



June 15, 2011

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”—Jeremiah 29: 11-13 (NIV)

Recently I have been reflecting over the problems with our school the past several years. The founder of all of the organizations currently occupying our building has made a decision regarding the building’s ownership. Friendship School and Private Enterprise Training Center (PETC) will each be donated its respective, currently-occupied areas. Here is how I see God’s hand at work through these difficult years:

- ✚ The founder has reached this decision in a timely manner for the school’s licensing deadline.
- ✚ PETC has an education license, which the school administration insists that all of the occupants must have. SBTC, our other organization, has a different license.
- ✚ Key field leadership has changed, and the current leadership has great cultural insights in assessing and handling both cultures involved. This is making a positive difference in how our discussions are progressing.
- ✚ The current field leader has had a lawyer friend for many years, who has talked of ways that real estate can be legally usurped. This information is helping the field leader with wisdom and insight as we write the transfer contract to better protect ourselves.
- ✚ The school’s translator is gaining new insight about the founder and PETC, which has positively affected her attitude. She had believed lies before.
- ✚ The PETC staff has remained with us, even when personally insulted.
- ✚ While our team has not had the opportunity for spiritual ministry in the school for many years, I still have hope which I believe is from the Lord.
- ✚ Our American team has been much more unified as we have prayed earnestly together about this issue for the last several years.
- ✚ You have been faithfully praying for us all through this process. Prayer is vital!

The Lord has not yet revealed all His plans to us; but, as He is always faithful to do, He is “a lamp to my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105). Please continue to pray that we will take the next step according to the path He lights, and, especially, that we will be obedient. At one time, our team had a strong ministry in the school. Because of changes in the laws and staff, now our ministry must be subtle. My prayer is that He will bring many souls into His Kingdom in spite of these controls on our witness.

Summer has arrived in Kazakhstan. Although school is out, I’m spending five hours each workday with individual English students. And in July the plan is that I will be teaching a business English class on a daily basis with fewer individual classes.



Thank you for praying for our English students (those of The Small Business Training Center and PETC). We had 320 graduates in May. One teacher with some of his students is pictured at the left. The picture below shows me congratulating one of our other students during our ceremony.

Last year's teachers have returned to the US. There are two scheduled to come in late June for the month of July plus four scheduled to come in August for the 2011-12 academic year. Please pray for the visas for these people. The laws have changed again as of June 1. The changes are not major, but there was no advance notice. Some of the changes actually make the process easier. But the staff is scrambling to get everything done before the fall teachers want to arrive.



There was good news on my visa. It can be renewed in-country, which means that I do not have to leave Kazakhstan for that purpose. That is a blessing!

God's plans are always best, and it is vital that we walk in them. I will be praying for you also that you follow His plans for your life.

Taking one lighted step at a time,

Margaret Farnsworth

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