QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT ASK THE SUKOS



- 1. What has been your most encouraging breakthrough in your ministry?
- 2. What is the native tongue in Ukraine, and what were the challenges you faced in learning to speak this language?
- 3. What language do you use the most? Is it challenging when two or more languages are used in ministry and at home?
- 4. What are two or three cultural blocks in presenting the Gospel?
- 5. What are the challenges of brining up children in the mission field in Ukraine? (Homeschooling, church, cultural differences, and etc.)?
- 6. What do you do for fun, hobbies, to rest, and to get away from the grind of ministering?
- 7. What local and national parks are available to you?
- 8. What type of public transportation is available to you?
- 9. How does shopping in Odessa differ from Gig Harbor, WA?
- 10. What type of health care is available to you in Ukraine?
- 11. How does the weather in Odessa differ from the state of Washington?
- 12. What is the crime rate in Odessa, and Ukraine in general?
- 13. How do politics and government policies in Ukraine effect your ministry? Are there government restrictions that are challenging to work around.
- 14. What is the greatest obstacle to your objectives?
- 15. What is the status of the tensions between Russia and Ukraine, and how safe is it for you to return and to continue to live in Odessa?
- 16. What do Ukrainians think of Americans and President Trump?
- 17. What specifically would you like us to pray for in your life and ministry?



THE UKRAINIAN FLAG represents wheat fields below the blue sky. 51.7% of Ukraine is used for agriculture. This equates to approximately 312,113 sq km of agriculture.

Let us Welcome

Our Missionaries CALEB AND CRISTINA SUKO

Serving Jesus in Odessa, Ukraine



And The Suko Family

January 14, 2018



Our Ministry
About Caleb
Books Caleb has written
About Christina & Children
Who Is AWBE?
Photos: The Suko Family

(All information was taken from sukofamily.org)



OUR GOAL IS BOTH:

- To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to Ukrainians
- And to help Ukrainians take the Gospel further than we could ever do alone!

HOW CAN WE DO THAT?

THROUGH OUR LOCAL CHURCH

One way we do that is through local church ministries. Caleb serves as pastor at our church here in Odessa, <u>Hope for People.</u>

Through the Church we've been able to lead weekly outreaches to disabled refugees and currently to Ukrainian soldiers. These outreaches put us in connection with people who have never heard the gospel before and allow us to bring hope to the hopeless.

THROUGH TRAINING IN CHURCHES COUNTRY WIDE Caleb also serves as director of <u>"Blagovestie.today"</u> Center for Evangelism and Discipleship. The purpose of the center is to aid local churches in effective Biblical evangelism and discipleship. Together with other Ukrainian pastors we led seminars in churches all over Ukraine as well as some beyond the border of Ukraine. <u>We focus on teaching</u> church members how to share their faith in a way that is understandable and effectively communicates the core message of the Gospel.

Last year our center led about 20 seminars in different churches all over Ukraine.

THROUGH BIBLE CONFERENCES

At least twice a year we organize Bible conferences that focus on <u>Biblical methods of evangelism, discipleship, and preaching.</u>

Over the past year we helped organize 3 conferences with a total of well over 1,000 church leaders attending. We publish videos from each conference in order to reach an even wider audience. This year alone our conference videos have been viewed over 20,000 times.





ABOUT CALEB

I was born and raised in Washington State, in the small town of Gig Harbor where my father started **Discovery Baptist Church** in 1981.

I began to get interested in missions after listening to missionaries who visited our church. One day in 1994 I was invited to hear, then president of **ABWE**, Dr. Windel Kempton speak at a nearby church. Afterwards I asked

him about summer missions opportunities. He told me: "There's a great opportunity in Ukraine this summer."

I had no idea how life changing that moment would be! At that time I wasn't interested in Ukraine and I'm not even sure if I could have found it on the map. Nevertheless I went home and told my parents about the opportunity. When my dad heard about it he said: "Great, I'll go with you!"

I hadn't even decided to go myself yet and my dad was ready to go with me, so I decided to try it out and I went on my first trip to Ukraine in 1994.

You might think that trip suddenly made me decide to become a missionary to Ukraine, but it didn't! It was years after that trip and after other trips to Ukraine and South America and after I met Christina that we together decided to go back to Ukraine and serve full-time.

Before I came to Ukraine in 2007 I studied at **Shasta Bible College** and **Northwest Baptist Seminary** (now Corban School of Ministry, where I graduated in 2005 with Masters of Divinity.

BOOKS CALEB HAS WRITTEN



The <u>first_is</u> a short e-book about the differences between Orthodox Church and Protestant teachings called:

"Church, Tradition and Scripture, Where Does the Authority Hide?"

Caleb published his <u>second</u> book in 2014. It is available both in print and in Kindle e-book."What If....How to Kill Worry and Anxiety Before They Kill You!"

