

Family Guide

July 2022
Bangladesh



“Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.”

— Psalm 2:8, New American Standard Bible 1995

Welcome to Bangladesh!

We are beginning the second half of our prayer journey around the world! This month let's focus on the country of Bangladesh, which has the largest river delta and the longest natural sea beach in the world. It sounds like a beautiful place—let's get started!



Bangladesh is almost entirely surrounded by the country of India, which we will pray for in October.



Fun facts about Bangladesh.

Bangladesh won independence from Pakistan and became a separate country in 1971.



The Bengal Tiger is the national animal. These tigers can run up to 60 miles per hour! They're usually between 7.5 to 10 feet long. That is probably longer than any bed in your house!



The country of Bangladesh is around the same size as the state of Illinois, and yet there are approximately 149.8 million more people living in Bangladesh than in Illinois!



In Bangladesh, there are six seasons: winter, spring, summer, monsoon, autumn and late autumn. Each season has its own festival and crops. How many seasons are there where you live?



Ready to pray for the people of Bangladesh?

Look around your house and you'll probably find lots of things made of textile—which is another word for fabric. That could be anything from towels, bath robes, dish cloths, napkins, bedding and more! Did you know that much of the world's textiles are made in Bangladesh? Actually, Bangladesh is the second largest textile and clothing exporter in the world, after China. That is really amazing. Look at a map and see how much smaller Bangladesh is than China. Next time you get clothes out to wear, check the tag and see where that piece of clothing was made. Take a moment and pray for that country. There is a good chance that you have clothing that came from several of our least reached countries.

It's easy to forget to pray like we want to. We need reminders, like the tag on your clothing, to remember to pray. You can also make a prayer list where you write down specific items to pray for each of your family members and friends. Pick a time each day to take out that list and pray for several people on it. It is helpful to do this at the same time each day.

We made this family guide to help you and your family know what to pray each day for Bangladesh. Thank you for joining us.

Your 2022 Prayer Partner,

Lucinda

Please email me, or have a parent email me, if you have any questions or want to share what you are learning about prayer. I'd love to hear from you! prayer@jesusfilm.org



01

Week 1: July 1-7, 2022

*“People everywhere will remember
and will turn to the Lord.
All the families of the nations
will worship Him.
This is because the Lord is King.
He rules the nations.”*

— Psalm 22:27-28, International
Children’s Bible



Week 1 Prayers



> There are many people from a neighboring country coming to live in Bangladesh, hoping for a better life. Living in Bangladesh away from their home country, they face different struggles, but thankfully, there are Christian groups helping to improve their living conditions. Pray for these Christian groups—that they would bring hope to the hopeless through Jesus’ love.

> Many Christian groups in Bangladesh are helping make life better for the poor or needy, but sometimes they are treated unkindly because of their faith in Jesus. Pray that they would be wise and careful as they work, and that the light of Jesus’ message reaches those who haven’t yet heard.

> It’s hard to believe that God loves all people, even those who do really bad things, but it’s completely true! In fact, God gave His son Jesus to die on the cross, so that anyone who believes and follows Him can be in His family forever! Pray that all Bangladeshis, even those who have done really bad things, will know they are loved by the God of the Bible.

> Many people in Bangladesh worship statue idols that represent gods that can’t truly save them or answer when they cry out for help. Let us pray that people who follow idols and false gods will choose instead to follow the one true God who can truly help them.

“When you cry out for help, let the false gods you have gathered help you. The wind will blow them all away. Just a puff of wind will take them away. But the person who depends on Me will receive the land. He will have My holy mountain.”

