

# PRAYING FOR COMMUNITIES WHERE CHRIST IS LEAST KNOWN

October 2024

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

- 1) Pray for our workers sent out, 'like sheep with wolves all around'. May they be wise like snakes and gentle like doves, Mt 10:16. Ask great courage, wisdom, and boldness as they live out and declare the Kingdom of God, living as light in dark locations.
- 2) Pray for God's protection. Ask good health. Pray for families and teams to be united in their love for God and for each other. Ask encouragement and resilience for those with little fellowship with other believers.
- 3) Pray workers seek daily to abide in Jesus and grow ever more intimately in love with him, filled with the Holy Spirit, standing strong, always ready to share the gospel of peace.
- 4) Many workers live and witness in countries governed with political and economic instability and insecurity. Pray for peace, and safekeeping. May God bring to completion the work he is doing through the Faithful Witness teams.
- 5) Pray for the millions of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering persecution in many countries across the world. Ask God to strengthen and sustain them and their families.

# **AYUTTHAYA, THAILAND**

- Pray for our team retreat early this month. Ask for a meaningful time of rest, review, and planning for Christmas outreaches. May we know God's grace and grow in unity, patience and resilience as we serve cross-culturally with people from different cultures and backgrounds. Ask the blessing of good spiritual, physical and mental health for workers and their children. Pray for suitable short-term workers to come work alongside us. Ask God's equipping as a worker does leadership training this month, and another participates in a counselling course.
- Pray for good adjustments for those returning from and leaving for Home Assignment, asking for good connection with family, friends and churches alongside rest and reflection.
- Praise the Lord, we have a full class of 8 for our English class. Pray for opportunities to teach more children and get to know more family units.
- Give thanks for the opportunity to freely speak about God and the Bible with the 'Happy Wednesday'
  kids. As they do Bible activities and learn the story of God's love pray they open their hearts to God. As we
  share with many Thai may they realise that our faith and Bible knowledge is not just stories, but truth
  about God, the world and mankind.
- As the Rojana Peace Church meets to learn and worship together ask we all walk closely with God. As we
  disciple a woman may God's word bear fruit in her life. Pray her non-believing husband comes to know
  Jesus.

# **EAST AFRICA**

- Everything is gearing up as the country focuses on the upcoming November national elections. Pray for peace as the elections draw closer. As important meetings happen, cover these with your prayers.
- Pray for wisdom, and discernment to understand the things 'behind the scenes'. It is a spiritual battle that we are facing daily.
- May the team experience, 'The Lord God is a sun and a shield; the Lord bestows favour and honour. No
  good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly' Ps 84:11. Pray for joy and strength as they
  trust in God.

# **EASTERN CHAD**

- Pray for continued relationship building in our community and also in the refugee camps, and ongoing
  opportunities to share our faith. I am so blessed to be part of this work among an unreached people
  group. May the Lord bring a harvest of the seeds sown faithfully through generous givers.
- Pray for spiritual wellbeing—a growing, intimate relationship with God and deeper knowledge in his word and power.

- Sports ministry has provided the opportunity to share the gospel message. Ask God to open the hearts of these young people and bring forth fruit for eternity. Pray for resourcing in ministry.
- Pray for God's strength and encouragement for a new believer suffering severe persecution. Ask comfort and blessing for his family who are suffering.
- Ask God to open a door for outreach among an unreached people group we encounter among the Arab community.
- Pray for those suffering in the wake of widespread flooding that took many lives, killed cattle and destroyed homes and crops.
- A worker on Home Assignment asks grace in the adjustment period and prayer for good rest and
  refreshment. Another worker returns from Home Assignment this month, accompanied by his bride—
  pray for this newly married couple and ask special grace and resilience as this young woman is immersed
  in Chadian environment, languages and ministries.

### **NORTH AFRICA**

- Pray that the God of the Harvest will send his laborers to join us.
- Pray for our city, may God draw sinners to himself. Pray for open doors and open hearts willing to respond to the truth of who Jesus is.
- Pray for language studies. May our language teacher see the light of God and open her heart.
- Ask strength for a worker who is pregnant and pray for the baby to grow well.
- As church and student ministries continue, pray for the students to be faithful in their walk and listen to
  what the Holy Spirit is saying. May God stir their hearts to be faithful witnesses to their social networks
  who haven't heard the good news of salvation.
- Pray earnestly for local believers to grow in love, in understanding one another, in unity, and in maturity.
- Pray for those on Home Assignment—for good adaptation to 'home', for wisdom and intelligence as
  children start schooling in a very different context, for God's gracious provision of part-time work, for
  healthy growth and development of a newborn child. As a physiotherapist returns to his profession may
  the Lord provide opportunities to witness and demonstrate the love of God.

