

## New Rome // Central Asia

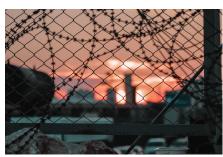
Matthew and Beth live and serve in "New Rome", Central Asia. Tricia has known Beth for many years, but I (Nich) was able to first meet them a couple years ago during their mid-year conference in Spain. They shared the following story with us, from "Husan," a Central Asian staff serving alongside them.

"One of my disciples, 'Adnan,' was in a youth conference, and policemen came and took all the young people to the police station. They were questioned, kept several hours and released at 2 AM. The government opened a case against them, and Adnan got a \$300 fine. But he is bold and stay[ed] strong in faith."



"One day I took him to the police station to sign some documents. On the way there, I encouraged him that if we are doing [the]work of God, we will face persecutions, because the Bible says so. **And on the way back we shared [the]** gospel with many people together."

Apparently, years ago, all the expat (not native to Central Asia) Christian workers were kicked out of Husan's country, and while he had opportunities to move abroad, he and his family have faithfully answered God's call to stay and continue to share their faith in Jesus to people in the community the live.



Fence // Central Asia // photos by Hasan A.





Matthew and Beth met Husan this past January at their regional staff conference, where Agape (Cru in Europe and Central Asia) offers medical exams and other resources that are not available in all countries. Husan had learned from the visiting physician that his young son, "Timur," could lose his sight in one eye if he didn't receive treatment.



Nich & Tricia // photo by Kel E

Matthew and Beth hosted Husan's family for a week while they received medical care in their city. With Husan, his wife, three children, and an auntie, their home was pretty packed, but were showered with encouraging conversation and stories of ministry throughout their lives. Glory to God, Timur was able to get more tests and fitted with glasses!

God is working powerfully through the national staff of Central Asia, as well as Matthew and Beth. It's our joy to know them, as well as coach and resource them - it is through your faithful prayers and giving like yours, that provide them with food and a home to share with the family of God.





