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SINCE 1845  
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# PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

## *Prayer and Missions: Working Together for 175 Years*

INTERCESSORY PRAYER IS A GIFT THAT COMES FROM THE HEART OF GOD. AS GOD REVEALS MORE OF HIS DESIRE FOR THE WORLD TO KNOW HIM, OUR PRAYER LIFE GROWS WIDER AND DEEPER, BEYOND OURSELVES, OUR FAMILIES, AND OUR CHURCHES TO A WORLD WHO NEEDS THE LIGHT AND LOVE OF JESUS.

### **Kingdom Growth on the Field Proves Kingdom Prayers Are a Necessity**

By Janice Wilson

As we sought the Lord's guidance while on the field, we always came back to the necessities of abiding in Him and asking our prayer partners to intercede for us. God has blessed our lives with local prayer partners on the field, and we've been encouraged by the IMB countless times as they assured us that people back home were praying. Only God can measure the number of those prayers, but we have known His abundant grace on numerous occasions that we know were the direct result of many prayers. We've seen God do amazing things among peoples who were once living in darkness but are now seeing the light breaking through. There are hundreds of people groups that were unengaged and unreached decades ago as we and our colleagues began to pray and weep over them. Now, many are either engaged with the gospel of Jesus Christ or there is a plan in place to reach them. It all started with intercession.



Janice Wilson with her children in front of their home in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in 1982.

Our Heavenly Father invites us into His presence and wants to answer our prayers for a needy world. As you pray, keep the end in view. One day, a great multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and tongue will stand and worship before the throne and before the Lamb (Revelation 7:9-10). Our IMB missionaries and ministry partners depend on all of us working together to make Christ known among the nations. Thank you for praying kingdom prayers.

Janice Wilson and her husband Ron served as IMB missionaries in the Americas for 25 years before Ron joined the staff in Richmond, VA, and Janice volunteered in the Prayer Office. Ron and Janice now enjoy retirement in South Carolina.



**1 SUTRADHAR OF INDIA.** The Sutradhar of India have no known gospel presence among them and are trapped in a Hindu system of works and sacrifices that offer no hope. Ask the Lord to give Christian laborers the courage to boldly profess the name of Jesus to them.

**2 HAUSA OF WEST AFRICA.** The Hausa are scattered across West Africa. They are predominately Muslim, and persecution of Hausa who convert to Christianity can be intense. Pray for African pastors and local Christians serving among the Hausa to be a light that draws the Hausa to Christ.

**3 IMB MISSIONARIES.** Pray for missionary families, couples, and singles who put aside so many wants to get the needed goals and tasks accomplished. Pray that they will take time to rest and relax and not feel guilty in the moments that they need to recharge.

**4 HIGHLAND PEOPLE OF CHINA.** Highland People of China were forced to close their churches. So they meet in smaller groups, quietly continuing baptisms. Arrested church leaders bravely share the gospel with their interrogators. Ask God to continue to strengthen these churches and protect them.

**5 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES.** Ask God to unite the hearts of believers across Sub-Saharan Africa with His heart so that they will have

compassion on the lost and make the most of every opportunity to share the gospel. Ask that many hearts will be open to hear the gospel when it's proclaimed.

**6 BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.** In large cities like Bogota, many people are nearly inaccessible due to busy schedules, long commutes, and other time constraints. Pray for missionaries to have fresh eyes that see opportunities where the gospel might infiltrate lives and hearts that need the gospel.

**7 IMB MISSIONARIES.** Ask God to help missionaries maintain relationships with their family, team, and local believers that reflect Christ's love and show what the gospel can mean in everyday life. Pray that by their love for one another, the lost will know that they follow Jesus.

**8 RUMELIAN TURKS OF GREECE.** Over 150,000 Rumelian Turks live in Greece. They cling to their Turkish identity and Islam. One Greek pastor wants to reach out but doesn't speak Turkish or know where to start. He needs help and prayer. Pray that many Rumelian Turks will hear the gospel and repent.

**9 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for workers in South Asia as threats of disease, persecution, and social unrest abound. Praise God that many who've accepted Christ are sharing the gospel, discipling new believers, planting healthy churches, and reaching other people groups.

**10 EAST ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for missionaries who must abruptly leave the countries where they serve due to security issues, revoked visas, or illness. Ask that they will not be discouraged in their suffering, but that they will be strengthened during trials.

