

Maloy Ministry Moments

April 2025



Natasha* is an elderly Russian woman who frequented the dumpster next to the meeting space of a home church. Whenever pastor Rovshan* would walk by, she was usually drunk, dirty, & picking through the garbage to find food or plastic bottles to sell. She would occasionally ask the home group members for food—which with Unto’s partnership, they would gladly buy—but she wasn’t interested in hearing about Jesus.

Once when Rovshan walked by, she asked him to buy her some snuff. He said he didn't have any, but he invited her to their evening meeting. Even though she was intoxicated, for some reason, she took him up on the invitation. Once inside, she heard the Gospel & decided to follow Christ. She soon quit drinking, began staying home with her son & daughter-in-law, & introduced the pastor to many other families in need. Since pastor Rovshan is a trusted partner of this country’s Cru staff, he has access to Unto funding designated for helping those with food insecurity. This funding, & Natasha’s surprisingly extensive network, meant that dozens of needy families in this Central Asian city were about to hear the Gospel & believe!

In one family, the husband was in jail & his wife was left with a 3-month old & no means to take care of her. They brought her a food package & prayed with them. She accepted Christ & began coming with Natasha to their home group. Then Natasha introduced the pastor & his wife to a poor, elderly couple, Shura & Ider (who can’t walk). They brought them a food package, prayed for Ider, & shared the Gospel. They too prayed to receive Christ!

As I heard more stories & saw more photos of God working through food packages in this city, I was struck by the ubiquitous presence of a little elderly Russian woman, humbly standing off to the side. Natasha reminds me of the woman Jesus met at the well, who, having her thirst met in an unexpected way, runs to her people about what she has found—and in doing so, introduces many of them to Jesus!

Natasha’s testimony is in part thanks to you: without you, I wouldn’t have been able to provide Rovshan with the funds to give meals to those in need—and, to unlock the door for the Gospel for Natasha & others. Thank you for the role you play in bringing the hope of Jesus to Central Asia!



Photos:

(Top) Natasha & Rovshan with Shura & Isor.

(Bottom) Helping a mother & baby.

Prayer Requests:

For Natasha, Ravshan & other Unto partners who are faithfully laboring in Central Asia. Wisdom for Dan as he sorts through & submits all his countries’ ministry proposals for next year. *names changed for security purposes

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