

PRAY *for the* NATIONS



Pray for the Nations

Prayer Cards

As a global community of Jesus followers, we know we are called to the ends of the Earth to share God's plan for redemption. Many of the more than 3 billion people who don't know God are concentrated across **five geographic areas**: the Sahel (1), the Arabian Peninsula (2), the North Caucasus (3), South Asia (4) and the Mekong (5).

These prayer cards focus on Jesus followers living in these regions, who are boldly sharing Christ's love with people who don't know Him.



Use these prayer cards by yourself or with a group to lift up our brothers and sisters in these areas and ask God for more people to join them in reaching those who don't know Him.

1 JOHN 5:14 (NIV)

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Chechnya

POPULATION
1,423,208

MAIN RELIGION
Islam

FOCUS REGION → **NORTH CAUCASUS**

STATISTICS TAKEN FROM THE WORLD FACTBOOK (CIA.GOV) AND JOSHUA PROJECT (JOSHUAPROJECT.NET). POPULATION REFLECTS ALL CHECHENS IN RUSSIA, INCLUDING THOSE LIVING OUTSIDE CHECHNYA.

Sharing the gospel at every occasion

When Dimitri* moved to Chechnya, as part of a recent wave of Russians invited to work in the strict Muslim republic using their professions, he knew that believing in Jesus would set him apart from the majority of the population there. “One of the values of this ethnic group is the preservation of religion and traditions and passing them on to the next generation,” he said. “Islam is an integral part of the life of every person here.”

Hundreds of mosques and multiple *madrasas*, Islamic education centres, punctuate the religion’s stronghold in the North Caucasus region and perpetuate its ideology. Nonetheless, Dimitri boldly shares God’s love with people living there. “I have many friends who know that I am a Jesus follower,” he explained. “We often visit each other and help solve different life problems. During our conversations we constantly touch upon the issue of religion.”

Although Dimitri’s closest friend in Chechnya seems to be satisfied with Islam, “we continue to communicate and get to know each other better. I hope that God will work in his life through our friendship and my testimony,” he said. “But what is most important is that I can share the gospel again and again at every possible occasion.” •

“We constantly touch upon the issue of religion.”

WAYS TO PRAY for CHECHNYA

- ➔ **Pray** that many pastors in churches all over Russia get the vision to see communities of Jesus followers within reach of every person in the North Caucasus.
- ➔ **Pray** for more people of various professions to be willing to take their skills, find jobs with existing companies or start new businesses in the North Caucasus region.
- ➔ **Pray** for Jesus followers already living in the North Caucasus to build good relationships with their neighbours and colleagues.

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* name changed



PRAY *for the* NATIONS



RUSSIA

Abkhazia

Karachay-Cherkessia

Kabardino-Balkaria

North Ossetia

Ingushetia

Chechnya

Dagestan

GEORGIA

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN

→ **Abkhazia**

POPULATION
240,705

MAIN RELIGION
**Orthodox
Christianity**

FOCUS REGION → **NORTH CAUCASUS**

TURKEY

Statistics taken from Unrepresented Nations & Peoples Organization (unpo.org). Population estimate is based on a contested 2011 census.

Being a good guest and neighbour

Although Abkhazia is generally considered a Christian republic, there are very few evangelical churches there. The orthodox church has a long tradition in this area, but under a thin layer of cultural Christianity, pagan practices and cults are still very much alive, with mystical rites passed on through the generations.

Still, Sofia*, a Russian Jesus follower who lives and works in Abkhazia, has experienced a welcome reception in the region. “The most important cultural tradition in Abkhazia could be described by two words: guest and neighbour,” she said. A hospitable people, Abkhaz genuinely enjoy visits from others. Sofia has used this open-door policy to share cooking, one of her favourite hobbies, with Abkhaz women: those who know God already, are learning more about Him or have yet to discover who He is.

