

# 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 September 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](https://jesusfilm.org/pray).



- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Bangladesh</i> | <i>Japan</i>    |
| <i>China</i>      | <i>Pakistan</i> |
| <i>Egypt</i>      | <i>Russia</i>   |
| <i>India</i>      | <i>Thailand</i> |
| <i>Iran</i>       | <i>Turkey</i>   |
| <i>Indonesia</i>  | <i>Vietnam</i>  |

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 China!



This month Chinese people all over the world celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. Families celebrate by gathering during this time each year when the moon is full. It symbolizes wholeness or completeness. Pray that Christians in China will share Christ with their family members, so they may know the One who made the moon!



## Did you know?

- ▶ China is the oldest continuous major world civilization, with records dating back about 3,500 years.
- ▶ 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit. The Chinese believe each year's "adopted" animal holds spiritual significance.
- ▶ As of September 2020, China was the most populated country in the world with over 1.4 billion people. India's population is expected to surpass it sometime in 2023.
- ▶ The Chinese language is the oldest written language still in use in the world.
- ▶ While basketball is China's most popular sport, ping-pong is the country's official national ball game.



# Praying for China

We have the privilege to pray for China this month.

ACTS is the name of the fifth book in the New Testament, but its letters also spell out the name for a method of prayer. This prayer method was first taught in 1883, and it is still practiced today. The ACTS prayer is a good way to keep us focused during our prayer times. We will learn more about this prayer method over the next four months.

Here's how ACTS prayer guides our time with God. The A stands for "adoration": we begin by celebrating who He is. The C is for "confession": next, we repent of the sin in our life. The next letter is T, which stands for "thanksgiving": we express our thankfulness to Him for all He has done. The final letter is S, which stands for "supplication," also known as "asking": we bring our requests to Him.

This month we will focus on the first part: adoration, or as I like to call it, "celebrating God." Celebrating is praising God for who He is. Note the difference between celebrating and thanksgiving: thanksgiving is thanking God for what He's done, which comes later in the ACTS prayer.

Celebrating God helps us remember how great our God is, and it helps quiet our minds. It is common for a person's thoughts to wander during prayer. When that happens, stop and ask God to help you focus. Here are some verses that I use to celebrate our wonderful God.

*"Because your love is better than life,  
my lips will glorify you.  
I will praise you as long as I live,  
and in your name I will lift up my hands."*  
—Psalms 63: 3-4, New International Version

