

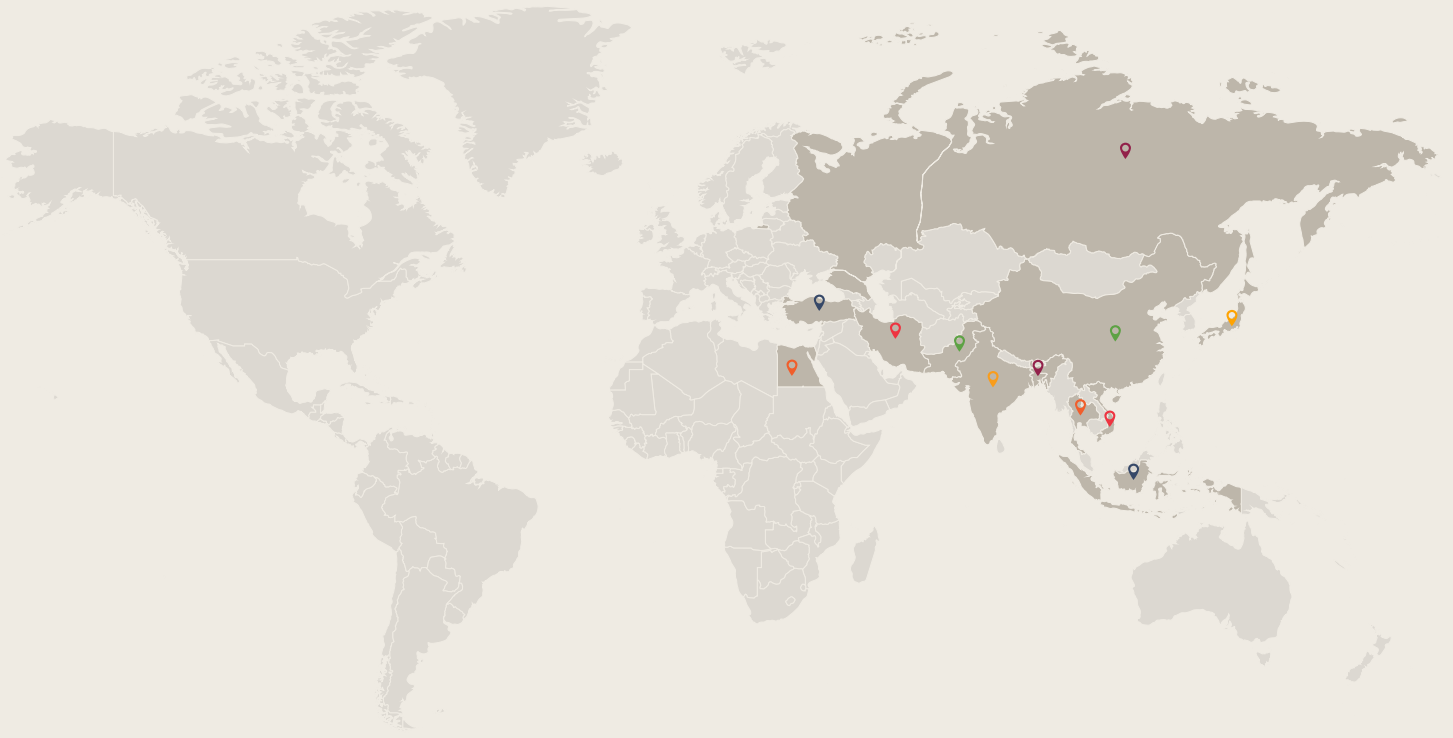
Family Guide

March 2023
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



A One-Year Prayer Adventure!

Using this handy family guide, we will travel to a faraway country every month, learn about its people and culture and pray for them. We will focus on a different least-reached country in every guide. There are 12 countries total so there are 12 family guides in 2023—one for every month.