“I really like cooking and going to someone’s home to cook food together,” Sofia said. Whilst preparing different dishes, Sofia and the women chat and exchange cultural information. “We cook some traditional Abkhazian meals, or I teach them how to cook Russian food,” she shared. “All the locals are very glad that we are interested in their life, their culture and that we like their food. It allows me to build very close relationships with them and be a witness of God’s love.” •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for ABKHAZIA

- ➔ **Pray** for teenagers and youth to understand the purpose for their lives, so they will make good decisions that will have a positive impact on society.
- ➔ **Pray** for churches in Abkhazia to be spiritually healthy. Pray especially for men who are spiritually mature and willing to serve.
- ➔ **Pray** that God destroys the spiritual forces in Abkhazia so that nothing prevents people from approaching God. Pray that He will be the first priority in people’s lives, not practicing rituals or following rules.

➔ [OM.org/pray-for-the-nations](https://www.om.org/pray-for-the-nations)



PRAY *for the* NATIONS



FOCUS REGION → **NORTH CAUCASUS**

Statistics taken from Unrepresented Nations & Peoples Organization (unpo.org) and Joshua Project (joshuaproject.net).
Population reflects all Ingush people in Russia, including those living outside Ingushetia.

Praying for strangers

Nestled into Ingushetia's dramatic mountainous landscape, a few ruins of medieval Christian churches sit, slowly crumbling. Today, the majority of the republic's population are practicing Sunni Muslims; there are no known communities of Ingush Jesus followers. "We are called to go to places where the gospel was not proclaimed yet to bring God's light there," said Mikhael*, a Russian Jesus follower who focusses on sharing God's love in the North Caucasus region.

Hospitality is well established in the smallest Russian republic area-wise. "The culture of hospitality makes it very easy to meet people," Mikhael explained. One day, at the end of Ramadan, Mikhael experienced this value on full display.

"This is really how it looks: all the houses are open and tables for guests are laid out," he described. Mikhael and the people he was travelling with entered one house and were immediately seated at the table with the family. "It was the most amazing time that I spent with strangers; we talked as if we had known each other for a long time," he recalled. "We asked them about their traditions, and then they asked us about our faith. We were happy to share the gospel." Near the end of the visit, the family asked the visitors to pray for them, which they did gladly. •

There are no known communities of Ingush Jesus followers.

WAYS TO PRAY for INGUSHETIA

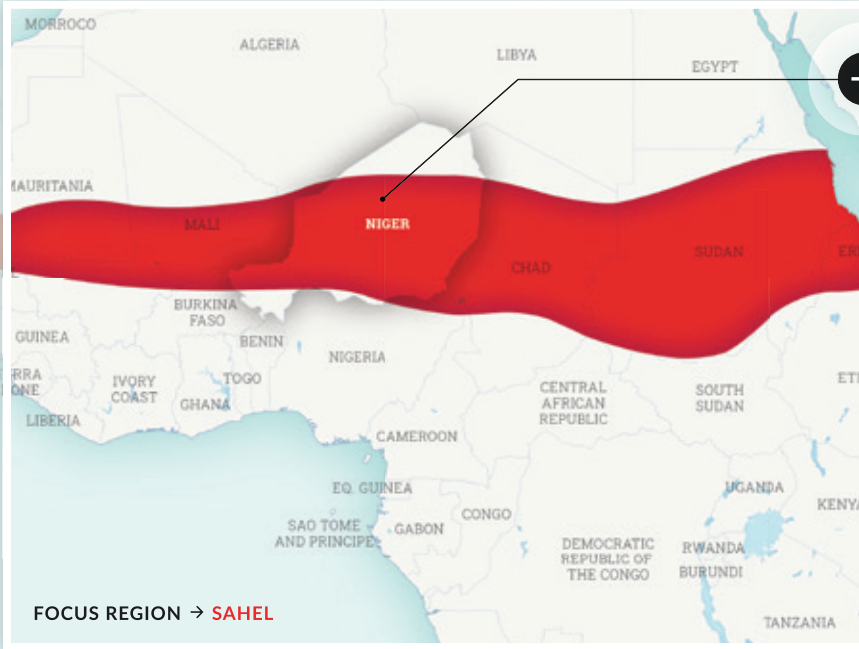
- ➔ **Pray** that many people of different professions would decide to move to Ingushetia, trusting God to provide amidst the republic's economic insecurity.
- ➔ **Pray** for Jesus followers who have already moved to Ingushetia for the sake of the gospel.
- ➔ **Pray** for wisdom in reaching the Ingush people.

