

July 29, 2020

**Turks of Istanbul, Turkey - (is-tan-BULL)** - Through the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent quarantine, the number of people seeking truth online has increased greatly. Believers have been busy with follow-up via calls and texts to these seekers. At the end of July, there is a four-day holiday, the Feast of the Sacrifice. Animals will be sacrificed for sin and remembrance, and food will be shared with the poor and with neighbors. Pray that people will seek God, who offered His Son as the true sacrifice. Pray that they will come to know Him.

**Thais of Bangkok, Thailand - (ties)** - Baptist representatives recently met together in an upper room to take a closer look at the 50 districts of Bangkok. With beautiful small maps in front of each person and a larger laminated map on the wall, the group listened to each other share how God is at work in various districts in the city. By the end of that meeting, 18 districts had been circled with a red marker, signifying that there is gospel proclamation, discipleship groups, or, at the very least, a new believer in all of those 18 districts. Praise the Lord! But Bangkok is a city of 15 million people, and the Bangkok Metro Team wants the gospel to advance to even more districts and people! As each couple and single seeks the Lord for direction, will you pray that God will clearly lead each person and open the new doors that He desires? Pray, also, that each member of the team will be a person of prayer, seeking God's face and depending on Him for all that they need. Pray that each team member and Thai partner will serve in the power of the Holy Spirit, remembering that it's "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6 ESV).

**Southern Yemeni Arabs of Yemen - (YEH-muh-nee)** - As they discussed the virus that is claiming lives in their city, a Southern Yemeni Arab told his friend, "I am afraid." He was intrigued that his friend was not fearful and asked why. The friend told him about the hope that he has in Jesus and that he does not live in fear because he knows where he will go if he should die. Praise God for chances to share truth in hard times! Praise Him for taking away fear! Pray that those who know and love Jesus will give words of hope to their family and friends. Pray that the coronavirus pandemic will bring many to the Savior.

**Paris, France** - Please pray for churches in France. Please pray that church leaders will have wisdom on what meeting together looks like moving forward. Please pray that the churches will love well and be able to share truth during this time after lockdown.

**Pakistan** - Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of the Sacrifice, will be happening at the end of July throughout the Muslim world. This is a time when Muslims remember the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son to God, and God providing an animal instead for the sacrifice. Please pray that Muslims across Pakistan will hear the truth of how Jesus was sacrificed to pay for man's sins and make a way for all to have a right relationship with God. Many believers will be sharing this story with Pakistanis, so pray for open ears and hearts in this season.

**Kampala, Uganda - (kahm-PAH-lah)** - The Kampala Urban Team has not ceased carrying out the missionary task even during a strict coronavirus lockdown. Although ministry has certainly looked different over the past four months, the team has been diligent to seek creative ways to minister to those in need and to continue its focus on personal evangelism. As a result of the faithfulness of team members and local ministry partners to share the gospel, new brothers and sisters have been added to the kingdom. Recently, a baptismal service was held on the Baptist Mission of Uganda compound, and three new Ugandan believers and the son of one of the missionary families were baptized. Praise God for the work He is continuing to do in Kampala! Pray for each of these young believers to grow in their faith as they are discipled. "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness" (Colossians 2:6-7 NIV).

**East Asian Peoples** - Seven years ago, Christians prayed fervently over a local valley of villages that was in utter spiritual darkness. Then, two Christians from another country visited and shared with a man whom the Lord had prepared. He believed but didn't know how to follow. Two years later, a Christian noticed a sign, "The Lord Bless This House," on the new brother's property. Then a discipleship relationship began. Christians from another part of the country began going to the village faithfully to share the gospel. This brother is now ready to begin leading a small group of other new Christians! Jesus says, "Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest" (Luke 10:2). Pray for unrelenting waves of evangelists from the Chinese church to partner in that valley. Pray that Christians will commit to the harvest and that healthy churches will grow within reach of every person there.

**Durban, South Africa - (DER-bun)** - More than 50 percent of the people living in Durban, South Africa, are Zulu. Currently, there are very few churches among the Zulu that teach the Bible truthfully. Some Zulu continue in their African traditional religion (ATR). Others participate in Shembe, a religious sect that combines beliefs from ATR and Bible teachings. There is also a growing number who follow the prosperity gospel teachings. Pray that no matter which of these belief systems they participate in currently, their eyes will be opened to the falseness of their worship. Pray that their spiritual eyes and ears will have an opportunity to hear the true gospel and that they will respond to it. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'" (John 14:6 ESV).

**Connect Peru** - "God has shown Himself faithful and sovereign in the midst of all the changes in schedules with U.S. volunteer teams. Pray for us on the Connect Peru Team, Ethan and Rachel Holden and Leah Brown, as we seek the Lord on priority areas to visit in the coming months. Since most of our U.S. teams have had to postpone trips this year, we want to determine how to best encourage our national partners and areas where teams generally serve, but we want to do this with the best interest of the people in mind."

**Central Asian Unengaged Peoples** - Pray for the almost half a million Karakalpak, or "black hat" people, of Uzbekistan. Ask that God will give them access to the gospel in their own language and that they will encounter believers who will share truth with them. Pray that God will raise up a church among the Karakalpak people of Uzbekistan.

**Gene & Marilyn Ahrens – JAAR**  
**David & Rhonda Knox – Nepal**

**North American Mission Board – Church Planter – Emmanuel Baptist Church East – Pickering, ON – J.D. and Andreina Fasolino – Pray** for God to continue equipping His people in east Toronto to be active members of His Body who impact the communities where they live with the gospel. **Pray** for more laborers.