



# PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

## *The Love of Jesus Amidst Disaster*

IN JULY AND AUGUST OF 2018, PEARL ISLAND\* WAS ROCKED BY THREE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKES. THE SECOND QUAKE WAS A 7.0 AND THE LARGEST RECORDED IN THE ISLAND'S HISTORY. OUR IMB TEAM, ALONGSIDE VOLUNTEERS FROM SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES AND ENTITIES, WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED FOOD SUPPLIES, CLEAN WATER FILTERS, MEDICAL TREATMENT, AND TEMPORARY SHELTERS, AS WELL AS HELP CLEAR DEBRIS. GOD HAS PROVIDED OUR TEAM WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS IN WAYS THAT MEET PHYSICAL NEEDS AND TESTIFY TO GOD'S LOVE FOR THE 3.6 MILLION PEOPLE OF PEARL ISLAND WHO'VE NEVER HEARD THE GOSPEL.

### **Facing Death**

The earthquakes in Pearl Island forced four hundred thousand people into makeshift shelters, where conditions were very poor. The risk of illness was great, with small children and the elderly being especially susceptible. One elderly woman fell very sick. By the time our team came to Maryam's\* village, she had been lying sick for several days.



Through God's providence, we had medical professionals on a volunteer team with us. They quickly realized that these might be the last hours of Maryam's life. No one was certain that she would recover, so we began to pray. We told the family that our trust is not in medicine but in the Great Physician, who could miraculously heal Maryam despite the odds. We visited, shared stories, and prayed over her in Jesus's name for three days.

Miraculously, Jesus heard our prayers and Maryam was healed. On our last visit to the village, Maryam was full of life and surrounded by her grandchildren, walking, talking, and singing songs. Our team continues to meet with Maryam and her family to share of God's amazing power and his love for them.

*“For I am persuaded that not even death or life, angels or rulers, things present or things to come, hostile powers, height or depth, or any other created thing will have the power to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord!” (Rom. 8:38-39 HCSB).*

**1 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray for local Christians as they start a new church in Palu, where a tsunami and an earthquake devastated the city. Pray that local Christians will be mobilized to make disciples among those who’ve never heard the good news, both here in Java and around the world.

**2 SOUTH ASIA.** A team is working on filming audio and video resources that will be used on social media to filter interest in the Bible. Seekers will receive the Scriptures and can engage with local witnesses to hear the good news. Please pray for wisdom and accuracy during the recording process.

**3 COLOMBIA.** Please pray for the arrival of the Cornett family, who recently arrived on the mission field. Pray that the Lord will help them prioritize their needs and that he will provide for those needs in ways that glorify him.

**4 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray that new projects that have started in several

villages will lead to new Christians and house churches.

**5 EAST ASIA.** Many East Asian churches want to do more to bless their society. Pray that they will have the courage and wisdom needed to serve the less fortunate, the elderly, and the sick.

**6 TAIWAN.** God has established his church in Taiwan and has led the believers to plant more churches. Please pray that God will call out many harvest laborers to lead and disciple his flock.

**7 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Ask that the new believers of a house church will continue to hunger for God’s Word and be bold to share the truth of the gospel with others.

**8 DENMARK.** A new gathering of Christians has begun in the home of some IMB team members in Copenhagen. Please pray that this gathering will deepen and grow and that God will have his hand on the future of this group.

**9 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray for a new Christian, Mr. Mah, who is recovering from a foot injury. We were able to treat his wound, and he’s now on the way to recovery. We have been meeting to study Bible stories and pray with him and his wife. Pray that the Word will transform

Mr. Mah and his family, and that his foot will be completely healed.

**10 NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.** Pray for refugees who are struggling to stay warm and make ends meet. Many also have had health problems. Ask God to provide for their needs.

**11 TURKEY.** Please lift up Pastor Baris\* and his new church in Istanbul. Pray for he and his wife to persevere, and for new Christians to have the boldness to reach out to others.

**12 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray that the Lord will grant wisdom to our team as we continue to seek opportunities to serve communities and share the gospel through our disaster relief efforts.

**13 MIDDLE EAST.** Pray that Emirati Arabs will find stories about Jesus on social media, and that they will be open to learning about the good news.

**14 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** The Christmas season is one of the best times for sharing the gospel. At last year’s Christmas parties, hundreds of people heard the truth of God’s plan of salvation through Jesus. Please pray for continual follow-up throughout the year for those who showed interest in knowing more about Jesus and the Word.

