



PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD



Hope for American Peoples

PEOPLE IN THE AMERICAS, WHETHER AMONG AMAZONIAN VILLAGERS OR VENEZUELAN REFUGEES IN MEGA CITIES, LIVE WITH EITHER NO HOPE OR FALSE HOPE. AS CHRISTIANS GO AND SHARE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS, THEY ARE BRINGING TRUE HOPE AND SALVATION THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS.

A Family in a Jungle Village Finds Lasting Hope in Jesus

He was just another drunk in a town full of drunks. Around the 15th of each month, it was easy to find him. He would leave his jungle village, travel to town to get his welfare money, then promptly spend it on alcohol. It was not uncommon to see him passed out in a gutter. His wife, who also struggled with alcohol, was tired of living to drink. She knew that her Catholicism, heavily influenced by her people's animism, was getting her nowhere. One day, she met some Christians, and they shared the Good News with her. She realized that Jesus was offering her a way out, so she took it. She accepted Christ and began learning everything she could about the Bible. Her husband agreed to come to her baptism, but as she was walking up out of the water, he told her that being a Christian meant that she was choosing to always be alone in her family. However, it didn't take long for him to notice a real change in his wife. She had peace like he had never known.

He realized how hopeless he was; how pointless the drinking and rituals were. He wanted something more. After a year of searching, he saw that his only hope was Jesus. He, too, gave his life to Christ. These new believers had a heavy burden for their four lost sons, but God was going ahead of them. Today, one of their sons is training to be a missionary. Two

have recently given their lives to Christ and will be baptized soon. One still has a hard heart, but also has many people praying for him and sharing with him. The Lord is now using this family to plant a church and reach others with the same Good News that changed their lives.



1 EAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Bao Ni* is passionate about reaching minority peoples with the Good News, and he desires that each disciple will share their faith regularly. Around 600,000 people live in his East Asian city. Pray for mature Christians to help with outreach.

2 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Lupita* had lost all hope. Her husband and sons were drug addicts. Then, someone knocked on her door, asking how they could pray for her and her neighborhood. Now, her whole family has surrendered their lives to Christ! Pray as they reach their neighborhood for Christ.

3 KALMYK-OIRAT OF MONGOLIA. The Kalmyk-Oirat are a Mongolian people who follow a religion that is a mix of Tibetan Buddhism, Taoism, and ancestor worship. Forms of black magic have been practiced for hundreds of years. Pray that the eyes of the Kalmyk-Oirat will be opened to see God's glory.

4 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Please pray for Octavia*. She lost hope after recently losing her job as a hotel worker. She has made a commitment to Christ and is being discipled by a missionary in another country. Pray that she will grow in her faith and that all her needs will be supplied.

5 EUROPEAN PEOPLES. God is using missionaries and local Baptist churches in Brazil to reach the 4.5 million Italian decedents there. Several small groups have been started in the area. Pray that God will bless these churches and give them a God-sized vision to reach their communities.

6 SARAMACCANS OF SURINAME. The Saramaccans of Suriname often quote hundreds of clever proverbs. "A leaf doesn't rot the first day it falls into the water." They usually have a kernel of truth, but not gospel truth. Pray for God's wisdom to become part of their everyday language.



"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Romans 15:13, ESV

7 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Please pray for Vera*, a Jewish woman whom missionaries met when her mother died. After reaching out to her with baked goods and crafts, she is now reading a book of Bible stories. Please pray that she will meet and come to know the Savior, the author of hope.

8 TUAREG OF THE SAHARA DESERT. Tuareg of the Sahara Desert share tea and conversation. As they brew tea using hot coals, they'll send a hot coal to a neighbor to start their tea fire. Pray that the gospel will move from family to family across the desert just as fire from the coals is passed.

9 DEAF PEOPLES. There are more than 200 sign languages worldwide. The Deaf speak with their hands and listen with their eyes. Pray that the Deaf peoples of the world will discover the cross and understand its significance for salvation.

10 HAZARA OF AFGHANISTAN. Pray for a woman who sought a copy of the New Testament. Ask that her whole family will read it and come to know Jesus. During COVID-19, please lift up the Hazara, asking that they will hear the Good News and realize that Jesus is the only one who can save them.

11 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Zenu of Colombia were without food or work and had hard hearts towards God. But they have seen His power during hopeless times, and some have accepted Christ as their Savior! Pray for these new believers who are turning to God to fulfill their needs.

12 HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM. In Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, 20 factory workers gather weekly as a church. In a city of 10 million, the need to teach others is urgent. Pray that these young factory workers will bravely share what they're learning about Jesus with their family, friends, and co-workers.

13 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Pray for three Embera women starting a hostel in Jaque, Panama, which will cater to mission groups and tourists. These women are traveling up-river, bringing food and Bible stories to the people, discipling new believers, and training them to share their faith.

14 IMB MISSIONARIES. In many places around the world, it is difficult to share the gospel openly. It may be due to authority or societal restrictions, but no matter the reason, ask that missionaries will be led by the Holy Spirit to share the gospel boldly with locals.

15 AMERICAN PEOPLES. National brothers and sisters in Lima, Peru, have faced difficult times and wonder if there is any hope. Pray that they will stand strong in their faith, knowing that God is their faithful sustainer and the true hope of the nations.

