

WEEK OF PRAYER  
*for* International Missions

2026 PRAYER GUIDE

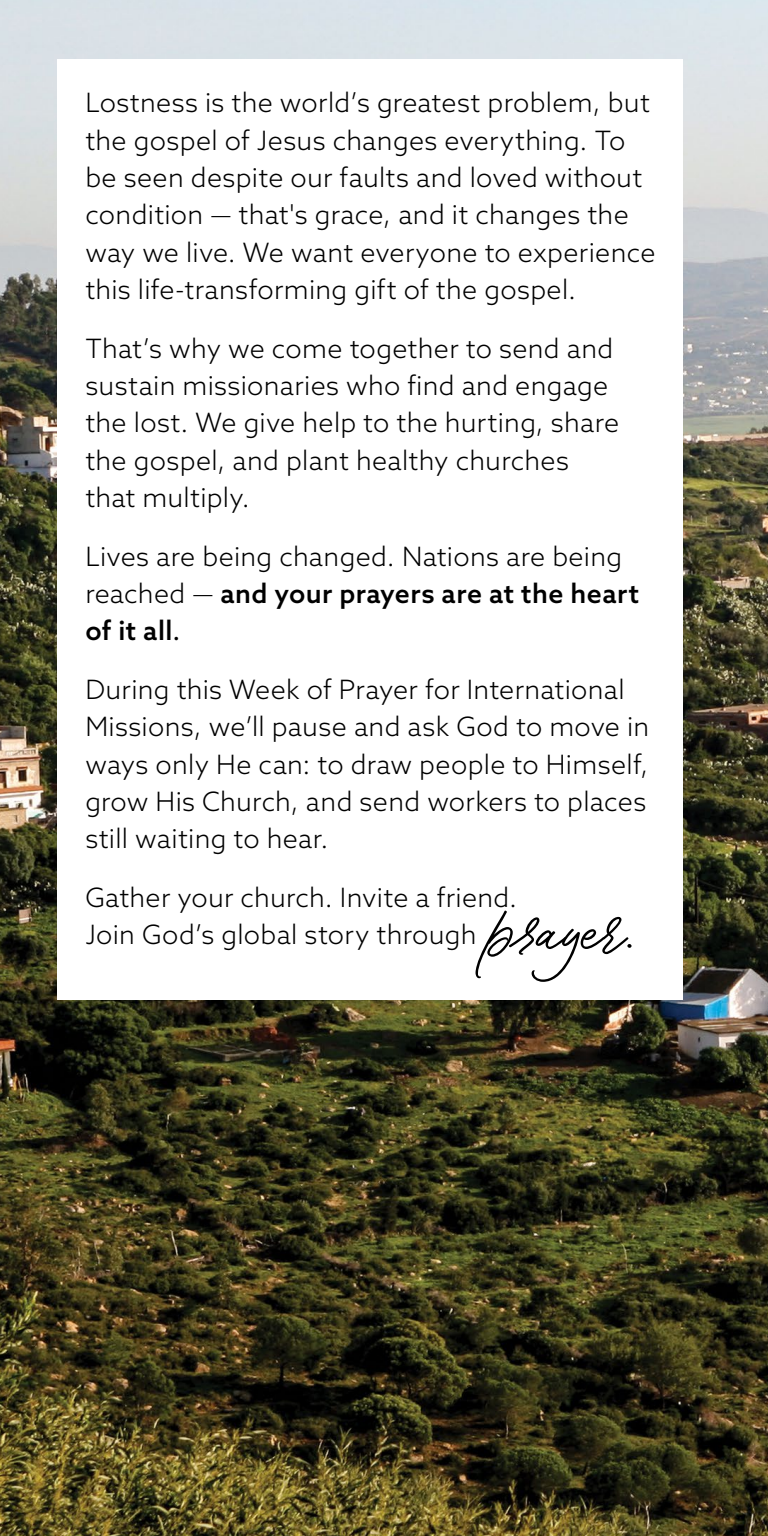


*the gospel*  
CHANGES **EVERYTHING**

WMU®



INTERNATIONAL  
MISSION BOARD



Lostness is the world's greatest problem, but the gospel of Jesus changes everything. To be seen despite our faults and loved without condition — that's grace, and it changes the way we live. We want everyone to experience this life-transforming gift of the gospel.