➔ OM.org/pray-for-the-nations

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Niger

POPULATION
23,605,767

MAIN RELIGION
Islam



Discovering more about Jesus

In a place where 99 per cent of the population is Muslim, Islam and the culture are intertwined in Niger. But just as the wind ripples across its hot, dusty plains, “we are seeing the wind of the Holy Spirit moving in this country,” said Ibrahim*, a Nigerian Jesus follower.

Sharing meals is an important tradition. “When you say *bismillah*, you mean: ‘Come and eat,’” Ibrahim explained. In one area, where several Jesus followers live together, local children often stopped by during lunch time. Naturally, they were invited to come and eat. After they ate, the children were invited to listen to some biblical stories. Those stories got their attention, so they returned the next day—for more food and more stories. Eventually, their parents joined them. “Now, many of these parents are coming regularly for Discovery Bible Studies,” Ibrahim shared. Despite the possibility of persecution if neighbours accuse them of being Christians, “they want to discover more about Jesus,” he said.

Ibrahim delights in this process of discovery. “As a former Islamic leader, my heart is towards Muslims,” he said. “Since I discovered the discipleship principles, my whole life has been dedicated to making disciples who will make other disciples where they are, in their culture, in their language, so the gospel will penetrate in all the communities.” •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for NIGER

- **Pray** for peace in Niger. Several known terrorist groups occupy surrounding countries, causing unrest and additional security protocols that hinder Jesus followers from travelling easily throughout the country.
- **Pray** for more Nigerian Jesus followers to be trained and equipped to share the gospel with their own people. Pray for believers to establish sustainable businesses that allow them access to community leaders.
- **Pray** that new Jesus followers would be grounded in the Word of God and well established in their faith so that they will be able to withstand persecution.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



Chad

POPULATION
17,414,108

MAIN RELIGION
Islam

FOCUS REGION → SAHEL

A clear command for every Christian

When asked why he shares the gospel with his neighbours even if it means possible persecution, Abdullah* answered: "It is a clear command: 'Go and make disciples.' It's not for only me, it's for every Christian."

Abdullah is a Jesus follower from Chad, a land-locked country in the heart of Africa. With the Sahara in the north and the savannah in the south, Chad is a transition zone where the landscape moves from sand dunes to grasslands. And as the scenery changes, so does the main religion. People from southern areas are generally Christians, while people from northern areas are usually Muslims. Of the 141 people groups there, over 55 per cent of them have never had access to the gospel.

Relationships are very important in the culture, so people gather around one central plate to share food—men in one room and women in another. Meals provide a relaxed time for conversation. Over tea Abdullah invites others to share what they believe and asks critical thinking questions. Born a Muslim, Abdullah knows the Qur'an and the doubts and struggles people may have. When he talks about his decision to follow Jesus, one thing that often surprises people is how believers in Christ obey Him out of love instead of fear. •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for CHAD

- **Pray** for wisdom and protection for new believers as they grow.
- **Pray** for finances to support ongoing ministries.
- **Pray** for Chad as a country. There are many people, especially in the villages, who are in need of food, medicine and water.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Sudan

POPULATION
46,751,152

MAIN RELIGION
Islam

FOCUS REGION → SAHEL

The image shows a map of Africa with the Sahel region highlighted in red. A callout box points to Sudan, providing its population and main religion. Below the map is a photograph of a person in a small boat on a river.

Many opportunities to share God's love

An important part of the national culture, Sudan's traditional dances unite its diverse tribes more than almost anything else. Each tribe has individual dances; however, when tribal groups mix for feasts or celebrations "even if people are from different tribes, they would always take part in the traditional dances. That's also true for people from Muslim or Christian backgrounds coming together," Abdul Baatin* explained.

