

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 October 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.



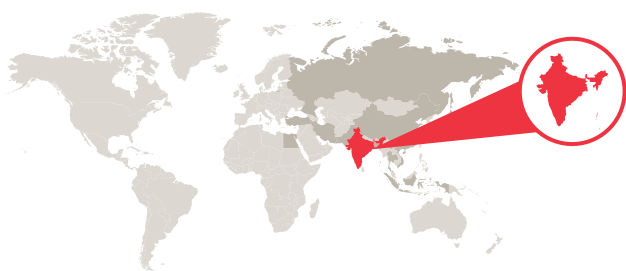
- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Bangladesh</i> | <i>Japan</i> |
| <i>China</i> | <i>Pakistan</i> |
| <i>Egypt</i> | <i>Russia</i> |
| <i>India</i> | <i>Thailand</i> |
| <i>Iran</i> | <i>Turkey</i> |
| <i>Indonesia</i> | <i>Vietnam</i> |

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 India!



India's vibrant colors, immense crowds and overpowering smells captivate all who visit. India's population of 1.42 billion people means it has surpassed China as the most populated country in the world. It is home to 2,500 distinct people groups who speak more than 1,600 different languages and dialects. One-third of the world's unreached people groups live here. Pray that the glory of the knowledge of the Lord will cover India as the waters cover the sea.



India is the 7th largest country (by area) in the world. India is bordered by Afghanistan and Pakistan to the North-West, China, Bhutan and Nepal to the North, Myanmar to the far East and Bangladesh to the East. Sri Lanka (from the South-East) and Maldives (from the South-West) are two countries with water borders.

Did you know?

▶ Hindi is the official language of India. We have films and resources in 263 of the languages spoken in India. Share one with a friend using the [Jesus Film Project® app](#).

▶ According to worldometers.info, India has now surpassed China as the most populous nation in the world. India's population of 1,429,469,757 is increasing, while China's population of 1,425,639,528 is slowly decreasing.

▶ Many in India revere cows as sacred. As a result, cows are protected by India's Constitution; Over 6 million cows roam free in cities, on the roads and across the country.

▶ India was the first country to mine diamonds. In fact, until 1726, India was the world's only source of diamonds.

▶ India is known for its delicious food, like biryani: a dish of long-grained rice flavored with fragrant spices such as saffron and layered with lamb, chicken, fish, or vegetables and a thick gravy.



Praying for India

India, which recently passed China in population, is our focus this month. We have a lot to pray for but let's start with another brief lesson about the ACTS method of prayer.

Last month we focused on the first letter, "A", which stands for "Adoration." I like to call it "celebrating God." This month we are on "C", which represents "Confession."

"Confession" means we turn from our sins and turn to God for forgiveness.

One good way to illustrate this is to get a piece of paper and specifically write down each of your sins. Next, across the sheet of paper, write the words from 1 John 1:9 (below). Finally, tear up the piece of paper to represent God forgiving each of those sins and thank Him for His forgiveness.

Hebrews 8:12 tells us that God chooses to remember our sin no more. You never have to confess anything from this list again.

*"If we confess our sins,
He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness."
-1 John 1:9, New International Version*

*"For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more."
-Hebrews 8:12, New International Version*

If you missed the September Prayer Guide and the first step of the ACTS prayer method, [click here to see the past Prayer Guides](#), then select China which focuses on "Adoration".

Lucinda Mason

**Jesus Film Project
Prayer Mobilization, Team Leader**



Week 1: October 1-7, 2023

*“There is no one holy like the Lord;
there is no one besides You;
there is no Rock like our God.”*