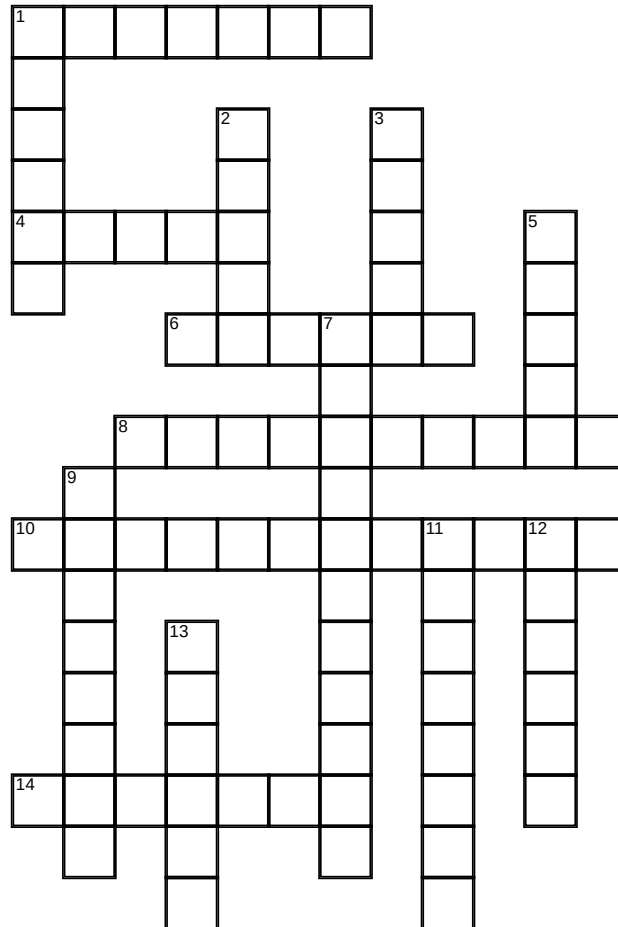
— Isaiah 57:13, ICB

> Christians in Bangladesh are sometimes treated harshly because of their faith in the God of the Bible. Pray that their faith stays strong and the unkindness will turn into respect and faith in the God of the Christians.

> Do you know who is the leader of your country? Your state or province? Your city? Your school? Your church? There are a lot of leaders who make decisions that affect us. We are instructed in the Bible to thank God for our leaders and pray for them—whether they make good or bad decisions, whether they are kind or unkind, and even if we don’t know their names. God wants us to pray for them to be wise and to lead us well. Remember to pray for your leaders and for all the leaders of Bangladesh.

> Ask God to provide enough money for Christian workers so they can take care of their families.

Week 1 Activity: Bangladesh Crossword



Across

- 1 A season where there is a lot of rain
- 4 Country that surrounds most of Bangladesh
- 6 God the _
- 8 Name of this month's country
- 10 National animal
- 14 Official language

Down

- 1 These people follow the majority religion
- 2 Capital city
- 3 God's written word
- 5 The Son of God
- 7 The third person of the trinity
- 9 Towels, bedding, etc made to be sold in other countries
- 11 Bangladesh is roughly the same size as this U.S. state
- 12 When you send items to another country for sale

WORD LIST:

BANGLADESH	DHAKA	HOLY_SPIRIT	MONSOON
BENGALI	EXPORT	ILLINOIS	MUSLIM
BENGAL_TIGER	FATHER	INDIA	TEXTILES
BIBLE	GOOGLE	JESUS	

02

Week 2: July 8–14, 2022

“He was also given glory and royal power. All peoples, nations and men who spoke every language will serve Him. His rule will last forever. His kingdom will never be destroyed.”

— Daniel 7:14, ICB



Week 2 Prayers



➤ Pray that God’s Spirit who lives inside His followers would guide Christians in Bangladesh to speak with their neighbors about the hope God has given them.

➤ Pray especially for those who are taking the gospel message to unreached people in different parts of Bangladesh to be wise and careful.

➤ The year 2021 was a hard year for Bangladeshis and everyone else. Let’s thank God for His faithfulness, even though things were hard. He doesn’t always spare His followers of hardships, but He does promise He is always with us and will give us courage when we trust Him.

➤ Just like your parents, parents in Bangladesh have to make wise decisions about their money to make sure they can take care of their families. Ask God to provide every need for the families in Bangladesh, and ask that He would give them wisdom for how to spend their money well.

➤ Sickness across Bangladesh has brought great hardship, leaving many people without jobs and in poverty. Pray that the people would be healthy and able to return to their jobs to provide income for their families.

➤ Let’s pray that the words of Jesus to Paul while on the road to Damascus would encourage Bangladeshi believers.

“I send you to open their eyes that they may turn away from darkness to the light. ... that they may turn away from the power of Satan and turn to God. Then their sins can be forgiven and they can have a place with those people who have been made holy by believing in me.”

— Acts 26:18, ICB

➤ Pray that Christian leaders in Bangladesh would have more opportunities to guide and train others in God’s wise ways. Many are leaders because they studied well in school and learned what the Bible teaches. So, study well so you can lead well, and pray Bangladeshi children do that, too.