As a Sudanese Jesus follower, Abdul Baatin is part of a small minority in the overwhelmingly Islamic nation. "The vast majority of people in the country never have a chance to hear the message of Jesus Christ," he said. "We are only very few believers in our country, but there are many opportunities to share about God's love."

In fact, Abdul Baatin's name often sparks spiritual conversations. "My name sounds very Islamic to everyone," he said. "People ask why I have an Islamic name but am a follower of Jesus, and I have an open door to explain who I am and what I believe in."

Alongside other believers, Abdul Baatin is working to see a community of Jesus followers established in each of Sudan's 18 governates, training more Christians and equipping them to share the gospel with their Muslim neighbours. "We want to give people an opportunity to hear," he said. •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for SUDAN

- ➔ **Pray** for peace in Sudan. Safe and secure conditions across the country allow Jesus followers better access to those who have never heard the gospel.
- ➔ **Pray** for the Jesus followers in Sudan who are actively sharing the good news of salvation through Christ. May the Lord bless and strengthen them.
- ➔ **Pray** for God to open doors into every one of Sudan's 18 governates, allowing communities of multiplying Jesus followers to be built up across the nation.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Kuwait

POPULATION
3,032,065

MAIN RELIGION
Islam



Living out God's love

“Our passion daily is to love the one in front of us,” explained Nate* (USA), who lives with his wife, Danielle*, in the desert nation of Kuwait. “That means when I am at work or when we are at a mall shopping or even at the gym working out, we model ministry wherever we happen to be.”

Nate and Danielle lead an international group of Jesus followers, most of whom work hard in their jobs and contribute to the country’s booming economy. Oil wealth has transformed this small nation into one with modern skyscrapers and world class malls, attracting people from all over the world. “Kuwait is quite tolerant and a place where there is quite a bit of freedom for expatriate Christians to live out their faith,” Nate said.

They also meet local friends for intentional conversations. “Over coffee, we will share testimonies of what God has done as we pray in Jesus’ name,” Nate shared. One Kuwaiti woman, while listening to Danielle and another believer share about God’s power, began to manifest demonically inside a coffee shop. When the woman realised demons were tormenting her—not the ‘good spirit guides’ she had invited into her life—“my wife and her friend took her to our house, delivered her from the demons and led her to Jesus,” Nate recounted. ●

“Over coffee, we will share testimonies of healings and other things God has done as we pray in Jesus’ name.”

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for KUWAIT

- ➔ **Pray** for the growing number of Kuwaiti believers and seekers to access online and in-person discipleship opportunities.
- ➔ **Pray** for perseverance for those who have suffered for their faith.
- ➔ **Pray** for fearless leaders to emerge from the Christian Church in Kuwait and for believers to minister to others who are depressed, who are isolated and who are fearful of what the future holds.

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Making the most of a majlis meeting

“Qatar is a land of unbelievable wealth, stunning architecture and unbounded ambitions. It is also an extremely hot, dry and dusty land, both physically and spiritually,” described Jonathan*, a Jesus follower living there.

There is only a handful of known Jesus followers amongst Qatari Arabs, whose culture and identity are integrated with Islam. However, immigrants and foreign professionals comprise over 88 per cent of the country’s population and can practise their religions with relatively few restrictions. Through their jobs, Jonathan and others “have natural, legitimate opportunities to build authentic relationships with people without any other access to the gospel,” he explained. “At the same time, we work to be a blessing to the city where we live.”

The *majlis* (formal sitting room) is the most important room in an Arab home, often used for men to gather and discuss news, sports, politics, weather, tribal or family matters and other topics. During these gatherings, the host demonstrates generosity and honours his guests. At the end of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting, Jonathan was invited to a Qatari majlis. In a rare moment of transparency, the host shared his worries about unexpectedly losing his long-time job. Jonathan offered to pray for him and told him the Old Testament story of Joseph—despite all the difficulties he faced, God was still faithful to him. •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for QATAR

- **Pray** boldly for the birth of vibrant communities of Qatari Jesus followers.
- **Pray** for unity, boldness and perseverance among foreign believers, fellowships and churches in Qatar.
- **Pray** that Qatar’s leaders would make wise decisions that will promote justice and fair treatment of all, cultural openness and religious tolerance in the Arabian Peninsula.