**11 POLES OF BRAZIL.** About 2 million Polish descendants live in Brazil. Since the mid-1800s,

they've adapted in the urban areas while maintaining cultural ties to Poland and Catholicism. Ask God to tear down religious barriers that keep the Poles of Brazil from believing in Him.

**12 IMB MISSIONARIES.** Pray for missionaries who work to advance the gospel in dark areas of our world so that people will hear that there is a God who loves them and provided a way through Jesus to be made right with Him. Pray that as they witness, many will believe and receive eternal life.

**13 TAJIK OF TAJIKISTAN.** Tajiks consider themselves Muslim, but their religion is often a mix of Muslim rituals, folk traditions, and superstition. Many Tajik believers have suffered persecution for following Christ. Ask God to move mightily among the Tajiks, bringing repentance and salvation.

**14 IMB MISSIONARIES.** Please pray for missionaries to hold tightly to Jesus in times of loneliness. Ask God to encourage them with the friendship of co-laborers, nationals, and communications from loved ones in the U.S. Thank the Lord for their willingness to follow Him.

**15 BEDOUINS OF SAUDI ARABIA.** While some of the 2.8 million Bedouin of Saudi Arabia migrate with flocks among the hills, many now live in towns. Their fame for hospitality and commitment to Islam has not changed. Ask the Lord to provide His Word to the Bedouin and help them understand the gospel.

**16 EUROPEAN PEOPLES.** Pray for short-term teams from the U.S. who help missionaries across southern Europe. Ask that when teams are able to go, the gospel will be clearly and boldly proclaimed as well as demonstrated. Also ask that God will open new doors of ministry for missionaries.

**17 IMB MISSIONARIES.** Distraction is a tool of the enemy. As

missionaries long for home, it's easy to lose themselves in the world of social media and become distracted from firmly planting into the culture to which they have been called. Pray that they stay focused on the task.

## 18 SALAMPASU OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.

The Salampasu live on the frontier between the D.R. Congo and Angola. Their neighbors regard them as fierce warriors. Pray that the status of the Salampasu will soon be changed from no known believers to an entire generation of those who call on the name of Jesus.

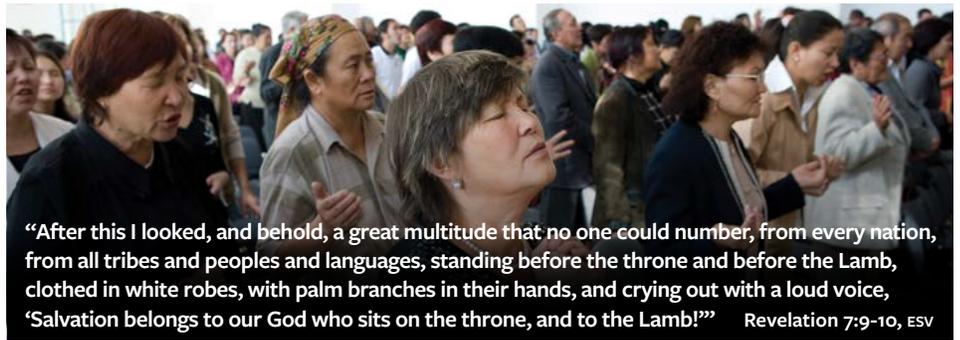
## 19 NORTH AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES.

Pray for God's peace and protection over students from North Africa and the Middle East who have accepted Christ while studying abroad. Many fear to return home because of their decision to accept Christ. Ask that His perfect love will embolden them to share the gospel.



**20 DEAF PEOPLES.** Even with a population that is 95 percent Muslim, there is a harvest among the Deaf in West Africa. Pray that the leaders among the Deaf believing community in West Africa will keep sharing God's stories with the Deaf. It is very challenging to live and minister there.

**21 IMB MISSIONARIES.** The global pandemic changed plans for everyone. In some cases, it opened new avenues of serving vulnerable communities around the world. Give thanks for relief efforts identified and implemented by missionaries. Ask God to grant wisdom in establishing projects.



"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'" Revelation 7:9-10, ESV

**22 DESANO OF COLOMBIA.** The Desano of Colombia believe the "Sun Father" created all living beings from his light, including the Desano. They also believe that the jungle is full of spirits, some of which are demons. Pray that the Good News will reach them and that many will believe it.

