



PRAYING FOR COMMUNITIES WHERE CHRIST IS LEAST KNOWN

April 2024

Thank you for joining us in prayer for key requests relevant to all Faithful Witness teams:

- Pray Psalm 67:1-2, “May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.”
- Most teams are living and working in Islamic communities. The devotion of Muslim people deepens during Ramadan. As 1.9 billion people fervently pray seeking forgiveness on the ‘night of power’ may those who seek Jesus find him, as he promises. The close of Ramadan gives opportunity to visit neighbours, colleagues, shopkeepers and traders. Prayer gatherings continue, along with greetings, shared gifts and food.
- Visit the new website <https://faithfulwitness.org> Pray this resource helps engage new prayer partners, mobilizes new workers, and encourages new donors to give financially to these SIM pioneering ministries.

CENTRAL ASIA (new location)

- Ask God’s guidance as we plan and begin ministry as a Faithful Witness team.
- Pray for workers. May God bring people to join us who are faithful and passionate in discipling Christ-like followers.
- Pray for God to bring light and salvation into this region.
- As Ramadan continues, the number of people attending night prayer keeps increasing. The roads are being blocked and the cars are parked along the streets in endless lines; people don't fit in the mosques due to the multitude of people and so a crowd of people are also praying outside the mosques. Pray against the lies of Satan. Ask release of minds held captive. Pray blind eyes open. Pray for the revelation of Jesus—the way, truth, and life. May God encounter the broken-hearted and bring healing.
- Local believers are being persecuted by their families—sons are threatened by their fathers, wives are beaten by their husbands. Pray for strength and growth in local followers of Christ.
- Pray the Spirit of the Lord God is upon those called to be light and declare good news in this dark place.

MIDDLE EAST

- Pray the message of God who comes to reconcile us will be heard and understood across the Middle East.
- Give thanks I’m able to be in this country. Ask favour in the eyes of the government to grant annual visas needed for several of us. Pray especially for a Middle Eastern pastor and his family to be granted a visa quickly after months of delay.
- In recent years there has been a steady increase in the use of Crystal and other drugs as well as online addictions among young people. In this society it’s shameful to acknowledge the effects of these addictions on family life. Pray people really seek God and are open to discuss and help each other.
- Several mothers with children with special needs need prayer for complex relationships with extended family, older children using Crystal, other children facing severe exam pressures, threat of their husbands divorcing them or taking another wife—as well as the normal daily demands.

NORTH AFRICA

- Pray that the Lord will give us opportunities to witness of his love.
- Pray for the team’s expectant mothers and their babies. One is due now—ask God’s protection for a safe delivery and early days of adjustment as a family and growth of the newborn before their return to North Africa mid-year. Pray for the other family as they prepare for a time of sabbatical in their home country in West Africa, shortly after the birth of their baby due late-May. Ask protection of mother and baby. Pray God’s strength and blessing in this time of major transition, and ask for a smooth handover of responsibilities.
- As student ministry and pastoral work continues amidst team members coming and going, ask God’s continued work of transformation and equipping of his people. Pray that the Lord continues to open up

ministry opportunities for the team, that they will be a conduit of true blessing within this country with great spiritual, emotional and physical needs.

- Ask God's provision of the resources the team needs, including successful application for visas for new workers. Pray for provision of a reliable vehicle for one family. As one couple conclude Faithful Witness project financial support ask blessing upon their efforts to raise their current low level of funding—may new prayer and financial supporters allow them to continue their work in North Africa.
- May the Lord raise up new workers from sub-Saharan Africa to answer the call to come and serve in North Africa.

EASTERN CHAD (two locations)

- Ask strength, endurance and encouragement as temperatures soar making life and ministry activities difficult. Pray also for joy, energy, good health, and motivation.
- Pray for peace for the country of Chad.
- A worker serves on the chaplaincy team of a hospital. May God open hearts to see and receive the love of God. He asks prayer for resourcing to expand sports ministry opportunities.
- A worker and his family live in a town that is the center of Islam in Chad. Pray God's protection. Ask spiritual and physical health, and that the children thrive in their studies. There is intense persecution of Christians. Praise God, despite this we have established friendships, share the gospel, and are training young disciples. Pray for provision of suitable housing that can become a base for ministry.
- Workers in another town ask prayer for reliable language tutors. Ask God's guidance, and discernment as a perspective worker visits on a vision trip. Ask God's blessing upon growing relationships with friends, landlords and neighbours. Pray for new contacts in the community and refugee camp, and ask clarity of ministry direction.
- Pray for new financial and prayer partners.

