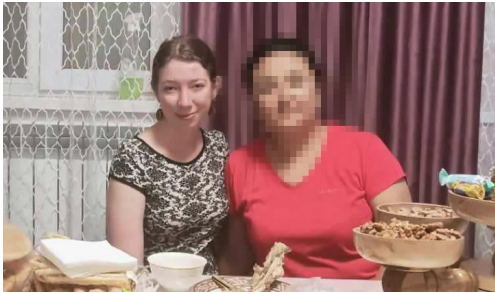


Ministry Story

One Year In!

Suzanne, Silk Road Area



“Today I celebrate exactly one year since I arrived in the Silk Road! *How much can change in twelve months?*”

Well, up until recently, popping over to the shops to pick up some yoghurt was no small feat! Door locks are different here, traffic travels in the opposite direction and signs aren't intuitive for me. I have to remember which roads are dug up, to leave my bags in a locker at the supermarket and where the dairy section is. I have to navigate labels in multiple languages, mentally convert prices, speak K with the cashier and be ready to have an unexpected conversation at any point. Each of these are small, but they add up!

A year later, a trip to the supermarket doesn't exhaust me any more. Before, all these 'simple' things felt like huge milestones!

A year later, I have a wider network of acquaintances and friends. People in town know and recognise me. I'm invited to their houses and invite them to mine - this takes some energy, but it's getting easier every time. I message a range of people in K daily. People can get to know me as an actual person, as I can share my memories, jokes and hobbies. And I know that with more time and language, interacting with me won't require quite so much patience and effort from local friends.

In short, a year later, the Silk Road is starting to feel like home. Sure, I miss Australia and all of the friends and family I've left behind sometimes. But when I look toward the next two years, the preliminary foundations are set. I feel like I can start building.

And another big milestone... I've begun teaching English! This marks a large transition after almost a full year of full-time culture and language learning. I teach adult beginners at our team's English centre and am enjoying using some familiar professional skills again.

Please join me in giving thanks for these new opportunities to equip and support people here. I'm grateful for the new relationship opportunities this has presented already.”

Baptist
Mission
Australia



News & Prayer

Thurs 11 July - Wed 24 July

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

Deuteronomy 31:6

Thank you for lifting up our ministry and teams in prayer! Your faithful prayers open Gospel opportunities and sustain our workers.

THANK YOU.

This document can be printed on one double-sided A4 page and folded in half to create an A5 booklet.

To speak to our team, subscribe to resources or receive newsletters from intercultural workers, contact us on info@baptistmissionaustralia.org or 1800 329 165

www.baptistmissionaustralia.org

Prayer and Praise

Thurs 11 July - Wed 24 July

- 11 T **Malawi** Following flooding and necessary relocations, Tim, Melanie and the team are celebrating that the **CC Cafe** is up and running again in a new location. This cafe is an income generating initiative of the local believers, and helps support the running of the village ministries. Pray for God to be at work through the cafe.
- 12 F **Malawi** Melanie writes, "Pray for the **Yawo faith leaders** who are teaching in the villages - Baba W, Baba M, Baba L, Baba F, Mama E and Mama M. They are teaching God's word independently of our team." Pray for many to hear and believe.
- 13 S **Malawi** Pray for the faith leaders involved in the biblical training that **David** helps deliver. Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to grow them in faith and in leadership, and lift up David as he navigates cultural differences in walking with these leaders.
- 14 S **South East Asia** Pray for God's protection for **local believers**. Pray for their witness to spark interest in their family and friends to find out who Jesus is.
- 15 M **South East Asia Daz and Bee** have been running the new cafe for a few months, and are encouraged with the response from the local community. Pray that they will be attentive to the Spirit's leading as they build relationships with customers and local staff.
- 16 T **South East Asia Kate** writes, "Pray for our team. Pray that each conversation, action, opportunity to listen and prayer will contribute to how God is working in the hearts of our friends here in South East Asia"
- 17 W **Papua New Guinea** Give thanks for **Nathan's** encouraging time with Baptist leaders and Bible college students in PNG. Nathan shares, "God's people here are resilient and determined to serve Him faithfully. God is indeed at work."
- 18 T **Papua New Guinea** Pray for **pastors, leaders and Bible college students** as they encounter the challenges of political instability, tribal fighting, corruption, national debt, limited employment and increased cost of living, all which make life and ministry more difficult. Give thanks for the ways God's Spirit is at work in the midst of difficulty.
- 19 F **Silk Road Area As Suzanne** marks one year in the Silk Road Area, she can see how far her K relationships, language competencies and cultural understanding have come! Praise God for this and pray for more opportunities to share deeply with her K friends.
- 20 S **Silk Road Area Petra and Ben** are currently in Australia for a short Off-Location time. Pray for them as they share stories and updates with partnering churches. Pray that God will be preparing them for their coming years of ministry, and give thanks that He goes before them.
- 21 S **Silk Road Area** Pray for all the relationships **our team** is building in the K community. Pray for God's Spirit to be growing Gospel curiosity in the hearts of their K friends. Pray that our team will be ready to share when the opportunities arise.
- 22 M **Australia** Pray for **Daniel** as he prepares for a discipleship training event in August. Pray for the participants and the First Nations pastors who will facilitate this training.
- 23 T **Australia** Pray for **Tash** as she shares her story with church communities, inviting them to partner with her ministry among Muslim women in Sydney.
- 24 W **Australia** As the nations come to us, pray for the Spirit's guidance as our team discerns **new opportunities** for intercultural mission in Australia.