Week 2 Activity: Paratha Recipe



Ingredients

3 ½ cups (15 ounces; 420g) all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling

1 tablespoon (12g) Diamond Crystal kosher salt; for table salt, use about half as much by volume or the same by weight

2 tablespoons (1 ounce; 30g) vegetable oil, or other neutral oil

16 tablespoons (8 ounces; 112g) softened ghee, divided

To make the dough: In a large mixing bowl, whisk together flour and kosher salt until combined, about 1 minute. Add oil and rub evenly into flour, about 5 minutes. Make a well in the center of flour and pour in 1 cup (240ml) of warm water. Roughly combine flour and water with your fingers until just brought together, about 1 minute. Next, knead dough until it forms a sticky ball, about 5 minutes. Leave dough in a bowl and cover with plastic wrap or a moist towel. Set aside to rest at room temperature for at least 1 hour and up to 24 hours in the refrigerator.

After the dough has rested, divide into 8 equal portions. Work with one portion of dough at a time, keeping remaining dough covered with a moist towel or plastic wrap while not handling.

For the first roll: On a clean surface, roll out dough as thin as possible, sprinkling flour as needed to prevent dough from sticking to the rolling pin. The final dimensions of the dough should be roughly 16 inches by 10 inches, and should be paper thin and translucent.

Using a small offset spatula, dab 1 tablespoon (15g) of softened ghee across the surface of rolled out dough. Sprinkle a pinch of flour over the ghee. Starting from the top, roll the dough sheet until it is coiled into one long snake. Coil each end of the dough log inward until they meet at the center, then fold the two coils onto each other and press together firmly. Set aside the coiled dough ball to rest covered for at least one hour at room temperature and up to 24 hours in the refrigerator.

For the final roll: On a lightly floured surface with a rolling pin, roll each coiled dough ball into a circle about 8 inches in diameter and 1/8-inch thick. Lightly dust paratha, rolling pin, and counter with flour as needed to prevent sticking, dusting off any excess flour at the end. Rotate paratha after each roll to maintain an even shape.

Cook rolled out parathas right away, or store between layers of parchment and wrapped in plastic wrap in the refrigerator for up to three days.

Cooking the parathas: Preheat a heavy gauge 10–12 inch skillet over medium–low heat. Working with one paratha at a time, cook in the dry skillet until dusty and dry to the touch, about 3 minutes per side. (After this first cook, the parathas can be stacked between sheets of parchment, wrapped in plastic, and stored in the refrigerator for 1 week or freezer for 3 months and cooked from frozen as needed).

Preheat the same skillet over medium–high heat. Add 1 tablespoon of ghee and cook 1 paratha at a time until golden brown and crispy, about 1 minute per side. Once cooked through, scrunch paratha to release any built-up steam. Serve right away or hold warm wrapped in a kitchen towel and in a 250°F (121°C) oven for up to 1 hour.

Special Equipment

Mixing bowls, balloon whisk, rolling pin, 12-inch heavy gauge skillet

Notes

Good ghee starts with good butter, so this is the time to splurge. If you already have clarified butter or browned butter on hand, you can substitute either for ghee. In a pinch, regular whole butter or even Crisco can step up to the plate and create the same final texture, but keep in mind they can't deliver the same flavor as a long-cooked ghee.

Feel free to multiply the recipe for your desired batch size.

See more photos on how to roll out and coil the dough at this site: <https://www.seriousseats.com/paratha-flaky-south-asian-flatbread>

03

Week 3: July 15–21, 2022

*“He is the one who makes the mountains.
He creates the wind.
He makes His thoughts known to man.
He changes the dawn into darkness.
He walks over the mountains of the earth.
His name is the Lord God of heaven’s armies.”*

— AMOS 4:13, ICB



Week 3 Prayers



- Church leaders have big responsibilities, like teaching the truth of the Bible and guiding people to think and live more like Jesus. Pray that Bangladeshi church leaders would wisely lead their churches.
- Pray this for every Christian in Bangladesh: *“Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. And God’s peace will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace that God gives is so great that we cannot understand it” (Philippians 4:6–7, ICB).*
- When Christian workers go into new places to share the message of Jesus, everything goes better when they first make friends with the leaders of churches and groups already in that place. Ask God to help Christian workers in Bangladesh work together with the people there.
- Pray that all the leaders of Bangladesh will find ways to work together for the good of the country and its people.
- Pray for Christian workers to love God with their whole heart as they take the good news of Jesus to the people of Bangladesh.
- God uses different situations in our lives to help us change and grow to become more like Jesus and to trust Him more. Pray that Bangladeshi Christians would confidently trust that God works everything out for their good—and pray that we would believe this too!
- Like a good shepherd takes care of his sheep, pray that Christian leaders in Bangladesh would be good shepherds to God’s people.