Why do we call these countries “least reached”? Many of the people in these countries have never heard about Jesus, or it’s difficult for them to hear about Him. Even though you won’t get on a plane to each country, when you pray, you join our adventure—our mission to make a difference in the lives of the people in each country.

The best part is you’ll always know what to pray for. This family guide gives you a prayer request for every day of the week. Moms, dads and kids everywhere will be praying for the same thing together too. Let’s get started by learning about this month’s country.

WELCOME TO Bangladesh!



Bangladesh is a small country that has a lot of people. One way to measure this is called population density. It takes the total population and computes how many people live per square mile. Bangladesh has 2,972 people per square mile. The United States has only 91 people per square mile. Work with your parents to walk or drive a square mile around your home. Now, imagine that 2,972 people live in just that space.



From 1947 to its independence in 1971, the land that is now Bangladesh belonged to Pakistan, a country 1100 miles to the west!

Fun Facts About Bangladesh



Bangladesh is home to a beautiful seaside town, Cox's Bazaar, with the longest unbroken sandy beach in the world. Do you like going to the beach?



Most people do not smile in Bangladesh. This has nothing to do with unfriendliness but rather is related to the fact that a serious face is believed to demonstrate maturity. Do you have any friends or family from other countries who use different facial expressions than you do?

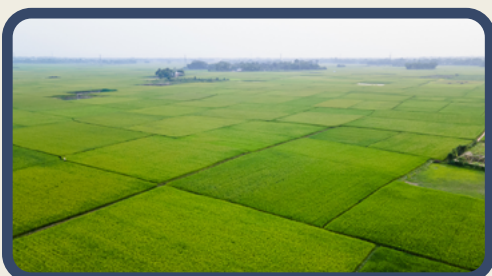


The endangered clouded leopard lives in southeastern Bangladesh. It is a talented climber and can climb down a vertical tree trunk head first! Its tail is, roughly 87% as long as its body and is used for climbing and balance.

Muslim Population



Bangladesh has the fourth largest Muslim population in the world after Indonesia, Pakistan and India.



The main occupation in Bangladesh is farming. What's your favorite farm animal?

Ready to pray for the people of Bangladesh?

Thank you for joining us as we visit a least-reached country each month. Bangladesh is our new focus. Last month I talked about the importance of making a plan to have a regular time to pray each day. How is that going?

Sometimes when we have a list of requests, like this guide provides, prayer can seem more like a simple task to check off, another item on your to-do list, or like a homework assignment.

But prayer is so much more than that. These requests came from Christians in Bangladesh so we can pray specifically for issues and concerns they face. As we take time to pray, we are connecting with our Heavenly Father who has the ability to answer every single request. He clearly has the power to meet needs and change peoples' hearts—that's what "omnipotent" means.

Even though God is also omniscient, which means He already knows each of these requests, and billions more, He wants us to show our dependence on Him by bringing them to Him in prayer. On our own, we can't do anything to answer these requests. Yet, as we pray for each of these requests, we are joining hands with our brothers and sisters in Christ who live in Bangladesh.

If praying through these requests seems too routine, or even boring, ask God to show you how important this is. Look at the photos of Bangladeshis in this guide and imagine sitting beside them as you talk with our all-powerful God about the request. You can even picture in Your mind how He can answer that request.

Your 2023 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: March 1-7, 2023

“The Lord is not slow in doing what He promised—the way some people understand slowness. But God is being patient with you. He does not want anyone to be lost. He wants everyone to change his heart and life.”

— 2 Peter 3:9, International Children’s Bible



Week 1 Prayers



■ Day 1

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.

■ Day 2

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.

■ Day 3

Pray that Bangladeshi people who do not yet know Jesus would recognize Him for who He is and see their need for Him.

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way. And I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through Me.’” — John 14:6, ICB

■ Day 4

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.

■ Day 5

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.

