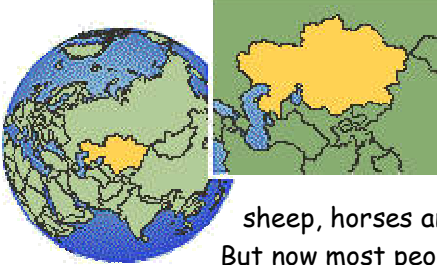


World Champions

OM New Zealand's newsletter for children who want to make a difference in God's World!

Country focus: Kazakhstan



Kazakhstan is the ninth largest country in the world, and home to about 15 million people.

People in Kazakhstan used to live in tents and travel around the country with their sheep, horses and goats.

But now most people live in one place, like we do.

Most people in Kazakhstan are Muslims, but they also believe in other things, like evil spirits. It can be quite difficult to be a Christian in Kazakhstan sometimes, as you will see in this newsletter.

Topic:
God hears us
when we pray

Bible reading:

Peter was in prison. But he and his friends never stopped praying. What do you think happened?

Acts 12:1-17



Did you know... Space travel started in Kazakhstan!

In 1957, Sputnik, the first man-made satellite was launched into space from a space-station in Kazakhstan. Yuri Gagarin, the world's first person to go to space, also launched his rocket from Kazakhstan in 1961!

BLAST OFF! This month's memory verse:

Oh no! The letters of the words in the memory verse have been mixed up by the force of the rocket-blast! Can you put them all in the right order?

The first letter of each word is given as a clue.

(Thanks to Esme in Auckland for the great memory verse idea!)

ew rea tencari hatt oGd llwi

reha ruo paerrys nhew ew ska rfo tahw

paselse mHi dAn Fi ew kwno htat oGd lsesitn

nweh ew yPar, ew rae rseu tath rou pasrrye vaeh

aredlay nebe wardnsee . noJh



W _ a _ _
c _ _ _ _ t _ _ _
G _ _ w _ _ h _ _ o _ _
p _ _ _ w _ _ w _ a _ _ f _ _
w _ _ _ p _ _ _ H _ . A _ _ i _ w _
k _ _ t _ _ G _ l _ _ _ w _ _ w _ p _ _ ,
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a _ _ _ _ b _ _ a _ _ _ _ . 1 J _ _ 5:14-15

(CEV translation)

World Champions in Kazakhstan:

Have you ever prayed? Can you imagine your teachers telling you not to because you might die if you do? This is what is happening in some parts of Kazakhstan.

More and more, the government there is trying to make it difficult for people to have freedom in what they believe. Officials have told teachers in Kazakhstan to stop children going to church.

In one area, teachers are telling children not to go to Christian prayer meetings. They tell children that prayer "can even cause death."



Teachers are also ordering parents not to take their children to prayer meetings. Children who still go are kept behind after school for "educational talks." Some have been told that they are being turned into zombies by praying.

It's very difficult for Christian children when they hear all these things. But many are being World Champions and keep going to church and praying, even though their teachers make it difficult for them.



World Champions... Pray!

You can be a World Champion by praying for the people in Kazakhstan.

- Pray for the Christian children in Kazakhstan, that they will continue to follow God, even when the government and their teachers don't like it.
- Pray for OM's workers in Kazakhstan. OM teams work with many adults and children in the country. Pray that they will be safe as they share God's love with people.
- Pray for more Christians to be World Champions by going to Kazakhstan to share God's love with people.
- Thank God for the people in Kazakhstan who have become Christians and are sharing God's love with their families and friends.

How can you remember to pray for Kazakhstan this month? **Why not make a prayer rocket for your room:**

Kazakhstan Prayer Rocket!

You will need:

Cardboard roll:

You can use a toilet roll, paper towel roll, cardboard tube, or make one with thick paper and sticky tape.

Paper:

White and red or orange.
(Or you can colour in some white paper.)

Sticky tape, scissors, felts and string.



1. Cut a semi-circle out of the white paper. Roll it into a cone that fits the top of your roll, and tape it in place.



2. Decorate your rocket with felts. You may also want to use stickers or paste shiny paper on it to look like metal. Be creative!



3. Make some wings or boosters from your extra paper and stick them onto the rocket. (It's good to use tape on both sides.)



4. Cut your coloured paper into strips and write something to pray for on each strip.

5. Tape the prayer strips to the bottom of the rocket. They are the take-off flames!



6. Tape some string to the nose of the rocket and hang it up where you can see it and remember to pray for Kazakhstan!



More amazing facts about Kazakhstan...

Apples were first grown in Kazakhstan. Almaty, the largest city, means "Father of Apples" and you can see apple trees everywhere! Some apples in the Almaty region can get as heavy as 1kg!

In Almaty, there are 500 real taxis and 219,500 illegal taxis. When people need a taxi, they just stick their hand out and wait for ANY car to stop!

