

### PRAYING FOR COMMUNITIES WHERE CHRIST IS LEAST KNOWN

January 2025

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

- Pray for courage, faith, and encouragement for all teams, all workers, in 2025. They face many trials security threats, challenging and unhealthy environments that impact on workers well-being, financial constraints, the relentless spiritual battle, to name a few. One worker writes, "Amidst the trials, I've been reminded of Job's story and the importance of trusting God's sovereignty. As Job 2:10 so profoundly asks, 'Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?' This question has encouraged me to embrace all circumstances in life with faith and gratitude."
- 2) Pray that the miracles and wonders God will do among the nations in 2025 will transform lives and communities, bringing many into the Kingdom of God.

### **CENTRAL ASIA**

- Our main vision is to raise faithful leaders who'll lead a self-sustainable church with a missional vision, planting churches across the region and sending workers to other parts of the country and beyond.
- We are grateful to God as we enter the process of recruiting another worker. In 2024 God brought three workers to join us in the vision of reaching the unreached and raising disciples and local leaders.
- Give praise for the steady and inspiring growth we see in the lives of those we disciple.
- Ask God to strengthen local followers. Pray for perseverance despite persecutions and life's struggles. May local followers of Jesus grow in the knowledge of our Saviour.
- Pray for God's direction and guidance as we plan to take youth to a retreat. Ask for the provision of a speaker in the local heart language. Pray for security and a safe way to travel and spend time together, and for the people who will go.
- Our Bible School is now in its second year. May God bless the leaders-in-training as they start taking initiative in leading and teaching. Pray wisdom for the leader seeking future direction for the school, and growth and blessing for all who attend.
- As we consider the opportunities of 2025, we envision starting a business initiative, guesthouse and training center that will help to recruit more workers and give them a legitimate platform for living here and interacting with local people, as well as creating job opportunities for local believers.

### **MIDDLE EAST**

- Pray for the encouragement of evidence that God is at work as we pray for this city and nation.
- Join me in asking Father God to bring more people to work here in 2025.
- Pray for fruit in the lives of the young people that meet and study the Bible together. May they be willing to commit their lives and futures to Jesus.
- As I work with families with children with special needs, pray for deeper conversations with the mothers of these children. As we see God at work answering our prayers for them and their families, may this lead them to Christ. Ask great blessing and open doors as I get to know several new children and begin to work with them and their families.
- This year I dream of providing a fun activity session that will allow these mothers time together. Ask God to bring this about and to bring people to help make this happen. Pray that the fathers of these children will be prepared to provide childcare and release their wives to attend and be blessed.

### ASIA

• Pray that 2025 sees the establishment of new communities of Christ-followers. However, there are many barriers. In this region, conversion to Christianity may be seen as rejection of a person's genealogy. Christians may lose their right to use community water and be denied access to food, medical care, and family resources. As Christians demonstrate the dignity that God's love graces us with, may there be real transformation at many levels of society.

- Pray the light of Jesus will overcome the darkness and bring spiritual awakening for this city and surrounding villages. Ask for thirst and a deep hunger in the hearts of the people that will lead them to Jesus.
- Pray more workers would feel a call to work in this least-reached area where only 0.1 % know Jesus.
- Ask physical and spiritual protection of workers and their families—protection from all of Satan's attacks and traps. Pray we grow in the Spirit and in the likeness of our Master. May we be united in love and vision, and as we bear witness of Jesus's love and salvation.
- Pray for the local church to grow in sound teaching and the Holy Spirit's guidance.
- As the business becomes established, pray for growth in profit and Kingdom influence. Pray for a company employee and his family to come to Jesus, the one true God.

## MALI

- Lift up prayers for lasting peace and security, and political and economic stability in Mali.
- As we celebrate the New Year as a team and with the local church, pray for tremendous fruit from the words spoken through Christmas outreaches and the ongoing demonstration of God's love to the people we live amongst and the villages we visit.
- Prayerfully, we envision seekers in villages we have yet to visit. May God draw the Moor and Fulani peoples to himself. Pray godly wisdom and guidance as we share good news as often as possible, including in new villages. Ask for fruitfulness, and God's further equipping to grow in language ability and relate well with people.
- Pray continued strength, unity and effective ministry for the team this year. Pray for safe-keeping, healing of illness and the blessing of good health. Ask provision of a visa allowing a new worker to arrive. Ask for a good transition for those returning from Home Assignment, and God to go ahead as we reconnect with friends and continue in ministry. Workers continue to need financial support, including the need for a ministry vehicle and the cost of children's education.
- With God's help, pray we are able to live life in such a way that people can see the love and the goodness of God. Praise God for the relationships we are building through English lessons, language classes, getting to know people in a refugee camp, through medical ministry, and sports ministry among street children.
- Our team has been diligently cultivating relationships and friendships with the Moors, demonstrating God's love through practical acts of service and sharing the Good News. We have witnessed the Holy Spirit opening doors and hearts, and we are grateful for your prayers and support.
- We are encouraged to see new believers testifying to God's power and grace. It's a privilege to walk alongside them as they deepen their relationship with Christ.
- As we partner with churches may this encourage missional vision. We dream of setting up a Youth Discipleship and Vocational Camp, a transformative program designed to equip young minds with spiritual growth, vocational skills, and character development.