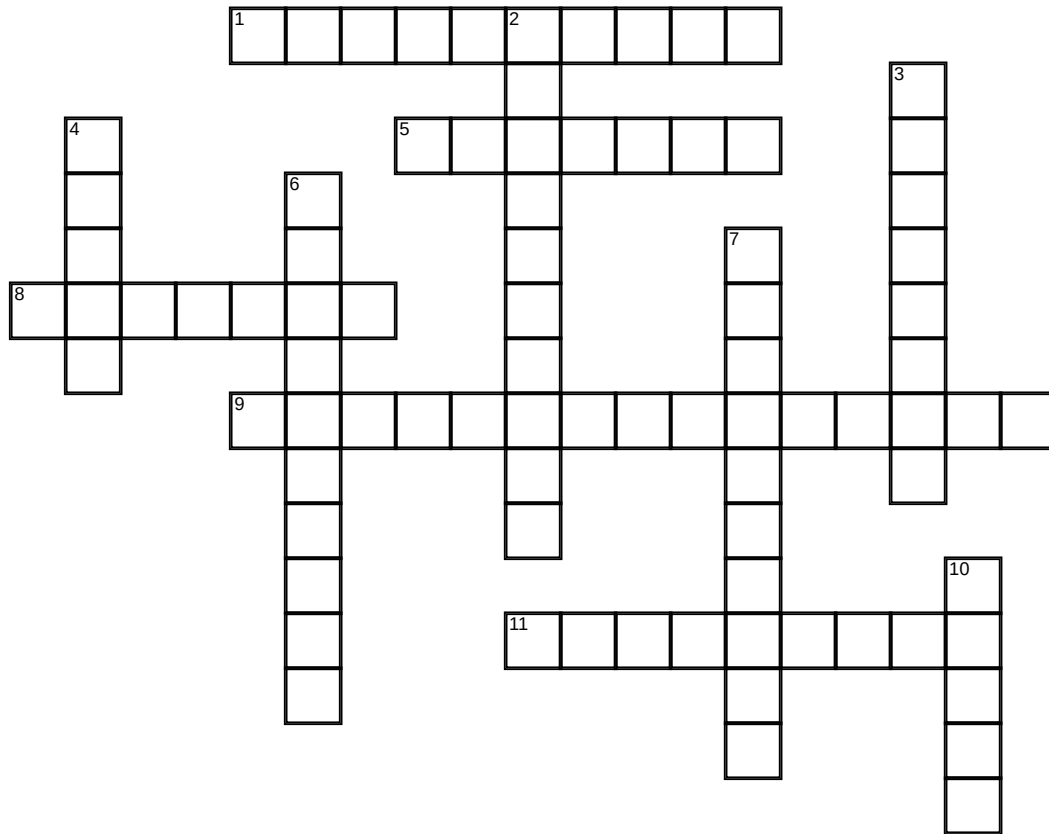
■ Day 6

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.

■ Day 7

Movies that tell the true story about Jesus are a good way to reach those who don’t yet know Him. Ask Jesus to show Himself to Bangladeshi men, women and children through movies this year, so they know that He is good, He loves them very much and wants to be their friend.

Week 1 Activity: Crossword



Across

- 1 God is all powerful
- 5 Number of people per square mile
- 8 Main occupation in Bangladesh
- 9 A popular animal in Bangladesh. See coloring page.
- 11 We are on a One-year Prayer _____

Down

- 2 God knows everything
- 3 Bangladesh was a part of this country from 1947- 1971
- 4 Majority religion in this country
- 6 This month's country
- 7 When we pray, we place our ____ on God
- 10 Bangladesh has the longest unbroken sandy _____

WORD LIST:

ADVENTURE
BANGLADESH
BEACH

CLOUDED_LEOPARD
DENSITY
DEPENDENCE

FARMING
ISLAM
OMNIPOTENT

OMNISCIENT
PAKISTAN

02

Week 2: March 8-14, 2023

"Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads. I will give you rest."

— Matthew 11:28, ICB



Week 2 Prayers



■ Day 8

Pray for Christian workers to love God with their whole heart as they bring the good news of Jesus to the people of Bangladesh.

