

For the Least Reached

Prayer Guide



“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

Thank you for praying with us!

Welcome to the For the Least Reached January Prayer Guide. This monthly prayer guide forms part of **For the Least Reached: A Year of Prayer**, our one-year prayer initiative.

Each month we unite with the body of Christ in prayer for one least-reached country around the world. Many of the people in these countries have never heard the message of the gospel, or it's difficult for them to learn about Jesus or worship Him.

Learn more at jesusfilm.org/pray.



- Bangladesh*
- China*
- Egypt*
- India*
- Iran*
- Indonesia*
- Japan*
- Pakistan*
- Russia*
- Thailand*
- Turkey*
- Vietnam*

Nearly

75%

of all the world's unreached people—a whopping 3.6 billion people—live in the 12 countries that we will pray for this year.

WELCOME TO

Indonesia!



Our first month's "assignment" is on behalf of the country of Indonesia. This sprawling nation is home to 275 million individuals across thousands of islands.



Indonesia is centrally-located along ancient trading routes between the Far East, South Asia and the Middle East, resulting in much diversity.

Did you know?

▶ The width of Indonesia is wider than the width of the continental United States.



▶ Indonesia has 147 volcanoes—76 of which are active.

▶ Indonesia is home to the world's largest flower, called *Rafflesia arnoldii* or the "corpse lily."

▶ Indonesia is the largest Islamic country in the world—over 87% of the population identifies as Muslim.

▶ There are an astounding 300 local languages and over 500 dialects spoken across Indonesia.

▶ Indonesia is the only place on Earth where we can observe the Komodo dragon in the wild!



Praying for Indonesia

At Jesus Film Project®, we want everyone to have access to the message of the gospel in a language they can understand, preferably their heart language—the language they learned as a child. It’s the language we all understand better than any other language. We think, dream and pray in that language.

Our mission is to record the *JESUS* film into every heart language around the world, and to provide films, short films, tools and strategies in as many languages as possible so that everyone can know Him. Currently, *JESUS* is in more than 2,016 languages. There are approximately 7,000 known languages in the world. Indonesia’s hundreds of languages and dialects fall into that list.

While the facts on the previous page give you a glimpse at the vastness of Indonesia and its diversity, we hope as you read through this guide you’ll also get a sense of the Indonesian people’s need for the gospel, for a Savior and for hope. Use this prayer guide to pray with us for the people groups in Indonesia who have yet to hear Jesus speak their language, for their physical and spiritual needs, and for the ministry leaders, missionaries and everyday believers working to help them hear the good news.

Thank you for linking arms with us in prayer.

Lucinda Mason

Jesus Film Project
Prayer Mobilization, Team Leader



Week 1: January 1-7, 2023



*"All the nations You have made will come and worship before You, Lord;
they will bring glory to Your name."*

— Psalm 86:9, New International Version

Week 1 Requests



Day 1

According to recent census data, Indonesians claim the following religions: 87% Muslim, 9.8% Christian, just under 2% Hindu and 1% Buddhist. This makes Indonesia the largest Islamic country in the world. Pray that God would open the hearts of the people, no matter their religious background, and give them a hunger to know God personally.

Day 2

The country's hundreds of local languages and dialects make reaching Indonesians in their heart language very challenging. Pray for accurate translations in the many Bible and Christian materials in progress.

Day 3

New believers from a majority-religion background often face rejection and persecution from their communities. They can also find it difficult to fit into Christian culture and churches. Pray for whole households to come to Christ and to follow Christ within their own culture.

Day 4

The country of Indonesia is made of 17,408 islands, and one, the island of Sulawesi, has over 110 people groups. Conflict exists between some of these groups. Pray for Christians among them to yield to God's Spirit in reshaping their perspective of their fellow islanders as in need of Christ. Pray that all would clearly see the love and kindness of Jesus and respond positively.

Day 5

Indonesia is home to 165 million people under the age of 30—out of a total population of 275 million. Pray for creative strategies to reach this youthful population with the gospel.

Day 6

Pray this verse for every Christian in Indonesia:

"Teach me Your way, Lord, that I may rely on Your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear Your name." — Psalm 86:11, NIV

Add names or whole groups of people into the verse to make it more specific. For example: "Lord, teach Christians in Indonesia what You want them to do. May they rely on You. Teach them to fear (respect) You completely."

Day 7

Pray for anti-trafficking organizations across the country to reach their communities with practical help and the love of Christ in a tactful and culturally-sensitive way.

Week 2: January 8-14, 2023



"Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."

— John 1:12, NIV

Week 2 Requests



□ Day 8

Over half of the landmass of Indonesia's many islands is covered in forests. This proves challenging as Christians work to give everyone a chance to meet Jesus. May God give His wisdom in how to reach each island with His good news.

□ Day 9

Praise God that the Indonesian church continues to grow amidst intense opposition. Pray for more spiritually mature leaders. There are many new lay leaders and pastors in need of discipleship and training.

□ Day 10

In the verse below, the writer Paul clearly encourages us to pray for everyone. Let's pray for every Indonesian person to know what is true and be saved!

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people ... This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." — 1 Timothy 2: 1, 3-4

□ Day 11

Java has the largest population of any Indonesian island. Praise God that the church on Java continues to grow! Pray for peace between the religious groups there. More recently, Christians have been pressured by more restrictive laws and the destruction of their property. These changes have actually brought Christians of many traditions together for prayer, worship and mutual support. May the love among them attract many majority-religion followers to Christ, despite the challenges they may face. This is a time of harvest!

□ Day 12

There are more than 700 ethnic languages in Indonesia and only 10% have portions of the Bible in their heart language. Pray that God would raise up Indonesian believers to do translation work. Pray that teams are able to live among the unreached people groups and learn the culture and languages in preparation for Bible translation.