② OM.org/pray-for-the-nations



PRAY *for the* NATIONS



A hunger and thirst for truth

Gulf Arabs in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), called Emiratis, follow Islam, the country's official religion. But with almost 88 per cent of the population consisting of immigrants, who are free to practise their own religion, believers in Christ have a huge opportunity to share God's love.

Fahim*, a Jesus follower from North Africa who lives in the UAE, trains other native Arabic speakers who are working in the Arabian Peninsula to engage Muslims in conversation and answer common questions about Christianity. "Cultural, religious and social tolerance is one of the most important traditions," Fahim explained. In fact, the UAE continues to strengthen its emphasis on coexistence between religions through major projects and initiatives, research and legislation.

Meanwhile, God is using dreams and visions to call Emiratis to himself. Recently, Abdullah*, one of Fahim's friends who does not believe that the Bible is the Word of God, told Fahim about a dream he had. In the dream, Abdullah's house was burning while a pierced hand extended to him from the sky. Having watched the *Jesus Film*, Abdullah knew it was the Messiah reaching out to him. "I believe that it is a time of salvation and that there is a hunger and thirst for the knowledge of truth," Fahim said. •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

- **Pray** that God will continue to use visions and dreams to cause Emiratis to seek Him.
- **Pray** that the spirit of fear among believers who work in the UAE would be broken.
- **Pray** that Christians in the UAE will wake up and realise their true role in bringing the message of salvation to those who have never heard.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



Pakistan

POPULATION
238,181,034

MAIN RELIGION
Islam



Statistics taken from The World Factbook (cia.gov) and Joshua Project (joshuaproject.net).

A passion to share the gospel message

“I was lost and found by Jesus,” said Azra*, a Pakistani Jesus follower. “I now have a passion to reach the lost with the gospel message.” With over 96 per cent of its population adhering to the official religion, Islam, Pakistan continues to be a place where less than 1 per cent of the people know who Jesus is.

One day whilst Azra was knocking on doors with other believers to share God’s love, a young woman invited them into her home: an expected gesture in their country where hospitality is highly valued and strangers are treated with honour. The ladies presented the woman with books about Jesus. “I am a *Hafiza*,” the woman shared, a title given to someone who has memorized the Qur’an. She expressed interest, though, in the *Injil* (New Testament) and purchased it from the ladies. Over tea, the woman asked many questions, expressing myths she had heard about Christians.

“From her texts, I could see she was reading the *Injil* regularly.”

She and Azra exchanged phone numbers and remained in contact for the next year or two. “From her texts, I could see she was reading the *Injil* regularly,” said Azra. “I feel through the texts and calls that she had understood the gospel well,” remembered Azra. “My prayer is that she could come to faith and lead her family to Him, too.” •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for PAKISTAN

- ➔ Many Jesus followers in Pakistan are bold in sharing their faith. **Pray** that those they come in contact with will have ears to hear, and that the gospel message would take root in their hearts and lives.
- ➔ **Pray** for the safety of Jesus followers, as blasphemy charges and persecution are on the rise.
- ➔ **Pray** for more workers, as the need is great. Ninety-eight per cent of Pakistan’s 200 million people do not know about Jesus, even though the country is relatively open for believers to share their faith in comparison to other Muslim countries.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



India

POPULATION
1,339,330,514

MAIN RELIGION
Hinduism 79.8%
Islam 14.2%



Statistics taken from The World Factbook (cia.gov).

Committed to sharing God's love

In 1987, aboard OM's ship *MV Doulos*, Abdul* from India committed to the Lord to serve amongst Urdu-speaking Muslims for the rest of his life. He had been surprised to learn that, of the 350-person crew, he was the only one who spoke Urdu, and thus able share about God's love with a group of Muslim young people visiting the ship that day.