16 EMIRATI ARABS OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. Very few Emirati Arabs agree to study the Bible with a follower of Jesus. But recently, a husband and wife read some of the Bible together and discussed it with a believer. Ask God to give more Emirati Arab families a hunger for His Word and to open their eyes to Jesus.

17 SHINA OF PAKISTAN. Numbering 650,000, the Shina are the largest unengaged, unreached people group in Pakistan. They live in one of the most militarized zones in the world. Pray for opportunities for the gospel to reach Shina people in the major cities around Gilgit-Baltistan.

18 TSWANA OF SOUTH AFRICA. Many university students who are believers have felt disconnected from the church during COVID-19 lockdowns. Pray for those who come from communities where the gospel is not believed or is even discouraged. Ask God to comfort them. Pray that they will stay in His Word.



19 AMERICAN PEOPLES.

Job loss, domestic violence, and depression are on the rise in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Students are unable to continue their studies because they have no access to computers, much less the internet. May the comfort, peace, and hope of Jesus spread across this city.

20 BARCELONA, SPAIN. “I think, here in Spain, people have never really been taught the Bible. I feel for the first time I am really understanding what the Bible says,” a new believer said. Praise God for this woman and for another new believer in Barcelona. Pray for their faith to grow.

21 KURMANJI KURDS OF LEBANON AND SYRIA. A local pastor has been posting sermons and teachings about the Bible online in the heart language of the Kurmanji Kurds. Tens of thousands of people have viewed them so far. Pray that the seeds of these messages will bear fruit and draw people to Jesus.

22 BHUTAN. Many years ago, the king of Bhutan declared, “gross national happiness is more important than gross national product.” However, true joy has not yet been found by many in this mountain kingdom. Pray for God to send laborers to share His great joy.

23 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Over 2,000 people, mostly immigrants, live in just one building in Santiago, Chile, and struggle to scrape by with enough money to cover food and expenses. Pray that they will find hope in the Savior who has enormous love for the foreigner and who promises eternal life!

24 DEAF OF SIERRA LEONE. The Deaf in Sierra Leone face discrimination and a difficult life. International groups have come in and tried to provide services, but little has been done to address spiritual needs among this population of 80,000. Intercede for the Deaf of Sierra Leone.



25 UNREACHED PEOPLES OF TIMOR-LESTE. Most of the 1,000 churches in Timor-Leste are Catholic, but some are Protestant. There are 12 people groups there that are less than 2 percent Christian, and three of them have no believers. Pray that believers in Timor-Leste will boldly share the gospel with the lost.

26 AMERICAN PEOPLES. She had nothing to feed herself or her young son for lunch that day. At this critical moment, a bag of food was delivered by Venezuelan Baptists ministering in that community. She says the food arrived “just in the nick of time” and gives thanks to God for it.

27 YAWO OF NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE. When Yawo people show an interest in studying the Bible with believers, they are often approached by leaders of the majority religion and discouraged from doing so. Ask the Lord to call His sheep by name, and pray that they will follow Him no matter the cost.

28 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Believers from the Americas have left their homes to bring the Good News to others all over the world. Pray for these brave men, women, and families as they learn new customs, cultures, and languages so that Jesus might be proclaimed among all peoples.

29 BANGALORE, INDIA. Some who have received discipleship and leadership trainings recently returned to their home villages. Pray for opportunities to share what they’ve learned with friends and family. Ask God to give them boldness and wisdom to practice their training in their villages.

30 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Latin American missionaries seek to reach refugees who flood into Europe, hoping to escape volatile environments and persecution. They arrive with almost nothing and enter camps where there is little hope. Pray for them to find provision and salvation in Jesus.

31 JAPAN. In Japan, many people are interested in Halloween. During this holiday, missionaries share with children and their parents at fall festivals how they need not fear because God casts out fear. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open people’s hearts to the gospel.

Missionaries and Local Churches in Peru Share Hope with Bags of Food

There are over 800,000 Venezuelans in Peru, mainly in Lima, who are mostly unregistered day laborers. Earlier this year, due to COVID-19 lockdowns, many of them were suddenly out of work for weeks. Two missionaries responded to this



Young girl examines a bag of food provided by IMB missionaries and local Baptist churches.

crisis by requesting funds to help feed Venezuelans in Lima and share the hope of the gospel.

Working with local Baptist churches, the missionaries located many in need and struggling to buy food. They didn't know if any spiritual fruit would come from the relief project. Then they got a text from one of the churches that distributed bags of food: "Thank you for the food. An entire family accepted Jesus as their Savior, and we now have four others who want to be part of a Bible study!"

Giving out food during this time has opened many doors for the gospel. Those who had received the bags often shared with their neighbors and told them that the food was given to them by Christians. While circumstances feel out of control, the Lord has shown Himself in wonderful ways.

AMERICAN PEOPLES



604.9
MILLION PEOPLE

PRIMARY RELIGIONS



CATHOLIC
MAJORITY



EVANGELICAL
CHRISTIANITY
9%



ANIMIST
3%



13
of the 100 most
populous cities
in the world
are located in
the Americas.



imb

Every church.
Every nation.

PRAYERPOINTS is available as a free email or print subscription. Please go to www.imb.org/prayer-points to subscribe, or call (800) 999-3113, if you need assistance.

You can also find **PRAYERPOINTS** on the IMB Pray app - available for iOS and Android devices. Find more prayer opportunities and resources at IMB.org/pray as well as on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

*Names changed

CG 16.5M 8/20 P7422-10