



PRAY

FOR UNREACHED
PEOPLE GROUPS



Pray for the Unreached

IMB missionaries in Sub-Saharan Africa have a goal to engage 55 unengaged, unreached people groups with the gospel by the year 2025. Among these groups there are few or no Christians or churches. The gospel will not spread among them naturally — outside help is needed. The IMB is calling on churches in the United States and around the world to pray for and support the engagement of these 55 people groups.

- Ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up African believers to take the gospel to these hard-to-reach people groups.
- Pray for the Lord to remove barriers that are preventing these people groups from hearing the good news.
- Consider adopting a specific people group and praying for them by name. Prayer requests for each group are available at www.imb.org/55-in-5.



PRAY

FOR REFUGEES
IN AFRICA



Pray for Refugees in Africa

Chaos and turmoil around the world have forced millions of people to flee their homes. Thousands of refugees have poured into Sub-Saharan Africa from North Africa and the Middle East. Within Sub-Saharan Africa, people are also fleeing war and persecution. Some are displaced within their borders, while others go to neighboring nations. Because the Lord does not wish that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9), His mercy shines even in these circumstances. Refugees, who might never have heard the gospel in their home countries, now have an opportunity to respond to the message of salvation.

- Pray that God would allow the blinded minds of refugees to see the light of the gospel (2 Corinthians 4:4).
- Pray for Christian workers to have continued access to these people, and ask the Lord to continue to provide laborers for the harvest.



PRAY

FOR PERSECUTED
CHRISTIANS



Pray for Persecuted Christians

Centuries ago Arab traders started spreading Islam across Africa, and now there are millions of African Muslims. Many who decide to follow Christ face persecution. They are mocked and shunned by family and community. Sometimes spouses or children are taken from them. Some receive death threats, yet remain steadfast. One friend of a persecuted Christian claimed he, too, wanted to follow Jesus. He had seen the pain and shame Christians experience and knew the promise of eternal life must be true. No one, he said, would suffer like that for a lie.

- Ask the Lord to continue helping persecuted believers remain strong in their faith.
- Pray for physical provisions for these believers. Pray they will have food, water, clothing and good health.
- Pray for the church to support those who are being mocked and oppressed.



PRAY

FOR AFRICA'S
CITIES





Pray for Africa's Cities

The cities of Sub-Saharan Africa are preparing to undergo a drastic shift. By the end of the century the continent will be home to 15 of the world's 25 largest cities. As individuals migrate to the city for safety, culture and opportunity, there is a chance to engage their worldview with the transforming truth of the gospel.

- Pray that those moving to cities will encounter the truth through laborers, sent from faithful churches, working together to see each city comprehensively engaged.
- Pray that local churches would be trained and mobilized to reach the diversity of their city, from the affluent business person to the vulnerable refugee.
- Ask God to send gifted strategists and energetic implementers to change the religious trajectories of the cities of Sub-Saharan Africa.



PRAY

FOR AFRICAN
YOUTH



Pray for African Youth

With 62 percent of the population under the age of 25, Sub-Saharan Africa has immense potential in reaching the world for Christ through the next generation. In a culture where relationship is key, and a generation where social media is a main mode of connection, who better to reach Sub-Saharan Africa than their own age group? Let's pray for God to call out young people from the United States and around the world to engage African youth.

- Ask the Lord to create new outlets for the youth of Africa to be reached and mobilized.
- Pray that God would raise up next-generation leaders to reach the diversity of Africa with the gospel.
- Pray that social media, urban centers and technology are leveraged to increase access and connect generations to the gospel.



PRAY

FOR AFRICAN
CHURCHES



Pray for African Churches

Jesus *commands* all believers from every culture and language to “go and make disciples of all nations.” Many African Baptists have embraced evangelizing peoples within their respective borders, but not to the extremities of the earth. Christ’s mandate is resolute. Obedience is imperative. Yet a gap is evident. Keys to a missions movement across the continent include prayer, relationship, casting vision for God’s desire for the nations, and training toward culturally appropriate missions endeavors. Please pray that:

- African churches will have a heart to pray for the nations, and will embrace their role in the Great Commission.
- African churches will discover indigenously appropriate ways of choosing, training, supporting and sending cross-cultural missionaries.
- African missionaries will go to the nations with a strong biblical theology.



PRAY

AGAINST THE
PROSPERITY
GOSPEL

Pray against the Prosperity Gospel

The “prosperity gospel” is a perversion of the true gospel that defines the purpose of Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection as being for our physical, earthly blessing, and monetary gain. The true gospel, on the other hand, teaches that Jesus died and rose again to save us from our sin, regenerate us, and give us eternal life. The true gospel emphasizes spiritual regeneration, holiness and sacrifice, while the prosperity gospel emphasizes blessing, health, wealth and earthly success. The Bible does teach God’s care of His children on earth, but this is never the “point” or “purpose” of salvation. While He gives us what we need, we are never guaranteed wealth, health or an absence of suffering. Africa is a difficult place to live, and the challenges of daily life with poverty, sickness and hunger make the prosperity gospel appealing to many.

- Pray Africans would deepen their understanding of God’s Word and the true gospel.
- Pray they would learn to trust God to care for their daily needs without being lulled into a false belief that suffering, sickness and persecution are due to a “lack of faith.”
- Pray the African church would send African missionaries to the nations with the true gospel.