

PRAY FOR THE WEST MARGHI OF NIGERIA



Have you ever been camping with your family? If you go on a busy holiday weekend and the campground is full, chances are you will get to meet someone new. Even if you don't officially meet, you might feel like you know them by the end of the weekend. You can hear their music playing from their car radio, smell their hotdogs cooking at night, and see their bathing suits and beach towels hanging out to dry on their clothesline. A campground is a wonderful place to make people observations. At campgrounds people do really similar things. They eat, they sleep, they cook, clean, and play. Kids ride bikes and jump in the lake. Adults sit in chairs that are hard to get out of and talk while they watch the kids and other people coming and going. Moms fuss over the kids needing more sunscreen and insect repellent, while dads compare their grilling skills with their fellow men. All this sounds fun and my idea of a perfect family weekend, but what if you were in a campground that wasn't so fun, and one where you didn't necessarily want to be?



In northeastern Nigeria, there is an unreached, unengaged people group called the West Marghi. This group numbers around 270,000 and 98 percent follow Islam. Their homeland is also home to the Boko Haram terrorist group, who have brought much destruction to the land of the West Marghi. There are a few churches in the area that have been facing harsh persecution and loss of buildings, homes, and personal property. Many of the West Marghi are IDP, Internally Displaced People. Many have had to flee their homes and find refuge wherever they can, often setting up camps with other displaced peoples.

Pray for peace in the country of Nigeria. Pray that the Boko Haram group would come to know the True Light. Pray for those among the West Marghi who have lost so much, to find an eternal hope in the gospel. A hope that can never be taken away. Pray also for the few Christians living among the West Marghi now. As people are finding themselves drawn together in groups or camps, more people groups are mingling with each other in a way that hasn't been done before. It's like the campground that brings random people together around a lake, except it's not just for a weekend of fun and most people wouldn't choose to be there. Instead these displaced peoples are meeting each other, sharing each other's burdens, and helping each other survive. Some of the groups that have had more exposure to the gospel and have been discipled are now put together with groups who haven't heard. Pray that these "camps" will be breeding grounds for the spread of the gospel throughout Nigeria to the ends of the Earth.



Don't forget to pray for the West Marghi children too! As they are growing up in really hard situations pray that the God of all peace and comfort would draw them to THE source of peace and comfort. HIMSELF!