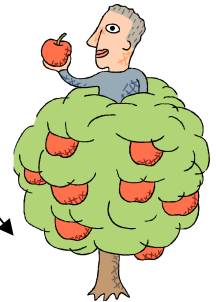
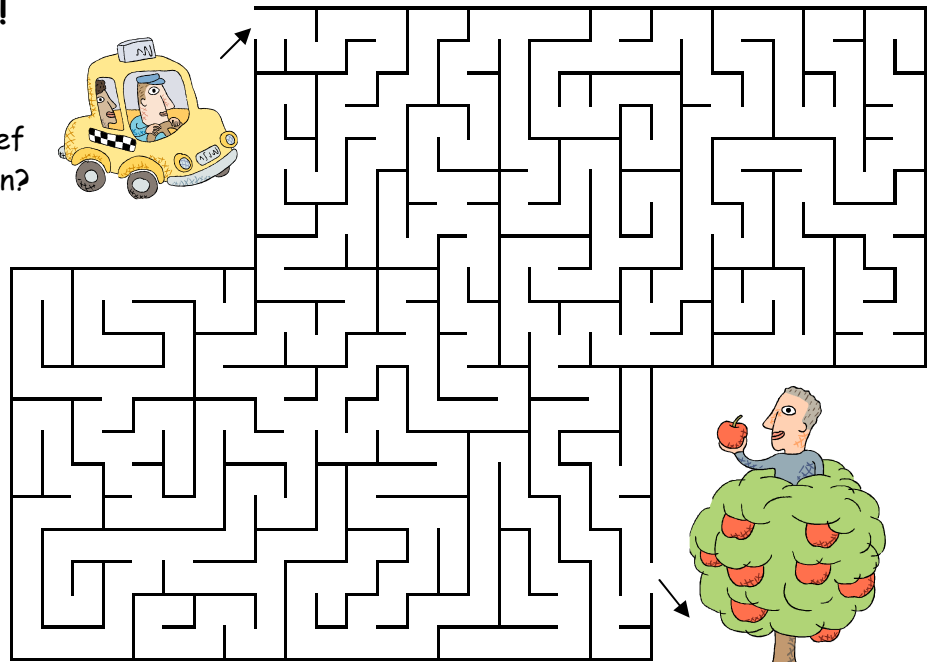
Part of Kazakhstan is in Europe, and part is in Asia!

The national bird of Kazakhstan is the Golden Eagle, which is also on the flag.



Catch the apple-napper!

How fast can you get your taxi driver to take you through the streets of Almaty to stop the thief eating all the apples in your garden?



Games in Kazakhstan:

"Kokpar"

Many boys get on horses and a dead sheep or goat's body is thrown among them. They each try to take the body away from each other. The winner is the boy who has the body at the end of the set time. People enjoy watching this game to see boldness, endurance and horse riding skills. Would you like to play?

"Eger..." "If..."

This is one you can play with your friends. The leader says 'if...' loudly and another person continues the sentence by whispering in their ear. Then the leader says "then..." and another player has to finish the sentence. The leader then says the whole sentence out loud. The end result can be quite funny! For example:

IF I have an icecream,
THEN the cow will moo.



World Champions... Give!

We have people working with children in orphanages in Kazakhstan.

Do you like cold weather? What's the coldest temperature you've ever been in? Probably nowhere near minus 35 degrees Celsius, which is what children in orphanages in Kazakhstan feel in winter every year. But many of them are happy. Because of some generous people giving the orphanages some money, they get given brand new boots, mattresses, sheets and blankets just in time for winter. And when it's summer time, they go on camps, which they love! All these things happen because people give money to the orphanages.

Would you like to help in this way too? As our weather here gets warmer, in Kazakhstan, it gets colder. Winter is around Christmas time, so you could help some of the orphans keep warm. You can send some money to us and we will pass it on to them.



World Champions... Go for it!

Isn't it amazing to know that God hears us when we pray to Him? Some children in Kazakhstan may now be afraid to pray to God because of what their teachers told them. But God still hears everything we tell Him, and when we ask for what pleases Him, we know He will answer our prayer!

So what should we ask for that pleases God? Do you know that Jesus' disciples also asked him how to pray? Read the prayer he showed them in Matthew 6:5-13 and Luke 11:1-4.

Cross out all the prayers below that you think won't please God. Colour in the children who are asking for things that will please Him:

Please help me to do what pleases you today.

I'm sorry for talking back to mum. Please forgive me.

I pray that people in Kazakhstan will hear about Your love and follow You.

Thank you for making me so much prettier and good at art than the other girls in my class.

My friend has a new bike. Please can I have one too?

Now draw yourself praying in your favourite place to pray. (Remember that you can pray anywhere!)

In each of the speech bubbles, write a prayer that you think will please God. Remember to pray prayers like this whenever you can!

A prayer about your family:

A prayer about school and your friends:

A prayer for yourself:

A prayer about Kazakhstan:



'World Champions' is made by OM New Zealand, where we want people of all ages to be a part of the wonderful things God is doing around the world. Why not contact us and see how else you can get involved?

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