

Family Guide

November 2022 Pakistan



Welcome to Pakistan!

Majority Religion: Islam Official Languages: English and Urdu Largest People Group: Punjabi Population: 221 million Capital: Islamabad National Sport: Field Hockey



From the shores of the Arabian Sea to the heights of the Himalayas, from arid deserts to the fertile farmland in between, the vast country and people of Pakistan are our prayer focus this month.

Pakistan means "the land of the pure." May countless Pakistanis see that Jesus is the only way to connect with God and may they know the abundant life that He offers.



Fun facts about Pakistan.

The national drink of Pakistan is sugarcane juice, called "roh." The juice is usually only sold by roadside vendors throughout the country. What is your favorite juice?



Pakistan is the world's largest producer of hand-sewn soccer balls—known as "footballs" to most of the world. The official footballs of the last two FIFA World Cups were made in Pakistan. Do you like playing or watching soccer games with your friends and family?



The markhor is Pakistan's national mammal.



Pakistani Malala Yousafzai is the youngest person to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize. This prize is a special award for people who work to make the world a better place. Malala created the Malala Fund, which helps young girls have a chance to learn and receive an education in school, as well as pursue their dreams. What do you want to be when you grow up?



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Ready to pray for the people of Pakistan?

November marks a special month in the U.S. because of the Thanksgiving holiday. Every year, on the fourth Thursday of the month, families gather together to enjoy foods like turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and mashed potatoes and gravy, to name just a few. They also talk about what they're thankful for in their lives.

God blesses each of us in special ways. He loves when we take a moment to thank Him.

"Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever." – Psalm 118:1, International Children's Bible

Take a minute to stop and thank God for the ways He has blessed you and your family. Because God loves us so much, we always have a reason to thank Him. Do you celebrate Thanksgiving? What foods does your family make together? Or do you have another celebration that you participate in to remember God's blessings in your life?

One reason to be thankful in the U.S. is freedom for both boys and girls to learn and receive an education in school. Growing up, young women like Malala Yousafzai did not have that freedom. Many girls around the world do not have the chance to go to school and learn. Malala works hard to bring the right to learn to young girls in Pakistan and elsewhere in the world. Let's pray that Malala's work continues to bless others.

God also loves those who do not know Him yet. Would you join us this month to pray for the people of Pakistan who have not met Him yet? We hope and pray that one day they will also have many reasons to be thankful to God.

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*





Week 1: November 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, (ICB)



Week 1 Prayers

Pakistan is the fifth most populated country in the world. That means there are only four countries in the whole world that have more people than Pakistan. Pakistan also holds a whopping 832 people groups! They're called people groups because each group has their own traditions, foods, dances, languages, games, music and art. Ask God to send many of His workers to this country to show all 832 people groups the love of Jesus.

Christians who live in Pakistan are praying for the big, important city of Karachi (Kr ah' chee). The business they do there affects all of Pakistan. Pray that God would grow His family of Jesus-followers in Karachi so that they will act like Jesus—who often spent time with and cared for the poor, the sick and homeless.

> There aren't very many churches or Christians in Pakistan, but these few believers believe that many Pakistanis would invite Jesus into their hearts if only they knew about Him. May God send more workers to join these believers in getting the message out to those who don't yet know about Jesus.

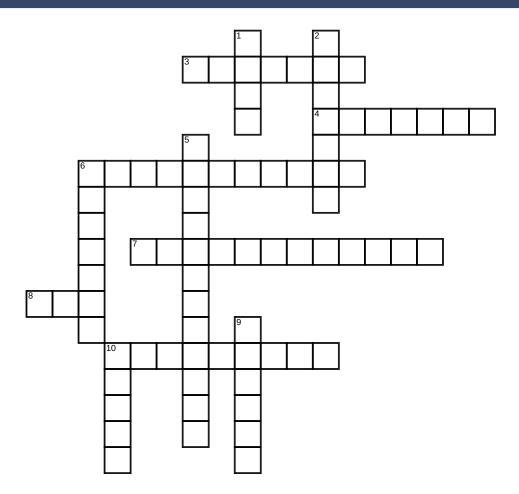
> Let's pray for the people of Pakistan to learn who Jesus is and place their trust in Him. Pray that as they grow in their faith they come to learn how He loves them.

