

## PRAYING FOR COMMUNITIES WHERE CHRIST IS LEAST KNOWN

August 2024

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

- 1) Praise God for our diverse teams. Pray for grace, understanding, trust, unity, and love within teams. May our diversity enhance our witness as we serve together.
- 2) Pray for many workers needing to raise support to return from Home Assignment to their countries of service:

"We believe God called us to this work, yet we are currently underfunded. Pray God's wisdom and blessing in our supporter's lives. Pray other churches and individuals would join our support team as we seek to reach out to the Fulani people group who so need Jesus. God desires the Fulani to worship beside us in heaven and he has given our generation the challenge of inviting them."

"I praise God for faithful financial support from the Faithful Witness project over the last 4 years. Pray for me as I have to raise more support."

"I want to thank you once again for walking with this servant, for continuing to support me in prayer and with monthly contributions. God is good and faithful, He will not cease His work until it is completed. The task is hard, it is exhausting, but each day the Holy Spirit renews physical and spiritual strength."

### **NORTH AFRICA**

- Ask God's grace as a team re-establishes—one family takes sabbatical leave, another asks God's guidance
  in new church and ministry leadership roles, and a family is transitioning and settling in a new home, city,
  and school. Pray for unity and love in our team.
- As maternity leave finishes, ask God's provision of excellent care for a baby, and grace as the mother returns to her complex regional responsibilities.
- Many students are discouraged by discrimination they are facing as sub-Saharan people. Attendance at Sunday services has declined. Ask God's peace and strength. May students be able to continue focusing on their studies, and show Christ's love to those around them.
- Pray for fruitfulness during the summer break—there is an emphasis on encouragement of believers, and witnessing and sharing with those who are not yet believers.
- Ask godly wisdom for the team as we disciple locals.
- Pray for the team leaders on Home Assignment as they visit family, raise support, and settle a son into higher education.
- Pray Matthew 9:35-38 asking God to send more workers into North Africa. Uphold new families preparing to join the team.

## MALI

- Pray for economic and political stability.
- Ask God to work among the Moors, Fulani, and Soninke people groups. Pray Matthew 13, asking for ears and eyes to see and understand God's revelation of himself. Pray many turn to God.
- Ask fruit from evangelism efforts and the encouragement of believers. "I am teaching English to some students at home and also at the language center, not all of them are believers. Pray I will be able to give the light of Christ to them." Another worker gives praise that a Malian with whom he shared the gospel has become a believer—may discipleship ministries flourish.
- Ask God's protection, and good health for the team. Rainy season is bringing a lot of malaria. Pray for continued good progress with language acquisition.
- Pray for the safe arrival of a new worker this month, asking God's grace in the farewells, travel, and early adjustments to Mali and its peoples.
- Ask encouragement and God's provision for those on Home Assignment as they fulfil teaching and preaching engagements and raise prayer and financial support.

• Give thanks for a successful Engage West Africa training programme, which saw more than 100 people from the region gather to pray and discuss how they can better support world mission.

### **NORTHERN NIGERIA**

- Pray for political stability, and for the economy as prices continue to soar.
- Give praise for good relationships built with several Fulani communities. Pray for funds to respond to the felt needs of the Fulani—schooling opportunities for their children and bore holes for drinking water. As we seek to demonstrate Christ's love through the water project, pray the source of Living Water would be heard, understood, and accepted. Ask success of an upcoming Fulani cattle vaccination effort. Ask provision of a 4WD vehicle to enable us to continue village outreach during the rainy season.
- Pray for new converts in Northern Nigeria facing severe persecution. Ask wisdom and resources for the Christian community to care for them.
- Pray for the team's safety and security. May they be encouraged with continued improvement of language skills and cultural understanding. Ask wisdom and boldness in sharing the gospel. Pray God's provision for the children, for academic progress, and the cost of schooling. May God call more workers.
- Pray for the families on Home Assignment asking for refreshment, good communication with supporting churches, and provision to return to Nigeria. As they seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness, pray all these things will be given to them as well (Matthew 6:33).

