



PRAYING FOR COMMUNITIES WHERE CHRIST IS LEAST KNOWN

June 2024

Thank you for joining us in prayer for all Faithful Witness teams:

For our battle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. One worker writes, 'Then as I talked more of Jesus the usual thing happened, her eyes glazed over, shutters coming down almost like she was going to sleep. It happens so often as I speak with people. Their responses get vaguer. The hopelessness they feel so very evident.' Pray workers put on the full armour of God. Join them in praying for victory in the spiritual battle as good news is proclaimed in spiritually dark locations.

NORTHERN NIGERIA

- Thank God for his provision and protection. Pray 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3, 'that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured. And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith. But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect from the evil one.'
- Pray for continued cultural and language acquisition, and ministry progress. Continue to ask God's protection from personal harm in this context of insecurity. Pray workers and their families are healthy, strengthened and encouraged to persevere despite the challenges of hot season and additional distress of frequent power cuts—some are struggling.
- May God establish Fulani Ministry. We have formed a good foundation of relationships within communities. Now pray that God direct us and shows us how to point to Jesus, our Saviour.
- Give praise, God has helped our children's studies. Ask provision for schooling needs both in Nigeria and in sending countries. Pray especially for children on Home Assignment to be able to keep up with their lessons. We are so thankful for ongoing support and prayers from sending churches despite the economic challenges caused by inflation. May God bless those who give, and bring encouragement for workers in their support-raising efforts.

MALI

- In Mali, women have little recognition as individuals and seldom are invited to participate inside or outside the church. Praise God for the successful partnership being formed by the women in Kayes region to work together in outreach ministry, through a small project. The women are filled with joy as they grasp this ongoing opportunity to share the gospel and be involved in ministry. Pray that these great changes will make a huge impact both within churches and within communities, for the glory of the Lord.
- Pray for an upcoming medical camp in the villages. There are some security concerns so we are not able to visit the interior villages. Pray for peace and an open door for us to meet with those God is preparing for his healing touch.
- Pray for strength, rest, and protection from burn out for the team leader, currently serving alone and awaiting the return of workers on home assignment/fund-raising.
- Matthew 9:38, 'When Jesus saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were weary and worn out, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is abundant but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.'
- Ask God's provision of full support teams for those on Home Assignment. Give thanks for a new worker's good connections with local people—may God equip her with great language ability and good adjustments to culture and environment, that language learning would also be a time of rich ministry.
- Continue to pray for the SIM-Mali registration process.

NORTH AFRICA

- Work with international students continues as we disciple them and train and equip them to share their faith. As the academic year concludes late-June we plan to run a training course, Kingdom Ambassadors School, along with a new training activity to better use social-media networks to share their testimony or spread the Gospel in a modern or technological way.

- Pray for the crossing of barriers and the opening of doors for the gospel to be proclaimed. Colossians 4:3-6, 'Pray also for us that God may open a door to us for the message, to speak the mystery of the Messiah'.
- We thank God for protection for the team's many road trips and during ministry within and outside church buildings, in the different cities of this country. We give praise for the baby boy who was born and is doing well—pray for the family as they prepare to return to North Africa early July. Another team family are delighted with the safe birth of their third child—ask God's peace, guidance and enabling as they prepare for a sabbatical year in their sending country of Cote D'Ivoire. May God bless the national student ministry as the leadership transitions.
- Pray for a couple wrapping up ministry and returning to Home Assignment time in Central Africa. Ask provision of ministry and schooling funds for their 4 children. Pray for the visa application process for visits to alumni students in Congo and Gabon, and for fruitful opportunities to be faithful witnesses there.
- Ask provision of suitable, affordable housing for a family moving to another city in North Africa. Pray for a smooth transition. Ask great blessing as the Word of God is shared in this city. May God use the difficulties of life here to bring light to dark places. A fund-raising journey to USA is planned—pray for the visa applications. May the Lord raise up new partners to encourage the work in North Africa.

EAST AFRICA

- Pray for endurance at a time of difficult changes. Romans 5:3-5, 'And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces perseverance, perseverance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. This hope will not disappoint us because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.'
- Pray for the new families on the team—life in a new culture is a challenge.
- Pray for a family as they grieve ministry changes. A partnership with a university training programme will need to change due to a steady decline in quality and standards after being handed over to local leadership. Pray for the Lord to protect the good relationships we have with the Partner Institution. Ask God to be at work, as only he can do, to bring new fruitful ministry from what seems like ashes.