■ Day 9

Using Scripture is great to pray for yourself, your family and friends, not just for people far away. Pray this for every Christian in Bangladesh:

"You were raised from death with Christ. So aim at what is in heaven, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Think only about the things in heaven, not the things on earth." — Colossians 3:1-2, ICB

■ Day 10

Pray that all the leaders of Bangladesh will find ways to work together for the good of the country and its people.

■ Day 11

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

■ Day 12

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.

■ Day 13

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.

■ Day 14

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

Week 2 Activity: Coloring Page

Clouded Leopard



03

Week 3: March 15-21, 2023

“For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son. God gave His Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life.”

— John 3:16, ICB



Week 3 Prayers



■ Day 15

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.

■ Day 16

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

■ Day 17

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.

■ Day 18

Like a good shepherd takes care of his sheep, pray that Christian leaders in Bangladesh would be good shepherds to God's people.

■ Day 19

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.

■ Day 20

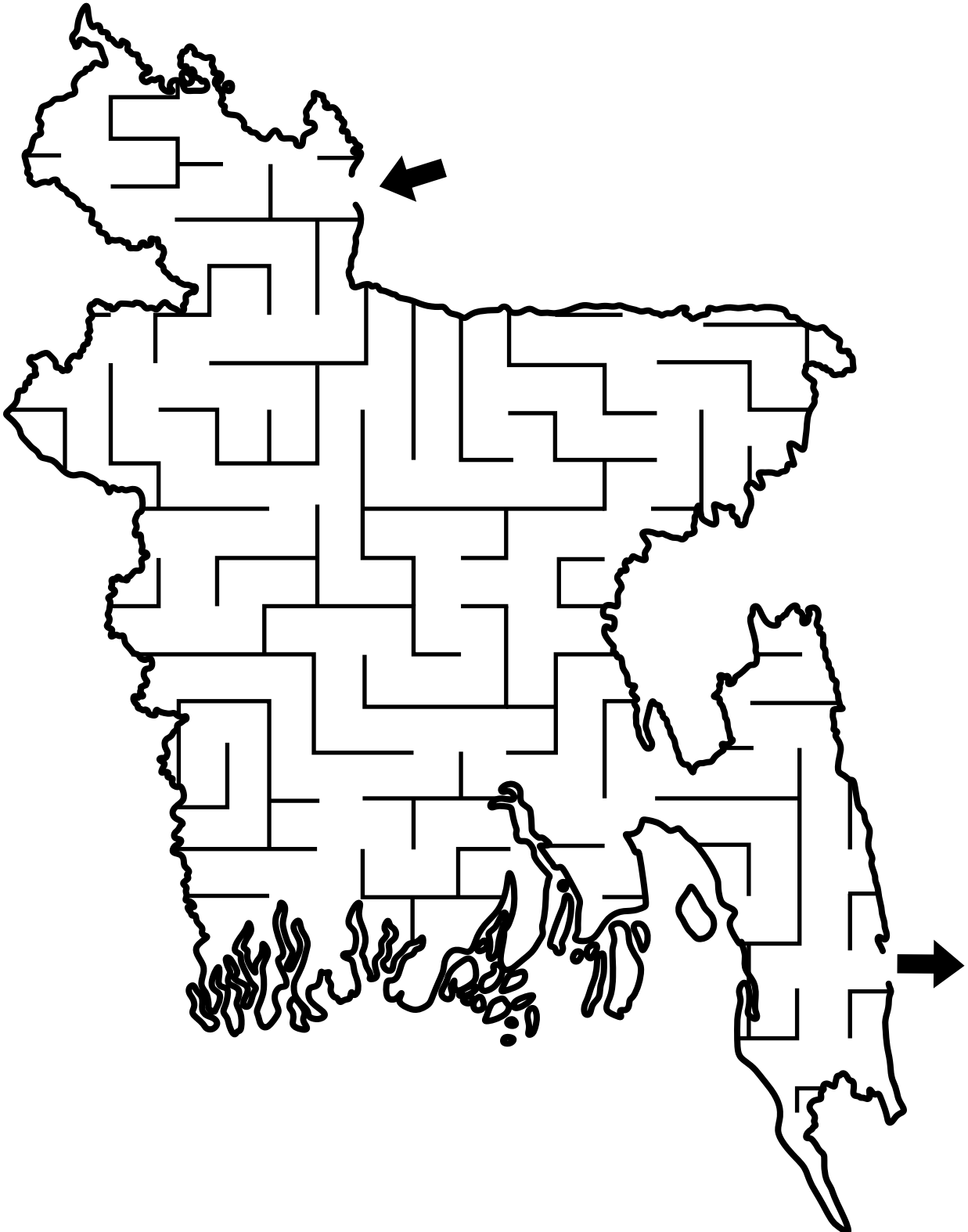
Pray for God's Spirit to guide Christian workers and worker teams as they join God in the work He is doing in Bangladesh.