### **EASTERN CHAD**

- After an unusually hot hot season, pray it will rain—enough for the fields to grow food for local people and for the thousands of refugees around us. Pray for good health, energy and strength—the past months have been intense and busy. Pray for our spiritual health, for deep connection with God, and to know his hearts' desires (John15:7-17).
- Pray for a young guy from our town who is listening to an audio Bible while working in the fields of his
  home town during the rainy season—may it be a blessing to him and those who listen with him. Pray he
  sees the freedom and life that Jesus brings.
- "Praise God for the way he is softening the heart of my language tutor, day-by-day. She now reads the Bible with me as part of my reading practice—pray God will speak to her."
- Pray for persecuted Christians. Ask courage to remain firm in his faith as a new believer faces persecution.
   Pray also for the hearts of his parents who have disowned him. Praise God, five believers are preparing for baptism this month—ask God's blessing and protection of them. As we share the gospel, pray many more people come to faith.
- Ask wisdom in parenting. A worker's child is very disappointed after failing his baccalaureate exam. As he re-sits the year, ask encouragement to follow God's plan for his life.
- Pray for those preparing for Home Assignment and give praise with those ready to return from Home Assignment. Ask wisdom, strength and grace for those raising support, and guidance and provision for a worker who is considering marriage.
- Pray for new contacts at the refugee camp, asking God to open doors for good relationships and sharing
  of his Word. Ask fruit as we engage with young people through conversational English classes.

## **EAST AFRICA**

- National elections are scheduled this year but have already been postponed a few times. There is growing concern that this may happen again and the planned elections in November may not happen. Pray that elections will take place and peace will prevail so that the work of the Lord can continue.
- Pray the people of this land acknowledge that Jesus is worthy so that many will stand before the throne and worship the one who is Faithful and True.
- Ask God's blessing as the team leaders return home for their son's wedding and have a few weeks in Europe.

## **CENTRAL ASIA**

 Ask for the salvation of the people of this region. Pray Romans 10:13-17 asking that workers will be sent, and people will hear the good news and call on the name of the Lord.

- God is opening many opportunities for us to start work that will be a powerful platform to reach the most unreached. Pray for wisdom in undertaking the right and appropriate opportunities. Pray for strength, wisdom, protection, and encouragement for each worker, physically, spiritually and emotionally.
- Ask God to send many more faithful workers.

### MIDDLE EAST

- Ask for continued stability in the region as tensions remain high. Intercede for rulers and authorities. Pray for open doors to share the hope believers have in Jesus with those who don't know Him (1 Peter 3:15).
- Pray for four new people from a different organisation as they settle into the city, make friends, and teach English. Pray for more students to come to the language centre and for good connections with each student.
- Continue to pray for the families of children with special needs as they seek good intervention for their
  children. May they connect more with each other to support and encourage each other. Pray for me as I
  continue to walk with them from a distance, answering messages and giving advice over the phone. Pray
  that they will seek the Living Lord Jesus and will be saved.
- Pray for the team leader on Home Assignment, meeting up with many supporters and hearing from them
  how God is working in their towns and churches, rejoicing with them. Pray for me as I continue to share
  each weekend at different churches. May people be encouraged and rejoice at all Father God is doing,
  both what we see and the unseen.

## **ASIA**

- Pray that the people of this country hear about Christ. Pray for the work of the Spirit of God. May people stop living evil ways and be made new in their hearts. As new people, may they become Christ-like—made to be truly good and holy. Pray that Christians are kind and loving to each other, forgiving, just as Christ has forgiven each of us. Pray that the team will be humble, gentle and patient, accepting each other in love. Pray that local Christians will acknowledge God's gifts, serving each other to make the body of Christ stronger (Ephesians 4).
- Ask God to provide for monthly support and financial needs. Pray Home Assignment meetings and initiatives would be blessed. Ask strength, and encouragement in ministry.
- Pray our business will grow—ask more collaboration, increased sales, and increased placements in recruitment.

# **AYUTTHAYA, THAILAND**

- Praise God for good conversations with people we are in contact with. Recently, we've seen some openness to engage in conversations about faith. Pray for wise responses. May the Holy Spirit lead us.
- Pray as we begin conversations with a local church. May we have a deeper working relationship.
- Pray that the lives and witness of team members will show Jesus at work in our lives, both to believers and people in the community. Ask God's blessing upon discipling relationships.
- Ask guidance for workers considering long-term steps.
- Ask for good health for team members, especially the children. As one family move house pray for good adjustments, their relationship with neighbours, and for effective local ministry.
- Ask God's blessing as we collaborate with a Christian English tuition centre in Bangkok and use their good resources in our English language ministries. As well as reducing lesson preparation time it provides a good support for our non-native English teammates as they teach English.
- A worker writes, "When it was my turn to teach the children we are learning together about sin, its consequences, and the solution that Christ gives. While I was teaching, the children were distracted by noise and fighting. The Holy Spirit encouraged me—keep talking, even though the enemy is pestering keep going and don't shut up. That day despite the presence and negativity of the enemy we finished well. The children heard the Word of God and the seed was sown." Pray the children hear and understand the teaching, that the seed falls in good ground, grows and produces fruit.