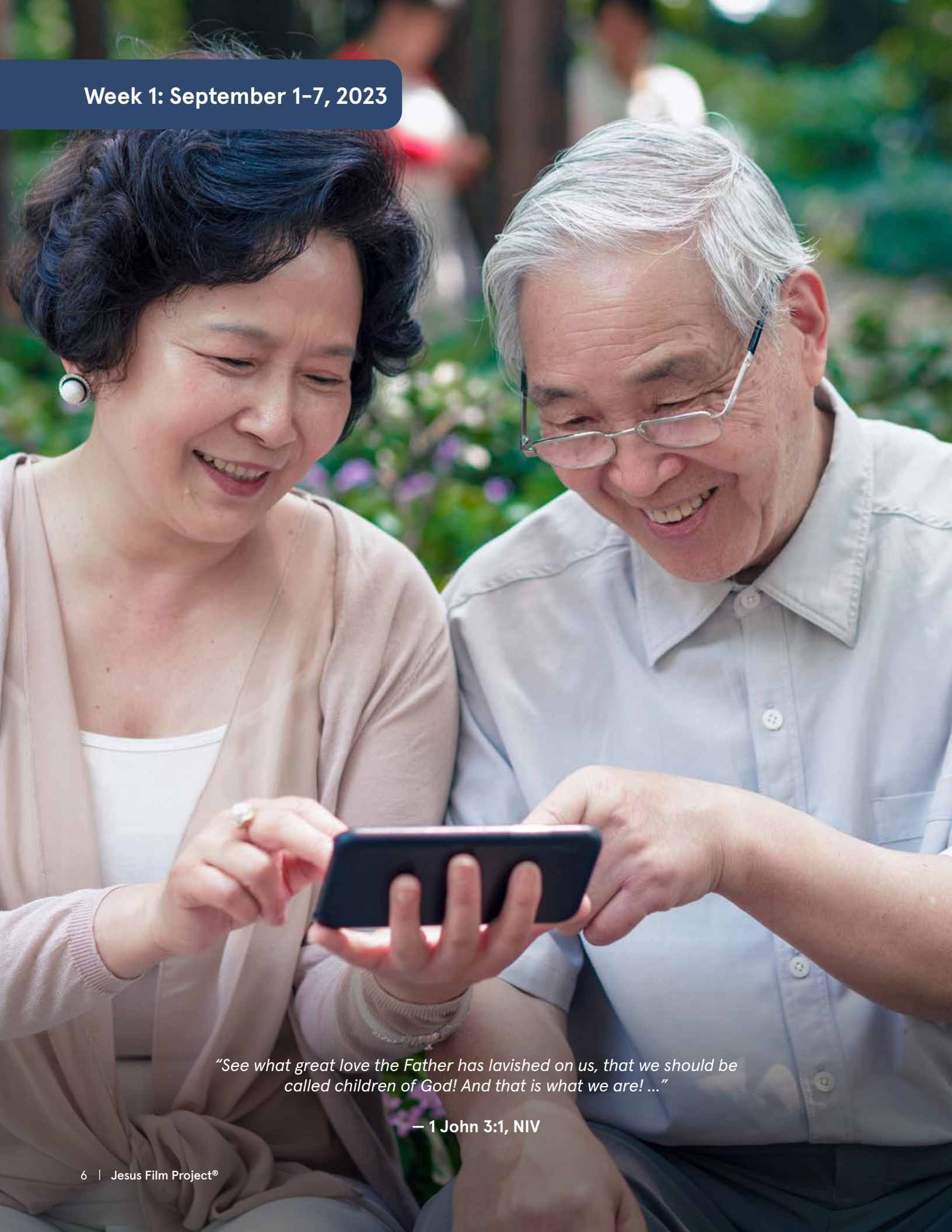
*"I will exalt you, my God the King;  
I will praise your name for ever and ever.  
Every day I will praise you  
and extol your name for ever and ever.  
Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
his greatness no one can fathom."*  
—Psalms 145: 1-3, NIV

*Lucinda Mason*

Jesus Film Project  
Prayer Mobilization, Team Leader



Week 1: September 1-7, 2023



*"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! ..."*

— 1 John 3:1, NIV



# Week 1 Prayers

- Day 1** China is home to hundreds of different ethnic groups. Pray for good relationships between different ethnic groups and a willingness to resolve conflicts. Pray that God will raise up churches and Christians to be peacemakers and bring reconciliation.
- Day 2** While many Chinese people don't believe in the God of the Bible, a number of them do follow other major world religions. In fact, 21% of Chinese nationals practice traditional ethnic religions. Pray that they will come to know Jesus Christ and worship Him alone.
- Day 3** Pray for Chinese churches to creatively engage with people who are lonely, marginalized and broken. Pray that churches will work together to serve others as Jesus did.
- Day 4** For all of us, 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 China would be thankful to God as this verse describes:  
  
*"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. ...You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, and I will exalt You. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." — Psalm 118:1, 28-29, NIV*
- Day 5** There are many small people groups who have not heard about Jesus, most of which are in remote places of China. Please pray that the Chinese church would continue their efforts to reach these groups. Pray for increased wisdom, faith, resources and awareness to accomplish this task.
- Day 6** Pray that children, especially those between the ages of 4-14, will recognize their need for Jesus. Pray they will seek Him and choose to put their trust in Him. Pray that God will use Sunday schools and youth ministries to train them into the next generation of Christian leaders.
- Day 7** Pray for churches in China to flourish according to God's will above all, in spite of setbacks. Pray for strong community bonds to grow between believers across the nation.

Week 2: September 8-14, 2023

*"All the ends of the earth  
will remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
will bow down before Him,  
for dominion belongs to the Lord  
and He rules over the nations."*

— Psalm 22:27-28, NIV





# Week 2 Prayers

## Day 8

Pray for Christian churches in China to grow and thrive. Pray that all pastors and evangelists unify together, and remain obedient to God. Pray that all Christians commit themselves to God and serve Him in every aspect of their lives.

## Day 9

Pray for Chinese people to look 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 you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light"* (NIV).

## Day 10

Although the majority of Chinese people don't believe in any god, many practice ethnic religions. One particular major religion is growing in popularity. Pray that all Chinese people will have the opportunity to learn about Jesus, what He's done for them and how they can know Him. Pray that believers in China are able to reach everyone across the nation with the truth of the gospel.