Week 3 Activity: Bengal Tiger Coloring Page



04

Week 4: July 22–28, 2022

“Then I looked, and there was a great number of people. There were so many people that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth. ...”

— Revelation 7:9, ICB



Week 4 Prayers



- > There are Christian groups who work hard to help meet the needs of people in Bangladesh whose lives seem hopeless. May every person know it is the love of God that motivates these helpers to reach out and help.
- > Many Christians all over the world pray and give money to help Christian workers who are serving in countries that need to hear the message of Jesus. What a great help that is! Ask God to bless those who are being generous with their prayers and money.
- > Pray that Bengali Christian websites would be safe places for people to learn about God and help make His name known.
- > Have you ever called someone on a phone using FaceTime? When meeting in person with someone is difficult, FaceTime can help two people in different places talk to each other and see each other through a video call on their screen. Many Bangladeshis can learn about Jesus and be mentored to grow their faith using video calls like this. Pray the mentors will find the best way to teach and train new Christians.
- > Ask that Paul’s words in Scripture would guide believers in Bangladesh every time they gather together: *“Let the teaching of Christ live in you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and strengthen each other. Sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God”* (Colossians 3:16, ICB).
- > Pray for God’s Spirit to guide Christian workers and worker teams as they join God in the work He is doing in Bangladesh.
- > Do you know how to make your faith muscle stronger? Here are four ways: **Read your Bible** often, and work at understanding it. Knowing what God says in Scripture can help us obey God. **Talk to God** often. That’s called prayer. **Invite His Spirit**, who lives inside you, **to guide you**, your thoughts and behavior. And **love God and each other**. Let’s ask God to help Bangladeshis and believers everywhere do these things to make their faith muscle stronger.

Week 4 Activity: Word Search

Bangladesh Word Search

X H O L Y S P I R I T G W U V
M U S L I M D J E G L M E U T
G Y V N L E J G X H B O Z N E
J E S U S S J T P D I N K A X
E D D Z Y I A T O M B S R E T
G X X W B N N I R C L O D R I
K O S Y J A S D T D E O H Y L
O L O L U E N H I T L N A C E
C X S G H E Q G I A E U K Z S
N H J L L U K X L G T Y A J F
W L F E A E A T M A G O R E P
N F M F A T H E R J D W Z Z K
B E N G A L T I G E R E Z C C
K B E N G A L I L N I V S A T
Z L V U I L L I N O I S B H O

WORD LIST:

BANGLADESH
BENGALI
BENGALTIGER
BIBLE

DHAKA
EXPORT
FATHER
GOOGLE

HOLYSPIRIT
ILLINOIS
INDIA
JESUS

MONSOON
MUSLIM
TEXTILES

05

Week 5: July 29–31, 2022

Week 5 Prayers



> May Christians in Bangladesh be good examples to young believers in loving God, studying His Word and walking in His ways.

> Pray for Christian leaders to help their people grow a strong faith and desire to join God in the work He's doing in Bangladesh.

> Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Bangladesh each day in July. We believe You will continue Your work there until everyone has heard clearly about You and been invited to follow You. Someday we'll see how You answered our prayers. May heaven be filled with Bangladeshi people who started to follow Jesus in part due to our prayers this month. We give You all honor and praise.

Resources

The Joshua Project has a tremendous amount of information about every country. This link will take you to Bangladesh.

<https://joshuaproject.net/countries/BG>

PrayerCast has great prayer videos.

<https://www.prayercast.com/bangladesh.html>

A great way to help someone learn more about Jesus is to share the *JESUS* film in their heart language. We have the film in over 1,900 languages on our website.

<https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html/english.html>

We also have multiple other films and short films available.

<https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch.html>

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