# **NORTH AFRICA**

- A family in North Africa ask prayer for the granting of their permanent resident permit. This will allow them to invite an Aunt to visit and support the family as their third child, expected mid-January, is born. Also ask God's protection and the well-being of mother and baby.
- Pray God gives us wisdom as we seek to walk with and encourage believers in our city, both local believers and Sub-Saharan students. Pray for spiritual growth. May we all continue to grow in maturity and love for God.
- Give thanks for opportunities to challenge the students to reach out to the unreached population around them. This is a challenging concept for them to grasp hold of—pray God would give them soft hearts and love for their North African neighbours.
- Pray for those searching for truth, those longing for salvation. May nothing separate them from the love of God, Romans 8:22-39. Pray for dreams, visions and encounters with the grace of God.
- Pray for discipleship efforts among new believers scattered in North Africa, especially those who live in remote areas and without any regular fellowship. May God grant perseverance, encouragement, wisdom, love, and fruitful lives—the pleasing aroma of Christ.

### **EASTERN CHAD**

- Give praise for a new worker becoming established in a new location, and soon to be joined by his wife. Ask for language and cultural learning ability and perseverance. We envisage the Kingdom of God impacting this area with believers being led by the Holy Spirit, sharing the gospel and making disciples. Ask God's strength and wisdom as we build relationships and serve the community.
- As workers partner with a local church to work in two new, unreached villages, ask God to prepare hearts to welcome their Saviour. Ask great blessing as we seek to provide church leadership training and prepare a discipleship manual.
- Pray for a family of new believers in another area, asking protection and strength to remain steadfast through the trials and tribulations they face because of their faith. Others have heard the good news— pray they come to faith and follow Jesus.
- Ask healing of a worker struggling with kidney disease. Pray for good health and peace for all workers. Join a worker in giving thanks for graduating with a Masters Degree in the Art of Leadership. Ask provision for another worker requiring a means of transportation.
- Ask provision of all that is needed to grow sports ministry and outreach among youth and children.
- 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.

# **NORTHERN NIGERIA**

- Pray for safe travel and great blessing as workers meet for the SIM Nigeria Spiritual Life Conference, early January.
- We have a great vision for 2025 to reach our beloved Fulani community. Specifically, we plan to facilitate medical outreach to address the community's health needs and provide cattle vaccinations to promote the health of their livestock. Pray for more resources for Fulani holistic ministry as we face significant challenges in meeting the real needs of the community. Ask God to bless the work abundantly, so that in all things at all times, workers will have all they need to abound in every good work.
- Praise God for opens doors for ministry. Pray the Holy Spirit will guide us and go before us to open the hearts of Fulani people to experience God's love. We envisage new believers that form vibrant churches among these nomadic people.
- Ask physical and spiritual protection of workers and their families.
- Pray for financial provision including the costs of children's education as workers return from Home Assignment. Pray for a missional business endeavour to expand and be profitable. Ask wisdom, and open doors to share the good news with customers.
- Give thanks for answered prayer as the new SIM Nigeria Director settles into the role.

# EAST AFRICA

- Pray for the few believers in East Africa. Ask strength and boldness when they face persecution or intimidation. As we pray for the government may God bring more freedom for Christians. Pray that those who are in prison for their faith will be released and find freedom to worship Jesus, with others, without fear. That dream is almost too bold to dream but it is our hope and vision for this nation.
- Pray the people of this land hear of God's love and accept his gift of Jesus. May God provide us with opportunities to meet with true God-seekers.
- This year, we look to God to start new ministry as he helps us cast new vision to respond to opportunities here. The doors are wide open to teach English. Ask God to bring us English teachers. With technology, retired teachers or those a little extra capacity could teach remotely at the university and make a significant difference, for the Kingdom's sake.
- Ask wisdom as we explore other avenues for ministry or for business. May the Lord bring us people who see the opportunities.
- Ask continued favour with the institution in East Africa which secures visas. It is difficult to get into the country and we want to keep the door open and build on the trust which was established over many years.

### AYUTTHAYA, THAILAND

- Give thanks that the gospel and the meaning of Christmas was shared with at least 470 students in 3 different local schools. Pray that these seeds of the gospel will grow in their hearts.
- Ask God's protection and a safe delivery for a mother and her child due early January, and that baby thrives, and the mother recovers quickly. As the family keep their home open and available to neighbourhood kids and their families, pray people encounter love, peace, and the Holy Spirit. Ask guidance as the family consider ministry options in 2026 and beyond.
- Ask wisdom for the team leaders, and God's guidance. Pray for renewed strength for the team. May we continue to grow in quality, in unity and team closeness, and in fellowship with God and each other this year.
- Pray for God's leading, and growth in the Joyful Heart Bilingual House ministry.
- Ask God to bring short-term workers for Joyful Heart and other team ministries. We are especially looking for English and Chinese teachers during April-July.
- Ask God's work in The Santisuk Peace Church, that we grow deeper and wider in Christ. May members attend regularly. Pray that believers would be servant-hearted, able to disciple others, and that all would feel welcome and part of the family of God.
- Ask God to prepare the way for partnership with community leaders, that we could work alongside them.
- As school ministry at local public schools continues, ask strength, as this ministry is short-staffed.
- God has opened the way to partner with local churches in two other provinces—pray that the fruit of God's spirit would undergird this partnership, bringing glory to God.

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