MALI

- Ramadan is a difficult time for many locals. Pray that God will reveal Himself to them as they seek the true God.
- Pray for the country of Mali amidst instability and security concerns. Ask God's protection and courage for workers.
- Ask provision of a French language tutor, and that God will make a way as a new worker make friends with local women and children.
- Join us in praying for God's wisdom and direction as we consider new villages to work with. Ask fruitfulness in ministry that continues in other villages.
- Pray for team members in their struggle to raise financial support allowing their return from home assignment.
- Give praise for two workers preparing to join the team this year. Ask God to equip and resource them. Pray for timely visa processes.
- Continue to pray for SIM Mali's process of becoming registered with the government—ask favour.

EAST AFRICA (new location)

- Pray God will build up a team of front-line intercessors to stand in the gap for the people of this land.
- May prayer pave the way for a team of workers to be called into service.
- Pray for workers to remain spiritually strong as they live under the umbrella of Islam. Ask also for physical strength during hot weather, and God's protection.
- Ask peace and pray for calm during the remainder of Ramadan.
- At this time of greater sensitivity towards God, may God provide us with opportunities to meet with true God-seekers. May Jesus enable us to point them to himself.
- As the building of relationships and ministry platforms continues, ask God to establish a people for himself, those who will call upon Jesus, worship him, and share the good news of his salvation.

NORTHERN NIGERIA

- Ask God's provision of safekeeping and protection as we travel to remote areas to share good news. May God give us his wisdom and boldness in ministry. Fulani communities struggle to find clean drinking water—ask provision of funds to dig wells. Give praise for the success of a medical and counselling outreach in another state—pray for physical healing of those treated, follow-up discipleship and

continued spiritual growth of those who gave their lives to Christ, and continued work in the lives of the many people we prayed with. The cattle vaccination outreach continues and we plan to do this in some new areas.

- Pray for the success of an upcoming one-to-one evangelism discipleship training session for local ministers as we seek to motivate and equip them to reach the Fulani.
- Pray for the children as they attend school amidst insecurity. May they do well in their studies and also grow close in their relationship with God. Pray for one student as he sits his final high school examination.
- Ask strength for the hot season, made more difficult due to poor electricity supply and escalating cost of fuel. Ask encouragement in the long process of language and cultural acquisition.
- We are thankful for the ongoing support of our partners and the church community. Pray for encouragement for workers on home assignment in Ethiopia where, like Nigeria, the political and economic situation is really challenging. May God fully supply and enable continued ministry.

AYUTTHAYA, THAILAND

- Ask physical, mental and spiritual health for the team and families. The heat and air pollution are difficult. During school summer holidays we are being intentional to spend time with children and young people. Ask daily strength, joy in Jesus and opportunities to be a witness and share His love.
- Thank God for the start of Joyful Heart Bilingual House language school! Pray for the families who attend Joyful Heart, that they would be open to hear about Jesus. Pray for more students and that we can recruit teachers for the school. May it go from strength to strength with God's leading. Pray unity for the team.
- Ask God's grace in the process of leaving as the longest-serving team member transitions to home assignment and a time of theological studies. Pray for another family also on home assignment. Ask good progress and encouragement for newer team members as they continue with language and culture learning and seek guidance and help in ministry opportunities.
- Give praise for opportunities to share about Jesus. A new initiative is a basketball club for neighbourhood children. Ask fruit as workers meet with a family for regular Bible studies. Pray for blessing as workers meet with other women for discipleship and friendship.

ASIA

- Praise God, a new family has arrived to join the team. Pray for their many adjustments and ask provision of good health and a smooth transition for all. Temperatures are red-hot!
- Pray for team relationships as trust builds. Ask for grace and good communications within the team and with other believers. Pray that both families are guided in their Kingdom service.
- Praise God, our business has become profitable. With great joy and gratitude, we are praying and striving daily for further progress. Pray the business continues to grow, to generate more revenue, to deepen partnerships with partners, and in its use for outreach evangelism. May it bless this city and beyond. Ask for wisdom and blessing for new employees. Ask for good work-life balance and time management with many and varied responsibilities.
- Christians are being persecuted. Pastors have been suddenly taken away and imprisoned, and church meetings are being prevented. The situation is likely to become even more severe. May the church be strengthened in the Lord's grace to overcome fear through prayer and faith, and to worship the Lord, the Victor, and lift up His name with boldness. Pray as we faithfully witness with our words and deeds in our neighbourhoods, among our friends, in our shared office space, and in our business relationships.
- Pray there will be a hunger for the true God among the people of this country. Ask that people encounter Jesus and believe in the Lord, and that other people believe through their testimonies.
- Pray God's protection of family life, health, and the growth of the children. This month a worker will travel to a conference in another country. Ask for learning and understanding that will further equip and enable ministry. Ask protection of the family remaining at home.
- A sending country is experiencing deep recession, impacting on financial support. Ask encouragement in this challenging situation. As plans are made for a fund-raising tour later this year, ask God to guide. Pray finances won't hinder the work of the gospel.