

# PRAY FOR

## THE RWANDESE OF TANZANIA



Did you know that fish have nostrils? Fish breathe through gills, so why did God create them with nostrils? A fish uses its nostrils to detect certain chemicals in the water that gives them information. They “smell” their next tasty meal, or a dangerous predator. They also use their nostrils to find their way home. Salmon are remarkable fish (and delicious). They are born in a freshwater river or stream, and swim downstream to the ocean where they spend most of their lives, 6,000 miles away from their place of birth. Then, they make the long, hard journey upstream, sometimes even up waterfalls, all the while dodging grizzly bears and other predators, to return to the place they were born. How do they know where to go and how to get back? It is said that the smell of where they were born is “imprinted” in their memories, so they follow their nose to find their way home.

In Eastern Africa, in the country of Tanzania, there are Rwandese people who fled from their homes in Rwanda because of internal fighting in their country. Now there are approximately 249,000 Rwandese living in Tanzania. Many of them claim to be Christian (mostly Roman Catholic), although only a small portion might be considered evangelical. They speak a language called Kinyarwanda, and the complete Bible is available in their language.



Pray for the Rwandese who are living in Tanzania. It’s not easy to live in a country that never feels like home. Sometimes, you’re not allowed to get a job that you’re qualified for, or you can’t receive benefits that others receive because you technically don’t belong. Let’s pray that the Rwandese of Tanzania find their identity in Christ, through the gospel. Being reconciled to God through Christ, is like coming home, except this home can never be taken from you. It’s a return to Eden, unbroken and never-failing fellowship with God.

Don’t forget to pray for the Rwandese children, too! Most of these children have never even been to their “home” country. But they might not totally feel like Tanzania is their “home.” Pray that these children “follow their noses” and find their way home, a longing that has been imprinted on their hearts by God since they entered the world.

