

Pray with God's People Around the World

We can make an impact for Christ throughout the world by praying with our partners. Most of us start to wonder what to pray for our brothers and sisters in other countries because:

- We don't know what it is like to live "over there."
- We don't know their latest specific prayer requests and wonder why they don't write more often.

Even when this is true, we believe time spent praying still pleases the Lord as a living sacrifice (Romans 12.1) and will advance His Kingdom, encourage his followers, and restore broken relationships.

In the end even Christian leaders are more like us than we imagine. They have families, relatives, friends, jobs, accidents, and sicknesses too. The simplest way to pray is to think first, "What would I like someone to pray for me." Then ask the Lord to do the same for your Christian brother or sister on the other side of the world!

Here are some practical examples of requests to pray for:

Open doors and opportunities in their outreach (1 Thes. 1.2-3)

- Not only for open doors in closed countries but also for soft, open hearts ready to receive the Truth. Pray that the missionary will have the wisdom to detect these.

Boldness as they witness to the people God brings across their path (Eph. 6.18-20)

- Missionaries aren't superheroes, they need God's strength just like any other fearful human in order to communicate effectively and stand strong

God will spread His Word of love farther, higher and wider than they can imagine (2 Thes. 3.1-2)

- In order for God's word to spread into new territory, missionaries do face spiritual opposition. Pray that they will stand strong against Satan's plans and forces and that God's Word will prevail

Protection for the missionary, their family and those to whom they are reaching out (Rom. 15.30-32)

- Missionaries face the real possibility of opposition, hatred, violence, and physical harm. Pray that God would melt the resistance to His Word and give them the safety they need to carry on.

Authorities who promote justice and peace in society (1 Tim. 2.1-4)

- We learn to live under God's authority by giving local authorities the respect God decrees is their due.

Progress in the work of their ministry (2 Thes. 1.11-12)

- Ministries need cooperation, partnership, good attitudes, and support in order to succeed.

Wisdom to recognize God's guidance and obedience to follow it. (Col. 1.9-12)

- Missionaries need to make important decisions from everything varying from travel to ministry programs. Pray for clear guidance and protection regarding decisions

Blessings and refreshment (Eph. 3.14-19)

- Missionaries also deal with the mundane stresses of life. But leaders especially may feel alone, isolated with few fellow Christians to connect with in a personal way. Please pray for the blessings of refreshment with other Christians and some peace and relaxation to refresh their emotional, spiritual, and physical vitality. Sometimes just knowing that someone else cares is just the right pick-me-up to carry through a dark, damp November day.

**"Brothers, pray for us." Apostle Paul (50 AD).
Does it get any clearer than this?**