## **MALI**

- Pray for security and the stability of Mali. Many lives were lost in a recent terrorist attacks in the capital, and there are ongoing security concerns. Some airlines have suspended flights to Mali. May God protect, and bring stability to the country.
- Pray for the Hassaniya villages where we have been ministering. It's been a month since we last visited due to the rainy season and road blockages. May the Holy Spirit speak to them in visions and dreams.
- Like children all around the world, Malian youngsters love sport (especially football) but many do not get the opportunity to be coached or develop skills. Pray for the sports ministry initiative which focuses on street children.
- Pray provision for the financial support needs of workers.
- Pray for a worker with dental problems, Unfortunately, recent treatment worsened the situation. Ask for healing for a worker's uncle. Pray for one of the teachers in the language center diagnosed with a kidney problem requiring dialysis. He has no support, pray that God will open His blessings over his life.
- Praise God for new workers. As one starts learning French ask good language and cultural acquisition.
   Another worker hopes to arrive this month—ask provision of a visa and for other formalities. May God call, equip and send many more workers.
- Praise God for the return of a worker from Home Assignment. Ask God's guidance and provision as
  another family prepares spiritually, emotionally, and financially to return to Mali. They ask prayer for a
  visa to the USA to connect with some supporters and churches, and blessing upon preaching and teaching
  engagements including a retreat with couples at one church, and a week of teaching at another.

## **NORTHERN NIGERIA**

- Praise the Lord for good communication with the Fulani community. Pray God will open their minds and hearts. May they know the only true God and find the way to eternal life (John 17:3, 17). Pray for the transformation of this huge unreached region.
- Ask God's provision and protection during times of protest and economic inflation in Nigeria.
- Pray God would sustain and grow our teams in northern Nigeria.
- Pray for those on Home Assignment asking guidance, refreshment, and provision of support needs—the financial burden is really difficult, even unsurmountable, other than through God's miraculous provision.

## **MIDDLE EAST**

- Having returned from Home Assignment, pray for wisdom to know how to prioritise as I see all the kids
  after the summer break, and trust that I can pick up again and regain momentum as I work with these
  families.
- Praise God for several new children that have been referred to me. Ask great blessing and open doors as I meet these new families and begin work with these children.
- Pray for a local lady who is willing to be trained up and work with me. Pray for a more permanent solution for the use of a room both in the mornings and evenings.
- Give thanks for young adults studying the Bible—pray for them to follow Jesus and keep studying.

### **ASIA**

- Pray for the daily life adjustments and cultural adaptation for a family that recently arrived in this difficult location. May God protect health and bring encouragement as they learn language alongside work obligations.
- Pray that the business continues to grow and reach out to many people.
- Pray for the salvation and transformation of the people of this city.
- Ask God's gracious enabling, strength, wisdom, and provision for Home Assignment responsibilities
  including visiting, reporting back, preaching and teaching at more than 20 churches and seminaries. Ask
  God's enabling to work remotely with the business, amidst this schedule.
- Ask that rest and spiritual refreshment will be possible, along with meeting physical and mental wellbeing needs for the family. May God grant many wonderful encounters and reunions.
- Pray for special times of spiritual encouragement and guidance as we listen to God's voice and receive a vision for our next term. Ask financial provision allowing return to service.

### **CENTRAL ASIA**

- The people of Central Asia are proud of their rich heritage. However, the 73 million people of this region have had little exposure to the gospel and there are deep-rooted barriers to Christianity.
- Give praise, God has made a way for good news to be heard. Amidst hardship and trials, God has begun to stir the hearts of Central Asian people, breathing a young but vibrant indigenous church into existence.
- Pray for workers to come alongside these churches as God builds his kingdom and establishes an effective witness, despite opposition. Pray for outreach throughout this vast area to raise a generation equipped and empowered to share the message of hope locally and globally.
- Pray for the team as they seek to engage their community by establishing a business training center to teach vocational skills and business languages.
- Praise God for the effective witness of the team as people are drawn to God and transformational relationships strengthen. Ask God's protection of the team. May they know his encouragement. Pray for grace to be flexible, adaptable, and responsive to opportunities.

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