That's why we come together to send and sustain missionaries who find and engage the lost. We give help to the hurting, share the gospel, and plant healthy churches that multiply.

Lives are being changed. Nations are being reached — **and your prayers are at the heart of it all.**

During this Week of Prayer for International Missions, we'll pause and ask God to move in ways only He can: to draw people to Himself, grow His Church, and send workers to places still waiting to hear.

Gather your church. Invite a friend.

Join God's global story through *prayer.*



Visit **[lottiemoon.com](https://lottiemoon.com)** to read the full versions of the missionary stories that are featured on the following pages.



*Cusco, Peru*

JOSH AND CRYSTAL

God is opening doors in southern Peru. After two decades, IMB workers are back in this area with long-term missionary presence, and it's no coincidence. It's an answer to your prayers!

Veteran missionaries **Josh and Crystal Murphree** and their team carry hope into jungle and mountain villages through Bible storytelling. Instead of books many Indigenous can't read, they share Scripture through oral stories and context people can learn, remember, and repeat.

Through this work: Local church leaders are being trained and training others. Peruvian missionaries are stepping up. U.S. churches are coming alongside to help.

The gospel sends us to the edges of lostness. Whether it's through prayer or sharing oral Scripture like the Murphrees, we go to reach the Indigenous of southern Peru.

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## PRAY FOR

- ✦ The Murphrees and their team to learn and teach strategies for sharing the gospel.
- ✦ The outreach and church-planting efforts of the local Peruvian church.
- ✦ The good news of Jesus to transform lives in Peru.



# Chiang Mai, Thailand

VICTOR AND MADELINE

Among the 80 million Deaf worldwide, faith takes root through what can be seen. That's why **Victor and Madeline Hawthorne** make the gospel visible among one of the world's most overlooked people groups.

Visual minds need images, movement, and sign-rich liturgies they can watch, feel, and reproduce. Your generosity helps the Hawthornes create visual gospel resources — photos, dramatizations, videos, and even simple trading pins — to convey the gospel in ways the Deaf can truly grasp.

Trading pins become conversations. Pictures spark belief. Leaders from six nations are equipped to plant churches and share Scripture visually.

Through prayer and physical presence like the Hawthornes, we're reaching people in ways that resonate in their hearts. Because when the gospel is seen clearly, it multiplies.

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## PRAY FOR

- ✦ The equipping of Deaf leaders at the Asia Deaf Theological Training Center.
- ✦ Deaf communities to "see" the gospel and believe.
- ✦ More missionaries to join the Hawthornes in serving among the Deaf.



Families in this remote desert region walked 12 to 15 miles just to collect water. IMB missionaries **Dan and Hope Fielding** knew a dam could change everything, but in a place shaped by drought and hardship, trusting outsiders didn't come easily.

"You're not just starting from zero," Hope explained. "You're starting from -3."

Still, Dan showed up day after day, working for months in backbreaking heat to build the dam. Villagers watched him pour his time, energy, and heart into the project, and that built trust. But belief didn't come until the first rain. The dam held and provided water for 800 families.

The gospel moves us to compassion. Through prayer and providing water, the Holy Spirit softened hearts to the Fieldings and long-awaited gospel conversations began.

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#### PRAY FOR

- + Hearts to open to the gospel and for lives to be transformed.
- + Wisdom and boldness for local believers in sharing the good news amid persecution.
- + More laborers to the harvest field.



## CAL AND ERIN

In a nation where faith is fading, video chats have become a front line for hope. IMB missionaries **Cal and Erin Hiebsch** meet people where they already are — online — using social media as a digital “gospel radio” across Poland.

Each month, they connect with more than 600 people through digital conversations that break through distance, doubt, and cultural barriers. When Russia invaded Ukraine, thousands reached out searching for meaning.

Online spaces allow people to ask honest questions they might never voice in public. Those conversations don’t stop on the screen. The Hiebsches walk seekers toward Scripture, prayer, and discipleship in real life.

Lostness isn’t just a statistic. It’s people — reached through a phone or face to face — who need a Savior.

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### PRAY FOR

- ✦ This digital engagement ministry to reach more of Poland.
- ✦ More opportunities for the Hiebsches to share the gospel.
- ✦ Poland to come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.



