

PreEaster Week of Prayer

March 26-30, 2018

REACH THE UNREACHED

Estimates place almost 7.5 billion people on Earth today. Of these, around 6,800 people groups make up 2.9 billion individuals who are totally unreached. Two billion of those live in the spiritual iron curtain of the 10/40 Window. They aren't just unreached; the gospel is not permitted inside their borders. Ponder that for a moment, **40% of the world's population still has no regular, permanent access to the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Time is short. Each hour, 1,800 people die without ever hearing about Jesus. That means 60 people entered eternity without the opportunity to hear the gospel in the 30 seconds it took to read this. Now, think about what that means for each passing day, month, year, decade, or century. The major role imparted to us is **to pray to the Lord of the Harvest.** Our prayers partner with the will of God the Father. **Pray for more laborers and creative ways to take the gospel to those who've never heard.**

DISCIPLE BELIEVERS

Discipleship takes many forms: casual conversations during coffee shop meet-ups, formalized one-on-one Bible studies in a home, group Bible studies at church, camps and retreats. Whatever the format or location, the purpose remains grounding young believers in the Word of God.

In Latin American countries, churches take advantage of Carnaval (known as Mardi Gras in the States) to hold retreats and camps for children, young people, and/or adults. Infamous for its unfettered debauchery, Carnaval provides the antithesis of the fruit of the Spirit. Churches frequently hold retreats emphasizing spiritual growth and providing an alternative to the pervasive sinful atmosphere. **Ask God to use discipleship studies—whether one-on-one or corporate; whether formal or informal—to help young Christians become grounded in their faith and ready to disciple others.**

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SUPPORT NATIONAL WORKERS

In February, Panamanian Free Will Baptist women gathered for their annual retreat. This year, they changed the focus from encouraging and strengthening their own faith to evangelizing their unsaved friends and family members. WNAC sent out a request for women around the U.S. to help cover the \$50 cost for these unbelieving women to attend...thereby removing a barrier to them hearing the gospel. As a result, **six new believers left the retreat on February 4.** Praise God for these new sisters in Christ! **Pray for all our national workers whether pastors, women's leaders, Sunday school teachers, etc. Ask God to provide their needs—spiritually, emotionally, physically, and financially.**

PLANT CHURCHES

Many churches in partner countries are growing and planting more churches. Panamanian congregations have at least one mission work per church. Many Cuban churches plant additional churches in neighborhoods and communities without a strong gospel witness. Churches in Côte d'Ivoire also seek to reach the unreached.

The FWB church in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, was established as a result of Dr. Miley's hospital ministry more than a half-century ago. The growing church **baptized 25 people in a river outside of town on January 28.** However, not content with the growth of this local church, Pastor Jean-Daniel Doli supervises a mission work in Tchantifidouo. On February 4, **he baptized another 14 people in this village. Praise God for the growth of His Church! Pray for pastors, evangelists, and lay people who seek to plant churches where the gospel has not been preached.**

TRAIN LEADERS

Without leaders trained in understanding and preaching the Word of God, heresy and confusion can creep in to churches. Bible institutes in Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, India, and Panama seek to train students in Bible study and knowledge, evangelism, apologetics, discipleship, and more. Classes for the 2018 school year of the institute in Campinas, Brazil, began the end of January. This first quarter of the year focuses on discipleship, training church members to disciple others. Around 40 students are enrolled in these classes. Lázaro and Ariadna Riesgo departed for Panama on March 2 to spend three weeks teaching in the Chame Bible institute. Lázaro focused on apologetics while Ari trained in CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) each day. **Pray those who teach in Bible institutes will have clarity of speech and thought as well as good testimonies. Pray students—many of whom are full-time employees, parents, and church workers—will profit greatly from the training and will grow in both faith and understanding.**

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