EASTERN CHAD

- Ask grace in loving each other, neighbours, and our host community well, especially during this very draining heat. Pray for good rains this month to produce good harvests for the coming year for all the communities across Chad.
- Pray God's wisdom in all our words, actions and interactions with each other and with the community. Praise God for continued deepening relationships. As we share the gospel may it be well received. Pray for people to know the God of love, mercy and justice who knows us intimately amidst our sufferings and endurance—God who desires life and freedom from fear. Pray for the strengthening of new believers.
- God opened up amazing spiritual conversations after Ramadan as I shared from Genesis 1 on my phone. One of the girls read out loud in Arabic. She kept saying, 'this is so good, give me the app'. Now the Bible app has been shared with many more people. It is so exciting to see young people searching for truth. Pray hearts are softened and responsive to good news.
- Worker's children have important exams this month. Ask full healing for a child's fractured hand.
- Pray for a worker as she attends a conference in Thailand. A family take the 14-hour road trip to N'Djamena, the capital of Chad, for a conference and medical appointments.
- Workers learn both French and Chadian Arabic for this ministry context, pray for opportunity to retain French when based in an Arabic speaking community. Ask energy and brain space to continue learning and progressing well. One worker has begun teaching English in a nearby refugee camp—pray for opportunities to talk about Jesus.
- The conflict in Sudan has been going on for over a year, and continues to have devastating effects on millions of people in Sudan and neighbouring countries. Ask God's provision for refugees, internally displaced people, and local host communities who are struggling with rising prices, lack of resources, and the severe heat.

CENTRAL ASIA

- Pray we are strong spiritually, protected each day as we put on spiritual armour. Ask strength and growth for our team and for local followers of Christ. Some Christians are persecuted by their families: sons are threatened by their fathers, wives are beaten by their husbands. Pray for God to bring light and salvation into this region.

- Pray we are strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10-18, 'Take up the full armour of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, take a stand. Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt buckled around your waist, righteousness like armour on your chest, and your feet sandaled with the readiness to take the gospel of peace. In every situation take up the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.'
- Pray for emotional and physical health and wellbeing. Pray also for family members with struggles and ask God's help to provide support.
- Ask guidance as we start a high-priority project. Give praise for other workers planning to join our team. Pray for many workers to come, people who will be faithful and passionate in discipling Christ-like followers.

MIDDLE EAST

- The Good News is veiled to those in the Middle East who are perishing—ask God to shine his light in their hearts, giving them the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:6).
- Give praise for conversations about God's love, grace, help and strength with the mothers of children with disabilities. It doesn't take much to help these mums feel listened to and heard. Father, draw these families to yourself, and as they turn to you, remove the veil from their eyes so that they will know freedom in Jesus now, and for eternity.
- Give praise for regular discussions with young adults meeting to discuss belief in Jesus. Currently they are grappling with the depth of Jesus being the ultimate sacrifice in order that we are justified and made right with God. Their ability to understand these hard passages and words, at least at head level, is incredible. Pray the Spirit will draw these precious people and they will encounter Jesus and turn to him.
- Pray for favour with the government leading to residency visas for all of us. As we establish a presence here and serve this neglected community—among the Middle East's least reached—we long for many to encounter Jesus, finding hope and life in him.
- Thank God for the relative stability in this city despite a very precarious regional situation. Pray we know God's peace and assurance every day, whatever happens around us. Pray for the leaders and decision-makers of the country, that they would fear God and rule with justice.

ASIA

- Pray for us to be faithful in everything God has called us to, here in this land.
- As the general elections are held, ask God's hand upon the people of this nation. Pray for peace throughout the election process and as the outcome is announced. Pray people would seek and encounter the One True God who is in control of everything.
- Pray Colossians 3:12-13, that God's chosen ones will be holy and know they are loved. May we be clothed in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience—accepting one another and forgiving one another.
- Give thanks for the blessings of fellowship as a team—may God grow us into a united and effective team. Ask good health and God's protection. Pray the children in the team would grow and receive blessing and God's anointing. Pray for the vision trip of a new worker to this nation as she considers joining our team, asking God to guide and reveal his purposes.
- Pray God sends us to the people who seek truth and the Saviour. May we build strong collaboration with local leaders and churches, led by the Holy Spirit.
- Pray our business will grow—ask more collaboration, increased sales, and increased placements in recruitment.

AYUTTHAYA, THAILAND

- Pray for relationship building with our students and parents from Joyful Heart Bilingual House.
- Pray for our team's relationship with youth and children in the community. Pray we can build upon the great success of day camp. Ask for opportunities to talk and share about Jesus—may the Holy Spirit lead in these conversations.
- Pray for our church members to abide and grow in Christ. We recently started Kid's worship team project. Pray the kids and also their parents will get to know us better, building rapport and trust, as we spend time together.

- Pray for the family life of team members asking for loving, strong relationships between parents and children. Pray for wisdom in parenting. Ask God's help to balance the different demands of schooling, childcare, church ministries and community outreach. Pray for good health and resilience physically, emotionally and spiritually.
- Pray for single workers. May they feel well supported and experience God's presence and blessing. Thank God for the unique opportunities they have as they serve the Lord.

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