**15 KAZAKHSTAN.** Pray for there to be many new Christians this year. Ask that there will be no barriers or hindrances to the good news. Pray for protection from evil and for the courage to stand up for Jesus amid opposition.

**16 MEXICO.** In a valley west of Mexico City resides a group of Aztec descendants called the Temascaltepec Nahuatl. Please ask the Lord of the harvest to call committed Christians to reach this people group.



Pray that teams are able to gain access to communities recovering from natural disasters.

**17 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** When a person in Southeast Asia understands and accepts God's free gift of salvation, they immediately face pressure from their family and culture. Please pray for new Christians to stand strong in the midst of persecution, and for them to have wisdom to know how to share their new faith with family and friends.

**18 ITALY.** An IMB team in Rome recently celebrated a new church plant. Ask that they will continue to be faithful and obedient and recognize the Holy Spirit's work in, around, and through them.

**19 CENTRAL ASIA.** Pray for us to learn how to go deep in the language and culture. Pray for us to have local friends who will give us truthful answers that will help us to understand the people better.

**20 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Multiple minority people groups in Southeast Asia, both small and large, have yet to hear the gospel. Please pray for local Christians to engage these groups.

**21 MUSLIMS OF KENYA.** As some Christians spend time in schools with many Muslim children, pray that the students will have ears to hear the truth. Finding favor with the head teachers is crucial for this ministry, so ask the Lord to grant such favor.



Southern Baptists are mobilizing to rebuild communities destroyed by earthquakes and tsunamis.

**22 PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL.** Please pray for the leadership team of a new church plant forming in Porto Alegre. Petition for much wisdom as the group meets to pray together and discuss the vision and methods to develop this new work.

**23 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray that strongholds of religion, repression, humanism, atheism, and commercialism will be torn down, and that the people of Southeast Asia will be freed to experience God's grace.

**24 DEAF PEOPLES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Please pray that a new discipleship group of Deaf Christians will be confident and will continue to boldly share the gospel together.

**25 ZAMBIA.** Please pray for Tessa,\* the wife of Pastor Damonik.\* She leads the women's ministry. Please ask

God to give her wisdom and compassion as these women walk the path of life together, as well as the abundant joy that comes from knowing Jesus.

**26 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray on behalf of Southeast Asian Christians, that words may be given to them to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.

**27 BANGLADESH.** Thousands of Bibles have recently been purchased for distribution to those interested in reading God's Word. Please pray for wisdom in handling these resources wisely.

**28 MOZAMBIQUE.** Pray for members of a Nyungwe community who recently heard the gospel through a human needs project. Ask that God will be glorified and worshiped in this area.

**29 SOUTHEAST ASIA.** Pray for Christian leaders in Southeast Asia to have strong marriages for the glory of God, for the edification of the church, and for a strong testimony to non-Christians.

**30 EAST ASIA.** Please intercede for IMB personnel as they partner with Chinese brothers and sisters who are being called out to various corners of the globe. Pray for God's provision to overcome the many hurdles that stand in their way.



Pray that IMB teams will find favor with communities who still have never heard the gospel.



Water filters can be key to keeping communities healthy as they recover from disasters.

## Filters of Faith

Clean water became a top priority in the days and weeks following the earthquakes in Pearl Island. With scarce water supplies and contaminated water sources, earthquake survivors struggled to find an adequate way to provide clean drinking water for their families. Our team has partnered together with local nonprofits, Southern Baptist church partners, and Baptist Global Response (BGR) to provide clean drinking water to these families.

These filters have helped to meet a great need in the lives of earthquake victims. The filters have also given our team a great avenue to return to villages to build relationships with those who received them. We have had many great conversations as we have sat down with families and spoken to them about the Living Water. With each filter that we distribute, God provides another opportunity for us to share the love of Jesus with families who have yet to hear.

# SOUTHEAST ASIA

**620**  
MILLION  
PEOPLE

## MAJOR RELIGIONS



ISLAM



BUDDHISM



HINDUISM



CATHOLICISM

**2,694**  
PEOPLE  
GROUPS

**638**  
UNREACHED

**311**  
UNENGAGED  
UNREACHED

Southeast Asia is home to 2,694 people groups and the most populous Muslim country in the world. Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, Catholics, Christians, and Animists make up Southeast Asia's 620 million people—many of whom have never heard that freedom is found in Christ.

*\*Names changed*

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