"And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love. I pray that you can understand how wide and how long and how high and how deep that love is." —Ephesians 3:18, ICB > Let's say you live next door to someone your age who speaks a different language. You would really like to talk to them, but how? By learning what their words mean, one word at a time, and speaking them back you probably could. That's what translating a language is all about. It means learning enough words to translate the message of Jesus from the Bible for a movie. It's hard work and takes time. Many groups in Pakistan speak a different language. Pray for more Christians willing to pray and others who can help translate so unreached people can have God's words in their heart language.

> Paul, a man in the Bible who spent a big part of His life telling everyone about Jesus, chose to visit many cities in the area in which He lived. He did so because people in those cities hadn't yet heard about who Jesus was. Well, Christians in Pakistan have chosen 100 cities to go to soon. People in these cities don't know about Jesus either. Ask God to give people hearts that want to know all about Jesus.

> Early this past summer a lot of rain began to fall in Pakistan. So much rain has fallen since then that much of the country was flooded like never before. Many died in the floods and others have had to leave their homes, which means they're now homeless. Pray that Christian churches near the flooded areas are able to help provide food, medicine and supplies to the people during this hard time. May they see the love of Jesus in these helpers and want to follow Him too.

Week 1 Activity: Crossword



Across

- 3 National mammal of Pakistan
- 4 Pakistan's largest people group
- **6** World's second highest mountain located in Pakistan
- 7 Pakistan's national sport
- 8 A sugarcane juice often sold by roadside vendors
- 10 Capital of Pakistan

Down

- 1 Official language of Pakistan, besides English
- **2** One type of this animal can only be found in Pakistan's Indus River. Hint: look for the coloring page in this guide.
- 5 Pakistan is the world's largest producer of these, called footballs by most of the world
- 6 Largest city in Pakistan (Not the capital)
- **9** First name of the youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner

ROH

10 Majority religion of Pakistan

WORD LIST:

DOLPHIN
FIELD_HOCKEY
ISLAM

ISLAMABAD K2_MOUNTAIN KARACHI MALALA MARKHOR PUNJABI

SOCCER_BALLS URDU



Week 2: November 8-14, 2022

"He (Jesus) 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."





Week 2 Prayers

> We all have questions about God, our faith and the Bible, and we sometimes need help finding the answers. Thankfully, there are Christians who study God's Word deeply to find answers to these types of questions. They count on tools like study Bibles and other resources to do so. Pakistanis (some Christians and others not) have questions about God too. Pray many Pakistani believers can also study God's word deeply, and ask God to give them tools in their language that help them answer questions about God.

> When someone looks, acts or believes differently from someone else, they are sometimes treated unkindly or unfairly by others. Pray for Christians in Pakistan who are treated unkindly, and pray that those who are unkind encounter Jesus and He changes their hearts. May they be loving toward others instead!

Pray for comfort and healing for Pakistanis who are sick or injured. Ask God to provide them with essential things like medicine and medical supplies when they need it most.

> The Pakistani city of Lahore makes lots of carpets and rugs for other countries to buy, but mostly they grow fruits and vegetables to feed people. However, sometimes when there is a drought (meaning it doesn't rain for a long time) or when the land floods from too much rain, people in cities like Lahore cannot easily grow food. Pray for these farmers, their land and the fruits and vegetables that grow there. May God stop the rain when it's too much and bring rain when it's desperately needed. This year, Christians in Pakistan hope to use social media and short films about Jesus to help more college students learn about Him. Ask God to provide skilled Christian workers and supplies needed to get the job done.