## Day 11

Pray for the pastors and Christians who are under pressure because of their faith. Pray that God will strengthen them in enduring hardship, even at great cost. Pray that God will use their stories of faith to grow His kingdom.

## Day 12

Pray for the education system of China to be transformed to acknowledge the existence of God and His design of the world. Pray that children will learn that they are loved by God, created by Him, and that He has a special purpose for their life. Pray they are taught to have good moral character, and raised up in the ways of Jesus.

## Day 13

Pray for seminary education for Christians. Pray that God will provide high quality professors and theologians to train up excellent pastors and evangelists. Pray that churches will communicate well with seminaries.

## Day 14

Pray that medical staff in hospitals and elsewhere would be well-trained and equipped to take good care of their patients. Pray for more development in primary health care. Pray that God will provide chaplains in all hospitals who will point patients and caretakers to the hope, love and comfort that the Lord provides.

Week 3: September 15-21, 2023

*“He who forms the mountains,  
who creates the wind,  
and who reveals His thoughts to mankind,  
who turns down to darkness,  
and treads on the heights of the earth—  
the Lord God Almighty is His name.”*

— Amos 4:13, NIV



# Week 3 Prayers

- Day 15** Pray for more church communities to form among business people, those in the entertainment and mass media industries, in education and in government, around cultural interests and in families. Pray that Christians in these communities would be trained in discipleship and leadership to multiply new churches.
- Day 16** Pray for a stable supply of food—rice, meat, vegetables—for those across the country in need. May they come to trust God as their provider.
- Day 17** Pray for Chinese Christians in mass media circles to be bold in speaking the truth about Jesus. Pray that churches will use technology to share the gospel, to encourage Christian community and to mentor fellow Christians.
- Day 18** Pray government leaders and officials would govern with biblical principles of truth and justice and seek to serve the common good of all people. Pray that they will truly fear God and humble themselves in His sight.
- Day 19** Pray that those who are enduring tremendous hardship for following Christ would be strengthened and encouraged by the Holy Spirit. Pray that their suffering would lead others to trust Jesus.
- Day 20** Pray this for every Christian in China:  
*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”* — Philippians 4:6-7, NIV
- Day 21** Pray that Christian men and women would have healthy physical, social and spiritual lives. Pray that they always draw close to God, seeking to be right with Him. Pray these believers will follow the command found in James 4:7-8 to cleanse their hands and purify their hearts.

Week 4: September 22-28, 2023



*"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb..."*

— Revelation 7:9, NIV



# Week 4 Prayers

- Day 22** Pray that China's relationships with other countries be peaceful and diplomatic, benefiting each country and its people. Pray that positive relationships would bring much blessing and transformation to China. Pray that international relations would open up new avenues for Christians to share the gospel.
- Day 23** Pray that Chinese creatives will develop entertainment that shares the gospel and brings glory to God. Pray that students in entertainment colleges will put their trust in Jesus and follow Him.
- Day 24** Pray for Christians parents, that they will always communicate unconditional love to their kids through their actions, and encourage them in positive ways. Pray that they will pray for their children and seek God's guidance in their parenting journey.
- Day 25** Pray that Christian gatherings in China would follow Paul's instructions from this Bible verse:  
  
*"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."* – Colossians 3:16, NIV
- Day 26** Pray that each family unit will be built on biblical principles. Pray that married couples will prioritize their relationship with one another. Pray that Christian parents would model God's design for families and nurture strong relationships with their kids.
- Day 27** Pray for all Christian singles. Pray that they will commit their lives to God by remaining faithful to Him and His desire for them. Pray that they will hold biblical perspectives for their future spouses and families.
- Day 28** Pray that Chinese business professionals will pay fair wages and model Christ-like behavior to their employees. Pray that God would be glorified through all their business practices.



Week 5: September 29–30, 2023

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# Week 5 Prayers

## Day 29

Today (September 29), Chinese people all over the world will celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. Families get together each year during this time when the moon is full. It symbolizes wholeness or completeness. Pray that Christians will share Christ with family members so they may know the One who made the moon!

## Day 30

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for China 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 Chinese people 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.

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

Prayercast has great prayer videos: <https://www.prayercast.com/china.html>

A great way to help someone learn more about Jesus is to share the *JESUS* film in their heart language. We have over 2,000 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: [jesusfilm.org/pray](https://jesusfilm.org/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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