■ Day 21

The Bible teaches us that we have an enemy (the devil) who wants to keep Christians from trusting God. God wants us to stay close to Him and let Him fight for us. The Christians in Bangladesh need to do this as well, so join me in praying God's word for them.

“Control yourselves and be careful! The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to eat. Refuse to give in to the devil. Stand strong in your faith. ...” — 1 Peter 5:8-9, ICB

Week 3 Activity: Bangladesh Map Maze



*“All the earth should worship the Lord.
The whole world should fear Him.”*

– Psalm 33:8, ICB



Week 4 Prayers



■ Day 22

Those who are chosen to be pastors are to be especially sensitive and obedient to God’s Spirit who lives inside them. Pastors are His examples to people and teachers of how Jesus wants people to live. Pray that Bangladeshi pastors keep on learning to live and lead well.

■ Day 23

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!

■ Day 24

Pray that Christian websites in Bangladesh would be safe places for people to learn about God and help make His name known.

■ Day 25

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.

■ Day 26

God wants every Bangladeshi to understand what Jesus did for them. For this to happen, we need Christians to go tell them. Let’s pray for that.

“But before people can trust in the Lord for help, they must believe in Him. And before they can believe in the Lord, they must hear about Him. And for them to hear about the Lord, someone must tell them, he must be sent. It is written, ‘How beautiful is the person who comes to bring good news.’” – Romans 10:14–15, ICB

■ Day 27

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.

■ Day 28

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

Week 4 Activity: Word Search

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

WORD LIST:

ADVENTURE

CLOUDEDLEOPARD

FARMING

OMNISCIENT

BANGLADESH

DENSITY

ISLAM

PAKISTAN

BEACH

DEPENDENCE

OMNIPOTENT



Week 5 Prayers



■ Day 29

Easter is coming! That's the day we celebrate Jesus—when He died on the cross for our sins and came alive again to offer everyone a brand new life with Him. We want Bangladeshis to know this! Pray that as they watch movies about the life of Jesus on TV this Easter, many people will trust Him as their Savior.

■ Day 30

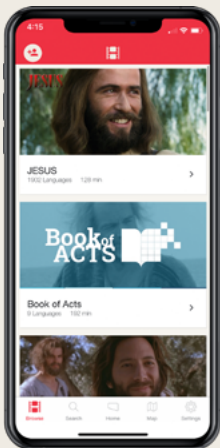
Pray for Christian leaders to help their people grow a strong faith and desire to join God in the work He's doing in Bangladesh.

■ Day 31

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Bangladesh 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 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 2,016 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>
- ▶ 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.



This family guide is part of For the Least Reached: A Year of Prayer—a one-year prayer initiative created by Jesus Film Project®. It's a great way for families to pray together for countries and people in the world who still don't know love, hope and forgiveness in Jesus. A new family guide is available every month.

Learn more at jesusfilm.org/pray.

