

# PRAY FOR THE OKPAMHERI OF NIGERIA



Have you ever thought that if you held on tight to a helium balloon and jumped off a big rock or something, you might start to float away in the sky? Like Winnie the Pooh getting honey from the top of the tree? If you have tried it, (you're not the only one), you probably discovered that it doesn't work. Maybe if you were made of stuff and fluff, and very little brain, like Pooh Bear, it would work. The truth is one balloon just isn't enough to make you fly. But what about many? When I was very little, there was a man who had always dreamed of flying a plane but couldn't because of his poor eyesight. So, he strapped on 45 helium-filled balloons to his lawn-chair and took to the skies. It worked!! He fulfilled his dream. He also got into A LOT of trouble. This is definitely not something you should try at home. He proved that if you have enough balloons together, they could make you fly.



There is an unengaged, unreached people group in the west African country of Nigeria called the Okpamheri. The Okpamheri number less than 100,000 and are found only in the southern portion of Nigeria. In the mid-19th century, a group of Okpamheri villages and towns gathered together in unity to stave off slave raiders. Today, in a nod to their history, the term "Okpamheri" can be used to mean "we are one." The Okpamheri are very hospitable and peaceful. They are typically farmers who live in a collection of towns and villages in the Edo state of Nigeria.

Pray that God would send faithful disciples of Christ to make new disciples among the Okpamheri. Pray that the Okpamheri would reject the message of animism or other false gospels that are prevalent in their country.



Don't forget to pray for the Okpamheri children, too! One balloon may not be enough to make you fly, but one plus one, plus one, plus one, and so on is enough. Each separate balloon depends on being joined together as a group to fulfill a purpose. If one Okpamheri were to repent and believe in the gospel, that would be reason enough to rejoice. But what if a whole household, or village, or people group who has a history of working together as one, repents and believes, and truly knows the everlasting unity that comes with knowing Christ and serving Him together as His body – the church. Now THAT is a dream worth pursuing.