**23 NORTHERN YEMENI ARABS.** The Northern Yemeni Arabs of the Arabian Peninsula are weary after five years of war in their country. But in this suffering, they're hearing the gospel and surrendering to Christ! Pray that these believers will share His love with others who desperately need it.

**24 IMB MISSIONARIES.** One little-known facet of IMB is the Trustee Board. In between their three annual business meetings, they discuss and approve missionary candidates via webinars and, once a year, meet with missionaries on the field to pray for and serve them. Pray for IMB trustees.

**25 DEAF PEOPLES.** Many of the 290,000 Deaf in Nepal live in remote, mountainous areas of the country, separated from other Deaf communities. Pray for Deaf believers in Nepal as they seek community through a church and share with the Deaf in remote areas of the country.

**26 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for Muslims who gather for Friday worship at mosques in a large South Asian city. Pray for Christ followers who pass out Bibles there before and after the worship. Ask that the Muslims will read the God's Word, understand the gospel, and be drawn to Christ.

**27 JAPAN.** Pray for the Connect 2020 team as they continue adjusting ministry plans for the Summer Olympics in Tokyo. Pray that God will embolden His church in Japan to passionately proclaim the gospel and that He will prepare many hearts to respond to it in faith.

**28 IMB MISSIONARIES.** "For the glory of God and the sake of the nations, we need to send more missionaries of color to the world," wrote Doug Logan. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will call IMB missionaries from African American Southern Baptist churches to fulfill the Great Commission.

## 29 ARUMANEN MANOBO OF THE PHILIPPINES.

Praise God for working among the Arumanen Manobo people! Nearly 10 percent of the population are baptized believers who meet in churches. Pray for the Arumanen church leaders to have wisdom in developing more leaders and in sending missionaries to surrounding tribes.

## 30 YANGON, MYANMAR.

Yangon is the largest and most culturally diverse city in Myanmar, with a population of 7 million people representing 153 ethnic groups. Although there are some churches in Yangon, pray for the millions of people in the city who have never heard the name of Jesus.

## 31 GLOBAL DIASPORA.

Millions of people around the world are forced to flee their home countries due to war, persecution, or natural disasters. Pray that every believer and local church will see it is a privilege to share the love of Jesus to those arriving from other countries.

# God Answers Hometown Prayer Warriors: 'I Never Dreamed She Prayed Every Night for Us by Name'

By Janice Wilson

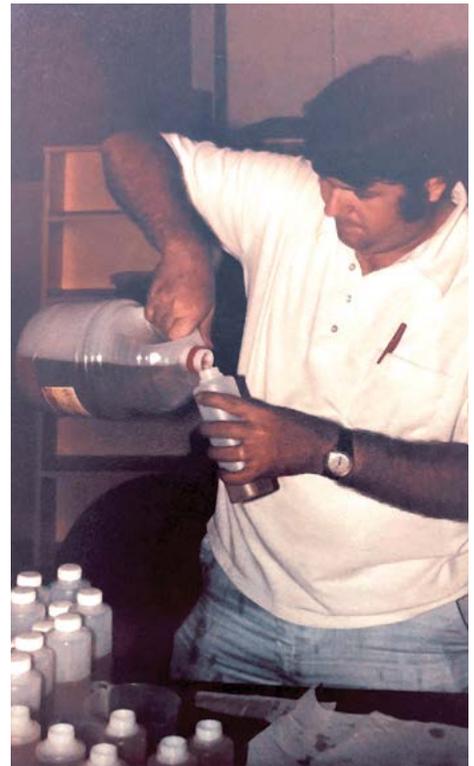
On the field, we experienced and witnessed God's faithfulness to answer the intercessory prayers of His people. A friend from our hometown recently shared with us that while growing up, he frequently spent nights at his grandmother's, and she would pray for us every night by name. I knew that his grandmother, Mrs. Pauline, prayed for us, but I never dreamed she prayed every night for us by name.

While living in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in 1979, we were hit by Hurricane David. For weeks without

electricity, we dipped water out of an underground cistern.

Eventually, our neighbor's cistern went dry, but ours was full to the brim every morning. We shared the "Living Water" as we shared the water from our cistern. As God met our needs and the needs of those around us, I know Mrs. Pauline and others were praying.

We are humbled by many such stories about the intercession of prayer warriors. In answer to these prayers, God sustained us, encouraged us, and gave us hope.



Ron Wilson filling bottles of oil as part of the missionaries' hurricane relief distribution in 1979.

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\*Names changed

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