

September 23, 2020

South Asians in Continental Europe - Please intercede for the handful of Tamil, Bengal, and Punjabi churches in existence in the Greater Paris area of France. Pray that they will be strengthened through the Word and by the Holy Spirit. Ask for them to have a fresh vision for sharing the good news among the 300,000 South Asians living in France. Pray for God to raise up leaders in the church who will proclaim the good news boldly and unashamedly.

Sorani Kurds of Central Asia - (sor-AH-nee) - Adam* has heard the gospel for many years and has always claimed not to care about spiritual things or eternity. Recently, he began straying from Islam, and his mother received a dream warning her that her son was distancing himself from their faith. She confronted him and asked that he return to their faith, and he came back more devout than ever. However, he confessed to a believing friend he is not satisfied and has felt disturbed by that dream. After hearing the gospel again, he now seems more open than ever to following Jesus. Please ask the Lord to use these events of the past few weeks to draw him to Christ, and pray that Adam will repent and give his life to Jesus. (*name changed)

Peoples of West Bengal, India - (beng-AHL) - The boundaries in West Bengal are broken down into districts, sub-districts, blocks, village zones, and villages. Please pray that every village zone in the lower half of West Bengal will have a healthy, reproducing church. Pray that these churches will, in turn, share the good news and establish new churches in each village. Ask the Father to guide each prayer and plan made for this task. Ask the Spirit to prepare the soil. Pray for local ownership of the task among believers. Pray for a <u>Revelation 7:9</u> vision to reach each village zone with the good news and establish healthy churches that will take the good news to every village in West Bengal.

People of North Japan - Ever since the 2011 tsunami in a small coastal town in northern Japan, two friends have been attending a monthly outreach event. Missionaries have often visited in their homes and shared the gospel with them. Although kind and attentive, they haven't shown much receptivity. Recently during a home visit, one of the women mentioned discussing with her friend that it would be a good idea to read the Bible together! Later that day, we delivered Bibles to them and attempted to set up a reading time together. While hoping to use the local community meeting room for this purpose, we face another obstacle -- COVID-19's continual spread. After so many years of sharing, these 80-year-old women finally have expressed interest in the God of the Bible. Please pray that God will break open doors and their hearts to the gospel.

Connect Peru - A marriage conference that was originally scheduled for July will now be held virtually on September 24-26. Pray for Dr. Terry Long from Choctaw Baptist Association in Alabama as he leads this conference. Ask God for clear understanding as his messages are interpreted to Spanish. Pray for the host church Primera Iglesia Evangelica Bautista de Lima (PIEBL). Also pray for the conference participants, asking that marriages will be strengthened and hearts will be changed by God.

Maputo, Mozambique: Capital City and Province - (mah-POO-too) - A Southern Mozambique Team member writes: "Our dear friend, Sister Maria,* left her longtime job as a teacher and university psychologist to start a ministry with other believers to educate, reach, and reintegrate people who have suffered from chemical dependency. They speak in schools, churches, and any group willing to have them. She knows firsthand how her family and her son's family have suffered, as the son went through drug and alcohol abuse. Today, she is valiantly fighting for people's lives and families in order to make a difference not just in their communities, but also in their eternal destiny, as they share the gospel, lead Bible studies, and mentor individuals and families coming out of chemical dependency. Now after many years of prayer, hard work, and perseverance, they have land and a permit to build and are breaking ground as they get ready to build their site! Please pray for Sister Maria and their ministry of reconciling individuals to their families and to God! 'All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them' (2 Corinthians 5:18-19 NIV)." (*name changed)

Malong of the Philippines - (mah-LONG) - A young college student, Lyn,* spent a summer among the Malong people. She sensed a call to serve among them full time after she graduated, but her family wanted her to use her degree to teach in the public school. This was disappointing to her, as Lyn couldn't understand why she couldn't serve as a worker inside a Malong community. Others encouraged her to honor the desires of her family and submit to that. Lyn passed her education board exams and received her first assignment teaching high school. It turns out that it is in a Malong community near to where she went to college! With the COVID-19 restrictions, she will not be doing face-to-face classroom teaching but, instead, will be visiting every student's home to deliver assignments and offer assistance. Pray for this incredible opportunity to build relationships with every student and their family as well as teach about a life of hope! She said yes to the call . . .

Isaan of Thailand - (EE-sahn) - "God is working in Isaan! Praise the Lord! During COVID-19, our Thai partners have continued to serve with great fervor and to share the gospel of Jesus. During July, several more participants in a new house church group professed faith in Jesus. One new follower of Jesus is determined to be free of alcohol, and another new believer is sharing her faith with villagers! Please pray for the new believers in two village groups. Lift up the couple leading this ministry as they sacrifice time from their business of making and selling Thai pastries. Ask God to prosper their business as they devote more time to serving Jesus!"

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

North American Mission Board – Church Planter – Iglesia Gracia Redentora – Bajadero, PR – Xavier and Neysha – Pray for wisdom to lead my family and the church.