

The Eighth of Thirteen

Noah Hoech

2018 Steinbeck Scholarship Recipients



My name is Noah Hoech and I am an MK (Missionary Kid) from Central Asia. Despite its poverty, political brokenness, and spiritual blindness, Central Asia is a place I proudly call home. It is where I grew up and it is where my parents and sister continue to serve. Its culture

and its people are more my culture and my people than anywhere else in the world.

I grew up speaking Chinese, English, and Russian. At first, it was just Chinese, but then my mother began homeschooling me in English. “So you can go to college in America,” she said. Soon after I started 1st grade at a local Russian school where I also had Kyrgyz language classes. I did well in school, but it wasn’t until high school that I found my passion.

In high school, I became involved in a Christian youth outreach program. Several days a week, a group of Christian teenagers would meet and love God together. We studied the Bible, ran free clubs (with Christian messages), organized events, and realized weekly Sunday youth services. I served in this outreach program for two reasons: first, because I loved God; and second, because I felt like *someone* needed to share the Gospel with those who did not have it.

Now I’ve been at Stanford for 2 years and the same reasons tug at my gut. I am here to love God and I am here to serve Him. My conversations, acts of kindness, prayers, and lifestyle bring the Gospel to a place that needs it just as badly as those living in Central Asia need it. I am part of a Christian fellowship called Chi Alpha (which stands for Christ’s Ambassadors) and I do everything I can to represent Jesus. By his grace, I am where I am now.

I am a Linguistics major, an RA in my dorm, a mentor and a mentee in my Christian fellowship. I like hanging out with friends and watching good movies. And I hope to attend seminary in St. Louis after my time at Stanford. Last year, I had the pleasure of speaking at Zone 8’s 2017 Fall Gathering about life on the mission field. Thank you for your wonderful support and may the Lord bless you richly!

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