His <u>third</u> book came out in August of 2017."Is God Calling Me to Missions, 10 Questions to Help You Determine Your Calling"



ABOUT CHRISTINA

I was born and raised in the former Soviet Union and came to the U.S. in 1996 to study at **Shasta Bible College** in Redding, California.

I grew up in a typical Soviet family, my parents were secular, they worked their jobs and were more or less good moral people, but we didn't know God. In the eighty's my father obtained a Bible on the black market, he read

it to my brother and me every night. Unfortunately, he didn't know where to start so he opened it to the middle and read from the book of Job to us. As a 10 year old child it wasn't the most interesting thing to hear so my brother and I both fell asleep quickly, but my father had many questions.

Later after the Soviet Union fell we were invited to a Christmas outreach by a local Baptist Church. We went and finally my father found someone who could answer his questions about the Bible. We started attending a small Bible study and shortly afterwards my parents both believed in Jesus. I also put my faith in Jesus a few months later.

One year I went to a Bible camp and at the end of the camp the leader asked if anyone would like to become a missionary to toss a stick in the campfire. I was only 14 years old at that time and I had no idea what it meant to be a missionary but I felt God calling me to it, so I threw my stick in the fire! I told my parents about that, but it was difficult for them to see how I could become a missionary living in a country like Ukraine with so little resources.

God knew better!In 1994 I met a pastor who gave me the opportunity to come to the United States to study at a bible college. It was there that Caleb and I met... but that's another story, you'll have to watch our video to hear that story!

ABOUT OUR CHILDREN

We have five wonderful children who are an integral part of our ministry here. They all speak English and Russian and some of them even do a little Ukrainian!

This October our daughter, Noelle was baptized in obedience to the command of Christ. This is a great joy for us to see that she has a real faith in Jesus and wants to follow him.

Our daughter, Naomi, was married to Jorge Whitaker this October in Gig Harbor, WA. Naomi and Jorge will make their home in Chili.

Who is ABWE?

(Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, Inc.)

(Caleb Suko is commissioned by ABWE) We are a missions agency with more than 85 years of experience helping missionaries start relevant, effective, creative & adaptable ministries in more than 70 countries.

We are PASSIONATE ABOUT JESUS

Our vision is to fulfill the Great Commission by multiplying leaders, churches, and missions movements among every people.

Everyday we strive to share His story of hope, build communities of faith, and serve the world with love. But we don't just want to send missionaries. We want to spark global missions movements that extend beyond ourselves — where local leaders are trained, mission-minded churches are planted, and believers are compelled to carry the message of Jesus to every nation.

We want to disciple new believers and empower the local Church to pick up the torch of missions and carry the gospel into new places — until it has reached every nation — and our vision of multiplying leaders, churches and missions movements among every people, is fulfilled. **We are EXPERIENCED**

While God continues to humble us and teaches us new things each day, we have more than **85 years of experience** sharing the love and hope of Jesus Christ with people in more than **70 countries** around the world. We remain rooted in conservative, baptistic theology, but we strive to stay relevant, effective, and adaptable to the diverse cultures where we minister.

THEOLOGY

100+ Bible-training programs minister to thousands of students around the world.

EVANGELISM

Each year, our 900+ missionaries share the gospel with thousands of people in 70+ countries.

CHURCH PLANTING

5,000+ churches have been planted by ABWE and its nations partners, to date.

ABWE Address ABWE USA (800) 901-2293

(You can send donations to this address, Be sure to include **Suko Family** and account **#013354**) P.O. Box 8585 Harrisburg, PA 17105

THROUGH ONLINE RESOURCES

✓ In today's connected world it would be a sin not to use the opportunities God has given us through the internet. That is why we developed <u>"Blagovestie.today"</u> a Russian language site that focuses on publishing Biblical articles on evangelism, discipleship, and church ministries. Caleb usually writes articles once or twice a week that are then published in Russian. Other Ukrainian pastors also contribute articles. Additionally we often translate helpful material from <u>Desiring God</u>, <u>9 Marks</u>, and other solid Biblically solid websites.

Through our online material we have been able to engage with tens of thousands over the past year.

THROUGH PRINTED RESOURCES

Through our seminars we are training believers to use chronological Bible teaching as a way to share the Gospel. To this end we are able to offer them <u>"The Story of Hope"</u> a chronological Bible study. We also offer <u>"The Way to Joy"</u>, basic steps for new believers.

In addition to these tools we print a biannual magazine that focuses on evangelism and discipleship issues!

In addition to these ministries Christina also serves in women's ministries at our church and works with our translation team to translate needed Biblical training materials into Russian. Christina also has overseen homeschooling of our five children.

The best way to stay in touch with us is by e-mail. In addition to regular blog posts you'll also get exclusive content that I only send out via e-mail. Caleb Suko

Our mailing address is: Suko Family 6120 51st Ave NW Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Caleb and Christina Suko's blog <u>http://sukofamily.org</u>





