

PRAY FOR THE
KONYANKE
OF IVORY COAST



Have you ever been to a Moe's Southwest Grill? If you have, you probably can guess what makes this fast food restaurant different from the others, and by different, I mean awesome. Is it the catchy names of delicious burritos? Or the cool music and ode to famous musicians displayed on the walls? Or the salsa bar and all you can eat tortillas chips? While all those things are indeed very special, I would argue what stands out even more is what happens when you walk through the door. As the employees are folding those burritos, scooping out queso, and taking orders, they are also ready to greet any and all who walk through the door with a "Welcome to Moe's!" The President of Moe's started this tradition because he was tired of walking up to a fast food counter and instead of receiving a friendly greeting, he was met by an awkward stare and silence. He wanted his restaurant to be different. He wanted to be hospitable.



In the west African country of Ivory Coast, there is an unreachable, unengaged people group called the Konyanke. This group of 233,000 in Ivory Coast are a part of a larger group of 3,902,000 Konyanke in seven other west African countries and even more than 12,000 in the United States! Islam is their outward religion of practice, though most consider divination and casting spells a vital part of life. The Konyanke are a very joyful, friendly and hospitable people, but they don't yet know the true joy that comes from knowing Christ – eternal spiritual joy.

Would you pray now for the Konyanke of Ivory Coast? Proper greetings and hospitality are such important parts of living in Africa. Special handshakes, bowing or even kneeling, clapping hands in a greeting, a certain phrase, are just some of the many ways to greet and show respect to a neighbor or even a stranger. Let's pray that the Konyanke, who are known for their friendly hospitality will not be inhospitable to the gospel. May it be the welcome news that they have longed to hear.



Don't forget to pray for the Konyanke children, too! What if one of these children are actually, right now living near you? What if they shop at the same Walmart? Play in the same park? Go to the same Moe's? Be on the lookout for them, and the many other unreachable people groups that are living in the U.S. and why not surprise them with a friendly greeting and invite them to hear the Good News.