

ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

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ASKing in His name

“Ask the Lord of the harvest,” Matthew 9:38

*“And I will do whatever you **ask in My name**, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may **ask me for anything in My name**, and I will do it.”* John 14: 13-14; *“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you **ask in My name**.”* John 15:16; *“In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you **ask in My name**. Until now you have not asked for anything **in My name**. **Ask** and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. In that day you will **ask in My name**. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf.”* John 16:23, 24, 26

The context of these verses from John 14-18 is important for our understanding of their meaning. Jesus is celebrating the first communion as it were; He is about to walk to the cross and finish the work the Father gave Him to do. The entire backdrop to the ASKing that Jesus is talking about is the work of redemption that He is going to complete through His death, resurrection, ascension, and glorification. We should not be surprised to discover then that this ASKing has perhaps got something to do with ASKING for what Jesus died for, particularly the salvation of those He died for.

“Because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to ask for them,” Hebrews 7:24-25. What is it that will be the brilliant new revelation, the new key to prayer? Simply, they will now **ask in Jesus’ name**. And did they ever! Acts 1:14 says, *“They all joined together constantly in asking...”* What was it that Jesus said He would ask the Father for in the Upper Room? The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth. The story of the church begins with them asking the Father in Jesus’ name in an upper room for the same thing Jesus asked for – and the answer was the day of Pentecost and the salvation of over three thousand souls.

Let’s also ask in His name for the same thing the apostles asked for: a mighty move of the Holy Spirit that yields a harvest of salvation in our generations and nations.

ASK for:

- **Unreached People Groups:** Ask the Lord to give you a burden for a particular nation where not many may know Him to ASK. *“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.”* Psalm 67: 1-2
- **Your Neighborhood, Your Nation:** *“...in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth...”* Acts 1:8
- **Political Leaders and Other Influential Figures:** *“I urge then, first of all that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – kings and all those in authority... This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved.”* 1Timothy 2:1.3-4
- **The Next Generation:** Youth and children make up the largest percentage of the world’s population. *“But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’”* Matthew 19:14; *“Your troops will be willing on your day of battle. Arrayed in holy splendor, your youth will come to you like dew from the morning’s womb.”* Psalm 110:2

...receive from Him
anything we ask, because we obey
His commands and do what pleases Him...

1 John 3:22



Hope of the Nations: Russia

"In His name the nations will put their hope." Matthew 12:21



Russia is the largest country in the world with land that stretches almost halfway around the world and it is part of both Europe and Asia. The country covers 11 time zones and all climate zones, except tropical. Today, the main religion of Russia is Russian Orthodox, followed by Islam. Only a small percentage of the Russian population professes to be born again Christians.

Russia continues to have an overwhelming problem with abandoned children. There is really no single reliable statistic of the number of children that are in the state orphanage system in Russia, but the conservative estimates place the figure at at least 800,000. Others estimate the number is in excess of two million. The number of children on the street doubles those who actually live in the orphanages.

Every year the number of children that become "social" orphans keeps growing. "Social" orphans are children with living parents who are not able to raise them due to moral-psychological issues, poverty, alcoholism, drug addiction, crime, etc. These children soon find themselves on the streets or in the orphanage system.

Most orphans can only stay in an orphanage until they are 16 years old. When they leave, they are usually unprepared, have no life skills training, and no support system. The majority of them go to trade school to learn a skill so they can hopefully get a job. Once they are out of school, however, most orphans find themselves unemployed, without hope and homeless. These children, along with those who don't continue their education, will frequently turn to drugs, alcohol, prostitution, and crime to survive, with the result that they become the parents of another generation of orphaned children. Those who run out of ways to cope will end up taking their own lives. Only a very small percentage of Russian orphans will overcome the extreme difficulties of their lives and become productive citizens. According to many statistics, the average life expectancy of a Russian orphan is only around 30 years old.

Over the past several years, the Russian Evangelical Churches have begun to reach out and minister to their orphans. They are bringing hope to the hopeless and the love of Jesus to the unloved. Many orphans are responding to the gospel message and their lives are being changed.

The Lord loves abandoned children. They are wonderfully and fearfully made with worth and purpose. God has good plans for them, a hope and a future. Will you allow God to use you to make a difference in the lives of Russian orphans? Begin praying and interceding for them today.

ASK for:

- **Russian orphans to know that they are created in the image of God and that He has a plan and purpose for their lives.** Genesis 1:27; Jeremiah 29:11; Ephesians 2:10
- **Russian orphans to know that God is their Father, Defender, and Provider.** Deuteronomy 10:18; Psalm 10:14; Psalm 146: 9
- **Russian orphans to choose life and not death.** Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Psalm 16:11; Psalm 36:9; John 10:10
- **Russian Evangelical Churches to continue to reach out and minister to the orphans and to join together in caring for them.** James 1:27; Psalm 133
- **Many to go and share the gospel with the orphans while the doors are still open in Russia.** Matthew 28:19; Luke 18:16; John 3:16; Matthew 25:40
- **Intercessors for the Russian orphans.** Ephesians 6:18; 1Thessalonians 5:17; James 5:16b

**Generations
gathering in Israel
to**

ASK

**for the
nations**

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine upon us, that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.
Psalm 67:1-2

You are invited from any nation and from any generation to gather in Jerusalem, May 26-28, 2011 to pray together for the final in gathering "from every tribe and language and people and nation." Details can be found in the accompanying registration form or at www.ASKNetwork.net

Prayerfully consider attending the first ASK International Gathering in Jerusalem in May 2011 (see box above for details).