## South Asia

OWEN AND MILA

There is deep resistance to the gospel where **Owen and Mila Stoddard** serve in South Asia. To remain present among their neighbors, they organize development projects like clean water wells and small agricultural animals. These efforts open doors, but the work they value most is discipling local believers and developing leaders.

"We teach sharing the gospel," Owen says, "but I really want to do it alongside them. I want them to see me doing it."

That investment is bearing fruit. One young man Owen discipled shared Christ with a friend, who recently came to faith. Now he's discipling that new believer the same way Owen modeled for him.

This is how the gospel moves forward — IMB workers like the Stoddards equipping local believers to carry out the Great Commission.

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### PRAY FOR

- ✦ Owen, Mila, and their four children.
- ✦ Wisdom as they mentor local believers.
- ✦ Stamina and grace for leading teams and local leaders in a region resistant to the gospel.



Europe is getting older and many seniors are growing lonelier. IMB missionaries **Josh and Jessica Cobb** witness it firsthand. Older adults are respected culturally yet often overlooked relationally.

When purpose slips away, loneliness can bring depression, anxiety, and even thoughts of suicide. Adult children feel the strain, too, trying to juggle care while raising families of their own. The Cobbs see more than a problem; they see an open door for the gospel.

"Loneliness and yearning for meaning among seniors create a fertile ground for the good news of Jesus," Josh shares.

Through health strategies, care becomes a bridge to deeper conversations. By addressing body, mind, and soul, healthcare professionals, like the Cobbs, can reach an overlooked, unreached community with the gospel.

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## PRAY FOR

- ✦ The Cobb family sharing the gospel with their community.
- ✦ Healing for their patients as they feel God's compassionate presence.
- ✦ Guidance in raising children away from family in the U.S.



**JUDE AND LEANNE**

**Jude and Leanne Stack** believe God uses ordinary moments for eternal purposes. Wherever they live, they intentionally create "evangelistic routes," visiting the same vendors and building genuine friendship through simple, consistent interactions.

One egg seller along their route comes from an unengaged, unreached people group with little access to the gospel. As friendship grew, so did opportunity. The Stacks were invited to her family celebration with over 150 people. As the respected matriarch, this egg seller opened doors to deeper relationships with her people group.

Amid the food and dancing, Jude had gospel conversations with several men for the first time.

Your IMB workers are present among the unreached of Central Asia where God is using ordinary interactions to bring extraordinary transformation through Christ.

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### PRAY FOR

- ✦ Deepening relationships with this egg vendor and her people group.
- ✦ Pastoral training for local churches in evangelism.
- ✦ More gospel interactions along the Stacks' "evangelistic route."



# Nairobi, Kenya

CLAY AND LYDIA

One of the greatest things about goats is how resilient they are. They survive when little else can. That's why **Clay and Lydia Steelman** began providing goats to families in Kenya during severe drought. These goats produce milk, food, and income, but even more, they bring hope.

Hope there will be food on the table. Hope children can attend school. Hope that tomorrow will be better. They also hear about the greatest hope of all — Jesus Christ.

Clay and Lydia's work encompasses numerous projects addressing physical and spiritual needs across Kenya. "We want to feed the hungry, help the poor, and give hope to those who need it, just like Jesus did," Lydia says.

When communities suffer, you and the IMB come alongside them together — meeting real needs and expressing Christ's compassion and spiritual restoration.

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## PRAY FOR

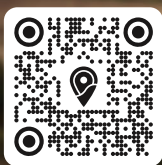
- ✦ The Steelmans and their two daughters returning to Kenya after furlough in the U.S.
- ✦ New partners and projects that will show Christ's compassion.
- ✦ God to send U.S. partners with experience in counseling and emergency management.

# WEEK OF PRAYER *for* International Missions

**November 29–December 6, 2026**

Southern Baptists observe a **Week of Prayer for International Missions** each year in preparation for the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®**. The stories you've just read are only possible because God works through the prayers and generosity of His people.

As you pray, consider giving so more people can hear the gospel —  
**the gospel that changes everything.**



**lottiemoon.com**

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MISSION BOARD**

Throughout this document, some names  
have been changed for security reasons.

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