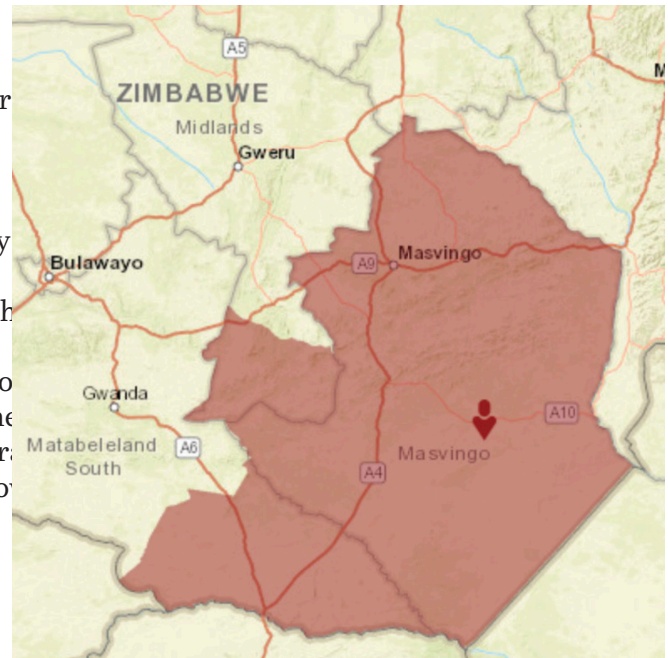


PRAY FOR THE TSWA OF ZIMBABWE



Have you ever had a desire to venture out and discover something that no one else has? Maybe you are convinced that you might find buried treasure hidden for centuries. Or you might be the one to discover an undocumented species of insect buried deep in the jungle of the Amazon. Or perhaps you could be the first to discover an uncharted path to reach hidden land. Have you ever heard of an explorer by the name of Vasco da Gama? Maybe you've learned about him in school. He was a Portuguese explorer, who became the first person to sail from Europe all the way to India. On his voyage, he stopped in what is now known as Mozambique to restock his ship and rest a bit. He took a liking to the area he stopped in and named it, "Land of the Good People" or Terra de Boa Gente in Portuguese. This area of Mozambique is now called the Inhambane province.



In Zimbabwe, a country in southern Africa, there is an unreached, unengaged people group called the Tswa. Most Tswa reside in the Inhambane province of Mozambique but in the past few decades many Tswa have been recruited to work in the mines of South Africa, and some have migrated across the border to eastern and southern Zimbabwe. The Tswa primarily follow African traditional religion. Often conversion to Christianity is more of a cultural acceptance but not a real heart change.

Let's pray for the Tswa peoples. In Romans 3: 12 we read, "...no one does good, not even one." Da Gama might have been impressed with the people of Inhambane and even called them good, but the truth is, ultimately the only approval that matters does not come from man, no matter how important or impressive they are. It is God whom man must please. But, no one is good! How can we be approved by a Holy God if we will never be good enough to earn it? That sounds like bad news to me. But, praise be to God, we are not left with bad news, but in the gospel, "good news" that Christ, who alone is good, took our sin upon Him at the cross, died, was buried, and rose again to new life. All those, including the Tswa, who truly believe in this gospel, will be approved by God because of Christ's goodness.



Don't forget to pray for the Tswa children, too! Pray that as these children grow in a land and among a people far from God, they will discover a new path. The path of life!