Known for its religious and cultural diversity, India hosts a rapidly growing Muslim population. One day, Abdul and his wife were on a train when a Muslim religious leader sat down beside him. The man explained that he was on his way to Saudi Arabia. In 55 years, he had never missed a prayer time, fast or religious ritual, and he had been on the Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca 20 times.

"I asked him if the train had an accident, and we all died, was he sure he would go to heaven?" said Abdul. He said, "*Insha-Allah* [God willing]." Abdul asked if he had booked his tickets in advance. The man said yes. "When you are worried about a journey of about 10 hours, how could you leave your eternity uncertain?" Abdul inquired. The man was shocked. Abdul then shared about assurance of eternal life through Jesus, gave the man a New Testament and prayed for him. •

"When you are worried about a journey of about 10 hours, how could you leave your eternity uncertain?"

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for INDIA

- **Pray** that more Jesus followers, like Abdul, can reach more people with the good news of God's love and the assurance of eternal life we have in Jesus.
- **Pray** that God uses the severe coronavirus pandemic situation in India for His good will and purpose.
- **Pray** for those who are risking their lives to reach people with food supplies and medical aid. Providing physical help enables relationships to be built, and many have received Jesus as Saviour.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



Bangladesh

POPULATION
164,098,818

MAIN RELIGION
Islam

FOCUS REGION → SOUTH ASIA

Following Jesus in word and deed

Pranjal*, a Bangladeshi Jesus follower, finds regular opportunities to share God's love with people in his country, one of the most densely populated nations in the world. Though the prominent religion in Bangladesh is Islam, established Hindu and Buddhist minorities have also shaped the country's culture and history. Christians, who make up only .3 per cent of the population, can be light to those around them through everything they say and do. "I love Jesus more than my life, and He gave me the responsibility to share His words," Pranjal said.

Recently, Pranjal met a young man named Benoy*, who was running a small grocery shop with his father. To build their relationship, Pranjal began buying food from Benoy. One day, Pranjal returned some money after receiving too much change for a purchase. Because of that action Benoy "discovered something different about me," Pranjal explained. "I shared God's words: "God said we should be honest and faithful in every single matter. I am a follower of Jesus, who is my Saviour and Lord."

Pranjal gave Benoy his phone number in case he wanted to learn more. Later, the two men met again; Pranjal shared the full gospel with Benoy and prayed for him. "After the prayer, he boldly confessed Jesus as his personal Saviour," Pranjal rejoiced. "Please pray for him that he would always walk in God's path." •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for BANGLADESH

- **Pray** for believers who have accepted Jesus through various practical training programmes to continue following God and learning more about Him.
- **Pray** for Christians to be protected from those who seek to harm them.
- **Pray** for Jesus followers to remain healthy amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic as they distribute food packs and aid to those in need.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Thailand

POPULATION
69,480,520

MAIN RELIGION
Buddhism

FOCUS REGION → **MEKONG**

CHINA
MYANMAR
LAOS
THAILAND
CAMBODIA
VIETNAM
MALAYSIA
BRUNEI
INDONESIA

Statistics taken from The World Factbook (cia.gov) and Joshua Project (joshuaproject.net).

Teaching children the right things

Its postcard beaches and bustling cities are renowned destinations for tourists and foreign business people, but many of Thailand's rural villages are isolated from international influence and the gospel. In these areas, traditions and Buddhism are closely followed.

Thai citizens enjoy freedom of religion; however, the culture values paying respect to each other, which impacts how Jesus followers share their faith. People are taught from a young age to honour those who are older. Hom*, a Thai woman whose family are the only Jesus followers in her village, seeks to educate the children in her village and share God's love with them. "The kids have never heard of the name of Jesus. All the kids grow up with absent parents," she explained.

People living in poverty struggle to access the resources available to those with a higher social status. When Hom saw how the children in her village were easily influenced by gangs and people with drug addictions, she wanted to intervene. "Here I could provide a place for them to learn something right," she said. Through spending time with the children, teaching them table manners and how to support each other, "I get to build deeper relationships with them and teach them about Jesus," Hom said. •

"The kids have never heard of the name of Jesus."