Taking time to thank God is an important part of prayer. We show God how grateful we are when we spend time telling Him what we are thankful for. Let's pray that Christians in Pakistan would be thankful to God as this verse describes:

"Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever. ...You are my God, and I will thank You. You are my God, and I will praise Your greatness. Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever" (Psalm 118:1, 28-29, ICB).

> Different groups of people in God's family often work together as partners, because they want the whole world to hear the message of Jesus. Just like different people have unique experiences, talents and backgrounds, different groups of Christians can have special strengths so they help to build God's family in unique ways. Together, they can have a greater impact on the world around them. Pray that God will bring more Christian groups together as partners so that more Pakistanis can hear the gospel.

Week 2 Activity: Coloring Page

This type of dolphin is only found in the Indus River of Pakistan.

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Week 3: November 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

> Earthquakes, flooding and landslides happen often in Pakistan, damaging or washing away homes and crops like fruits and vegetables. People tend to get injured and sometimes die. Pray that Christians will share the love of Jesus by helping their suffering neighbors.

> Pray for Pakistanis from the majority religion to be drawn powerfully to the Lord in the midst of the challenges they face. May they discover the beautiful promise of Jesus in Matthew 11:28-30, "Come to Me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads. I will give you rest. Accept My work and learn from Me. I am gentle and humble in spirit. And you will find rest for your souls. The work that I ask you to accept is easy. The load I give you to carry is not heavy" (ICB).

Did you know that having Jesus-follower parents doesn't make you a Jesus-follower too? Jesus invites each person, young or old, to decide for themselves if they will choose to follow Him. Following Jesus includes trusting Him to forgive your sins, obeying His Word and representing Him to others well. So, have you decided to follow Jesus? Be sure to tell your mom or dad. And don't forget to pray that each Pakistani will decide to follow Him too.

Islamabad is the capital city of Pakistan. It sits up against the mountainous part of the country where many people groups live. Pray for the country's leaders—many of whom live in Islamabad—to lead all its people well, including people groups who live in the mountains, and to encourage peace and friendship among all. God loves every human being He ever made. He loves them so much that He gave His son Jesus to die on the cross. That's a lot of love! No matter what a person does, God's love stays the same. People have a hard time loving like that. In fact, it's impossible. That's why we need the Holy Spirit, who lives inside us, to love through us. When people are mean to us, when they lie about us, when they harm us or our loved ones, we can still love them back. Jesus, love through us even when we are treated unfairly.

> What's in your toolbox? Most have a hammer, screwdrivers, a wrench and a few other things. Christian workers have toolboxes too, but with things like a Bible, perhaps also a heart-language Bible for others who speak a different language, movies about Jesus and the Bible, books that answer Bible questions, worship music, a list of partners and helpers, and maybe other things. All are "tools" Christian workers can use to help them reach people who don't yet know Jesus. Pray that God will equip Christian workers to have all the tools they need in their toolbox to tell everyone in Pakistan about Jesus.

God wants certain members of His family to serve Him as full-time Christian workers. That usually means a worker gives up their job so they can give all of their time to the special work God wants them to do. It also means God provides the money they need to live through churches and generous Christians. Pray that these churches and generous Christians give money faithfully so Pakistani Christian workers can get busy and do God's work.

Week 3 Activity: Word Search

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WORD LIST:

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Week 4: November 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

> It pleases and honors God when the members of His family get along and work together. But the devil sometimes gets in the middle and causes trouble between Christians. Pray they would seek God's way to work out any conflicts. If they do that, then they can get back to pleasing and honoring God by getting along and working together. Everybody wins except for the devil!

Pray this for every Christian in Pakistan: "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).

