

# PRAY FOR THE NAMA OF NAMIBIA



Have you ever had a Thanksgiving without turkey? What about pumpkin pie or cranberry sauce? Maybe you don't like those things, so a Thanksgiving without turkey and pie doesn't sound so bad. Did you know that Thanksgiving is an American holiday? That might seem obvious to you, but what if you're an American living in another country? That would mean you probably would go to school on that day. It could also mean that all those American Thanksgiving foods that you look forward to might be hard to find. Americans living in Africa, who are determined to celebrate Thanksgiving upon their lives, often come together with their fellow Americans living abroad to pull it off. It's a beautiful thing. Someone will go all over the city to hunt down a turkey. Someone else has corn syrup and pecans sent in a package for the pie. Someone else will barter at the public market to get green beans for the casserole. It takes a lot of work, but somehow, with everyone doing their part in community, it turns out to be a great day.



The Nama of Namibia are an unreached people group that were some of Namibia's first dwellers that lived and worked on communal land. Centuries of being pushed out of their homelands has left them scattered throughout Namibia, with the largest concentration living in the central part of the country. They are a people who know how to enjoy "today," and community remains extremely important. Their culture is preserved through poetry, songs, stories, crafts, art, and the community. Although the Nama might identify themselves as Christian, very few have truly been transformed by the true gospel.

Pray now that the Holy Spirit will do a work in the hearts of the Nama, preparing them to hear the true gospel and drawing them to Himself. Pray that Namibian believers from other people groups will be faithful to reach out to their neighbors with this message of hope. A people group, who for so long have depended on one another to not only survive but to enjoy life, reminds me a bit of Americans working together in community to keep the traditions of Thanksgiving alive even in a foreign land. At the end of the day, what was shared was worth all the work, time, and effort to make it happen. What if the gospel took hold of the Nama people and like so many other shared experiences, it spread quickly throughout the community? What if it became their new way of life? Their new culture? And what if their new time of gathering together is as a new body of believers, a church?



Don't forget to pray for the Nama children, too! Can't you picture them coming together on holidays, eating food, playing games, singing songs? Wouldn't you like to see that in person? I can pretty much tell you it looks different than our American Thanksgiving, but when the Nama hear the true gospel and turn to Christ alone, all those who are in Christ can celebrate with them as new brothers and sisters, with THANKSGIVING!