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for THAILAND

- ➔ **Pray** for the children who have easy, cheap access to drugs to have mentors and people encouraging them to avoid addiction and make right choices. Pray for the coronavirus pandemic to ease so that children may attend school as usual.
- ➔ **Pray** for Christians in Thailand to find natural ways to share with their neighbours about how Jesus has transformed their lives and invite them into a living relationship with Him.
- ➔ **Pray** for the leaders of Thailand, present and future, to make sure citizens of every class across the country have their basic living needs met.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Laos

POPULATION
7,574,356

MAIN RELIGION
Buddhism



FOCUS REGION → **MEKONG**

CHINA
MYANMAR
LAOS
THAILAND
CAMBODIA
VIETNAM
MALAYSIA
BRUNEI
INDONESIA

Helping others in Jesus' name

The only land-locked country in Southeast Asia, Laos depends heavily on the Mekong river and the farmers cultivating the rice paddies along its banks. Eight years of education is compulsory, but people in rural villages often lack access to even basic learning. With Christians composing only 1.5 per cent of the population, people in Laos have even less opportunity to hear about Jesus.

Tik*, a Laotian Jesus follower, helps teenagers learn biblical values as they are studying and working. "I do all these things because I want to see them grow up in spiritual life and to follow Jesus," she said. "I want them to know how to help other people and share the gospel."

Preserving family community is an important cultural value, so meals—often including sticky rice—are eaten together. Still, some people are left out of the social net.

Tik's friend Noma* has leprosy, a contagious skin disease. Although it's treatable, ongoing stigma surrounding the disease often causes people to avoid those infected for fear of contamination. Besides sharing with Noma about Jesus, Tik has invited her for dinner many times. "I tried to show her that I love her and don't disdain her even though she has leprosy," Tik said. "She was surprised to have a friend like me." •

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for LAOS

- **Pray** people living in Laos who do not have the chance to hear about Jesus. Village infrastructure makes it impossible for others to come in and share the Good News, and people who want to believe in Jesus often face persecution.
- **Pray** for children in Laos to have the opportunity to complete their education and pursue further studies.
- **Pray** for the Laotian government to have wisdom in solving problems associated with flooding in the country due to the annual rainy season.

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PRAY *for the* NATIONS



→ Vietnam

POPULATION
102,789,598

MAIN RELIGION
Buddhism

FOCUS REGION → MEKONG

Statistics taken from The World Factbook (cia.gov) and Joshua Project (joshuaproject.net).

Using all of life for God's glory

Vietnamese-born Tam* spent his formative years working in corporate and international business environments in Europe. “Although I wanted to step into the missional field, it was important for me to continue to keep using my skills and what I had learned,” he said. When Tam connected with another Jesus follower living in Vietnam whose vision was to enable more believers to live out God’s love through their professions, “I knew God was calling me into this specific field in Vietnam where I could use my talents and faith to serve Him.”

A popular place for expatriate entrepreneurs, Vietnam is “a very dynamic and vibrant culture, with hardworking people who are extremely committed to their families and each other, with clear cultural norms and a hierarchy,” according to Tam. The language itself incorporates that hierarchy and respect for elders, a strong societal value.

With less than 10 per cent of the population considered Christians—and persecution common amongst those who do place their faith in Christ—millions of people in Vietnam have never heard about Jesus. Tam’s church organises weekly fellowship meals for regular attendees and visitors. Eating food together pushes past superficial contacts and allows those who don’t know the Lord to learn more about Him. As a result, many people have believed in Jesus and gotten baptised. ●

* name changed

WAYS TO PRAY for VIETNAM

- ➔ **Pray** for God to continue to send more Jesus followers to Vietnam to serve the Kingdom.
- ➔ **Pray** for the Vietnamese government and power figures to open their hearts and minds for the gospel.
- ➔ **Pray** for the Vietnamese people to know and accept Jesus with their hearts and minds.

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