□ Day 13

Pray that God would raise up Indonesian leaders who strive for justice and who lead the people with wisdom and compassion, both at the national and regional levels.

□ Day 14

Areas like Sulawesi, Sumatra, West Timor and Maluku have had Christian populations for centuries. However, many of the denominations that represent them lack a healthy spiritual life. They struggle with immorality, divisions and even indigenous occult practices. Pray for revival and a return to true biblical faith.

Week 3: January 15-21, 2023



“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.”

— John 14:16-17, NIV

Week 3 Requests



□ Day 15

Pray for God's continued work in West Papua, where over 90% of Indigenous peoples are Christian! They still face tribal differences, mixing of religious traditions, and opposition to their faith. Ask that the Papuan people would be a blessing to their nation and that the government would treat them fairly.

□ Day 16

There are businesses in Indonesia that use deception to attract and traffick vulnerable migrant workers. Pray that this deception would be exposed by a widespread effort across Indonesia to shut down these businesses. May freedom and hope be restored to those whose lives have been hurt.

□ Day 17

Pray that many will see and respond to Christian social media posts and ads that spark their interest in who Jesus really is.

□ Day 18

Pray that Christian organizations would seek and follow God's wisdom on how to teach about Jesus in a tactful way when speaking to someone in the majority religion.

□ Day 19

Join us in praying this prayer written by Paul for the Christians in Ephesus. Today, pray this for Christians in Indonesia.

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better." — Ephesians 1:17, NIV


□ Day 20

Pray for organizations willing to offer Indonesian farmers with more options for farming, such as organic farming, to be welcomed into certain regions of the country. Pray that this fresh skill for many helps provide the people with more food and a reliable income.

□ Day 21

Pray for a reduction in the demand for prostitution within Indonesia. May men and women grow in their respect for one another and their bodies.

Week 4: January 22-28, 2023

A young man with dark hair, wearing a white button-down shirt, is looking towards an older man. The older man has grey hair, a goatee, and is wearing glasses and a blue patterned shirt. He is sitting at a desk with a laptop, looking at the screen. A cup of coffee is on the desk in front of him. The background is a softly lit room with a white shelving unit.

*"May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face shine on us—
so that Your ways may be known on earth,
Your salvation among all nations."*

— Psalm 67:1-2, NIV

Week 4 Requests



□ Day 22

Sumatra is the largest unevangelized island on earth. Most of its people groups follow the majority religion. Others practice a folk version of the majority religion. Many spiritual strongholds stand in the way of reaching them. Pray for Christians to reach beyond their own ethnic groups and witness to the non-Christian peoples around them.

□ Day 23

Join us in praying that all Indonesian Christians will faithfully read the Bible, learn what God wants them to do, then do it:

“And may your hearts be fully committed to the Lord our God, to live by His decrees and obey His commands, as at this time.” – 1 Kings 8:61, NIV

□ Day 24

New safe houses for women and children are being opened in Indonesia to give a home to women and children experiencing or who have experienced abuse or trafficking.. Pray for those in the homes to experience emotional healing, learn practical life skills, and to begin a relationship with Jesus, as many currently follow the majority religion.

□ Day 25

Approximately 132 million people make up the seven largest people groups in Indonesia. Pray that God would soften their hearts to His truth, and for opportunities for the gospel to reach those among them who haven't heard it.

□ Day 26

Pray for people in Indonesia who are suffering from illnesses to get the medical care they need. Pray that God would raise up more Christians in the medical field to meet spiritual needs in addition to physical needs.

□ Day 27

Bible translators hope to begin translation work soon for 30 people groups who live in hard-to-reach places, isolated by heavy jungles and mountainous terrain. Pray for God's provision of people, equipment and resources for this project.

□ Day 28

The Indigenous peoples of Kalimantan (the southern part of the island of Borneo) speak around 80 different languages and many dialects. Christians are a majority in many groups, and a sizable minority in others. Christian leaders need training, but the isolation, spiritual opposition and lack of scriptures in Indigenous languages slow down development. Praise God that new models of Scripture translating and storying are accelerating this process significantly in many languages.



Week 5 Requests

□ Day 29

Pray for programs that train both children and educators on the dangers of human trafficking and the tactics of traffickers. Pray that Jesus would protect vulnerable young people from this threat.

□ Day 30

Ask God to reveal Himself to many Indonesians as they prepare to celebrate the Ramadan holiday in March and April. May He use dreams, visions, His creation and Christians in their sphere to help them discover who He truly is.

□ Day 31

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Indonesia each day this month. 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 Indonesians who started to follow Jesus in part due to our prayers this month. We give you all honor and praise.



Resources

You can see these requests and others in our [Prayer Experience](#), a web based app.

The Joshua Project has a tremendous amount of information about every country. This link will take you to Indonesia. <https://joshuaproject.net/countries/ID>

PrayerCast has great prayer videos: <https://www.prayercast.com/indonesia.html>

A great way to help someone learn more about Jesus is to share the *JESUS* Film in their heart language. We have over 2,016 languages available on our website. <https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html/english.html>

We also have multiple other films and short videos available. <https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch.html>

For more Jesus Film Project® prayer resources—including access to each month’s family prayer guide—visit the prayer page on the Jesus film Project website: <https://www.jesusfilm.org/partners/resources/pray/>



The Jesus Film Project app is completely free and available on iOS and Android devices. Get the app now and start watching and sharing a huge library of Jesus-centered films.



Each month we will focus on a different least-reached country. Many of the people in these countries have never heard the message of the gospel, or it's difficult for them to learn about Jesus or worship Him. Nearly 75% of all the world's unreached people—a whopping 3.6 billion people—live in the 12 countries that we will pray for this year.

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