our lives that in God’s sight there are no little people and no little places. Only one thing is important:

to be consecrated persons in God’s place for us,

at each moment.

Those who think of themselves as little people in little places, if committed to Christ and living under His Lordship in the whole of life, may, by God’s grace, change the flow of our generation.

And as we get on a bit in our lives, knowing how weak we are, if we look back and see we have been somewhat used of God, then we should be the rod “surprised by joy.”