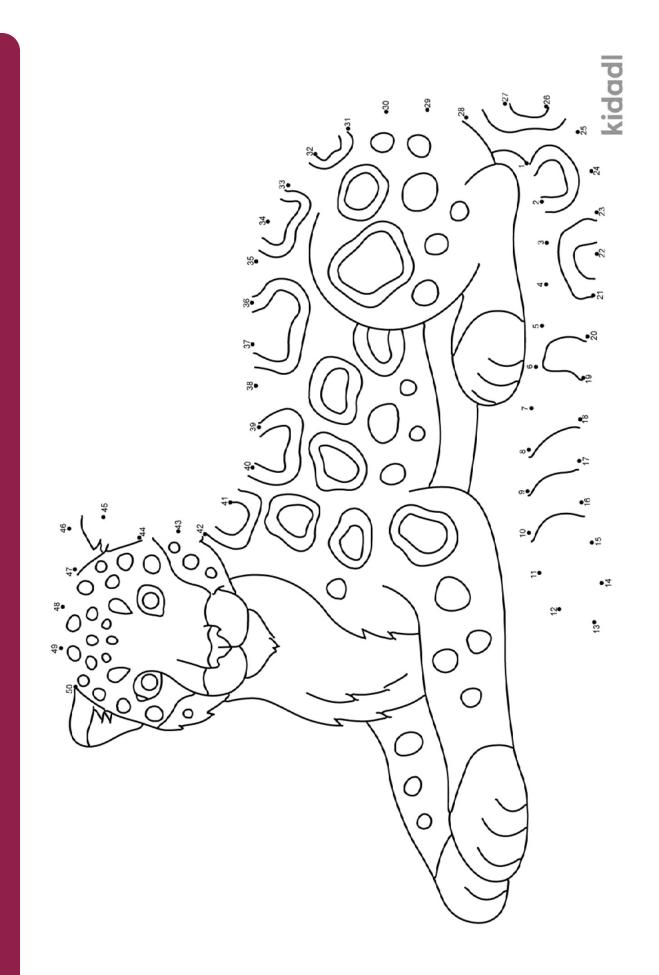
> Have you ever dug a big hole in the ground and found rocks mixed in with the dirt? In some parts of the world, iron, copper, diamonds, salt and a whole lot more are dug (mined) out of the ground. Of course, it takes big equipment and a much deeper hole than we can dig. The people in and around the Pakistani city of Quetta are miners, mining metals and minerals from the ground. Ask God to bring the love of Jesus to the miners and all the people around Quetta.

> When Christian groups work together as partners to do a job, they can get more done. Pray for those working together to be good listeners, patient and respectful, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide them. They all want Pakistanis to come to know the one true God through Jesus His son. > There are a few schools that train young adult Pakistani believers to become pastors. After training, they can lead Christian churches, form new churches, and help the people grow a stronger faith. Pray for these pastors, that God would give them courage to take the message of Jesus to their neighbors, even if the neighbors are unkind. May the pastors' kindness and goodness shine for Jesus and convince their neighbors that Jesus is Lord over all.

Even in villages far away from cities, some villagers have TV sets. Those who do may be able to watch pastors teaching lessons from the Bible, or sharing with people how to invite Jesus into their hearts. They might be able to watch movies about Jesus—in a language they understand! Pray that many villagers would hear and accept the words of Jesus on TV and grow in their faith.

> Christians and other minority groups in Pakistan are sometimes trapped into a form of slavery and unfair treatment they cannot easily get out of. Pray that pastors and believers plant churches in areas where this happens. Churches can sometimes help these families find a way out of slavery and to stay out.







Week 5 Prayers

Some Pakistani Christian pastors have been trained to form groups that can meet in different neighborhoods and grow into brand new churches. Pray that the pastors will coach the groups with wisdom from the Holy Spirit. May His family of Jesus-followers multiply in the neighborhoods.

> Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Pakistan each day in November. We believe You will continue Your work there until everyone has heard clearly about Jesus and been invited to follow Him. Someday we'll see how You answered our prayers. May heaven be filled with Pakistanis 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 Pakistan. <u>https://joshuaproject.net/countries/PK</u>

PrayerCast has great prayer videos. https://www.prayercast.com/pakistan.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 1,950 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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