— 1 Samuel 2:2, New International Version



Week 1 Prayers

- Day 1** Pray that churches in India will experience God's powerful presence in a new way, and that this will lead to many more people choosing to trust and live for Jesus. Pray for believers in India to commit to studying the Bible and living out their faith like never before.
- Day 2** God's Word (the Bible) is a vital part of sharing the gospel. Let's pray for ministries involved in translating God's Word into Indian languages. Pray (a) for more people to join in the Bible translation work; (b) for the resources needed for the translation work; (c) for workers to translate the Bible into all languages so that everyone can read the Bible in their heart language; (d) for everyone who has the Bible in their heart language to read it with an open heart.
- Day 3** Let's pray for Mumbai, the largest city of India, with a population of 21.3 million people. Pray for Christians who are effective and fervent in prayer to rise up across the metropolis. Pray that many people like the Bible's Joseph and Daniel would rise to positions of influence in the city. Pray for authorities to dispense justice fairly and quickly, especially to the poor and marginalized.
- Day 4** Pray for India's media to make truth its highest priority. Pray for greater influence of biblical worldviews in India's newspapers, TV, movies and social media. Pray for Indian believers to engage as writers, artists, and journalists to share the message, person and cause of Christ in a culturally compelling way.
- Day 5** In Luke 10:2 Jesus said, *"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field"* (NIV). Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will raise up laborers (full-time workers, associates, Christian leaders in professional workplaces, lay leaders, etc.) from and for campuses, workplaces, villages, and the digital space.
- Day 6** Pray for all pastors and Christian leaders in India. Pray for their marriages and families, that God will protect them spiritually, physically, and emotionally from evil. Pray they will guide God's people with integrity of heart. Pray also that they would mentor and develop the next generation.
- Day 7** Today, 54% of India's total population is below 25 years of age. Pray the government will effectively equip its working population with employable skills. May God give India's young people passion and a deep-seated purpose for living. May God pour out His Spirit on young people, and may millions of them turn to Him. May this youthful generation rise up to serve God and grow His kingdom.

Week 2: October 8-14, 2023



"The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth."

— Psalm 145:18, NIV



Week 2 Prayers

Day 8

India has more than 600,000 villages, but thousands still lack Christian influence. As many organizations are working to make a positive impact, pray for increased progress as they plant multiplying churches among these villages.

Day 9

Leaders across every spectrum of society play key roles and make influential decisions. Pray they will seek the Lord's wisdom and be fair to every segment of Indian society.

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." – 1 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV

Day 10

Pray that God, the Creator of the Universe, will show the people of India that He is not only powerful, but also loving and knowable, and that He desires a relationship with each one of them.

Day 11

More than half of India's population is under 25 years old. These young people commonly face loneliness, depression, suicidal tendencies, substance abuse and addiction to pornography. Pray God opens their hearts to Him and delivers many millions from their sin. Pray they will find hope and purpose in Jesus.

Day 12

As Jesus captures the hearts of students and calls them to make disciples of all nations, may they go into the world as gospel leaders. Pray that every student among the 55,000 colleges and universities in India would have an opportunity to hear the gospel and begin a relationship with Jesus Christ.


Day 13

Reaching leaders is critical to influencing cultures and bringing a Christ-centered transformation to cities and nations. Pray for Christians in the workplace across India to embrace God's call to professional excellence and to boldly share the good news of Jesus.

Day 14

Researchers estimate over one million children are involved in the sex trade in India. Children between the ages of 5-12 are the most at risk for falling victim to this industry. Pray for a total and complete end to sexual exploitation and human trafficking in India. Pray for the rescue of human trafficking victims, and for God to transform their lives as they come to know His everlasting love.

Week 3: October 15-21, 2023

A man and a woman are sitting together outdoors, looking at a laptop. The woman is wearing a grey and orange sari with floral patterns and a red bindi on her forehead. The man is wearing a light blue checkered shirt and a yellow and pink checkered shawl. They are both smiling and looking at the laptop screen. The background is slightly blurred, showing a building and some greenery.

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones."

— 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13, NIV




Week 3 Prayers

- Day 15** Pray for a new short film series in the works that will help Indians see Jesus' life and miracles portrayed in culturally relevant animation and dialogue. Pray for God to grant wisdom to the script writers and cultural experts working on this project.
- Day 16** The Indian state of Uttar Pradesh is smaller than the U.S. state of Michigan, yet its population is 70% of the entire United States! Uttar Pradesh is home to 191 unreached or unengaged people groups. May God release thousands of laborers to share the gospel and make disciples in this key state. Pray that God would break sinful influence here and that the people would turn to Him. May their hearts and eyes be open to see the glory of Jesus, causing them to put their trust in Him.
- Day 17** Pray for the education system in India. Ask God to inspire teachers to be the best role models who always speak the truth in love to the children who look up to them. May there be excellent educational institutions in India where students learn moral values. Pray that children who are not currently enrolled in schools would have an opportunity to learn.
- Day 18** Pray for the 65 cities in India with more than one million people. Pray for non-governmental organizations (NGOs), pastors, and marketplace leaders to partner together to change the spiritual climate of India, as they address civic, social and infrastructure problems in those cities. Pray that believers would be bold to share their faith with their co-workers in these efforts.
- Day 19** India has the largest cinema industry in the world, producing 1,000 or more movies each year. Pray that those working in the movie industry would have a strong moral compass and desire to use movies to uplift, inspire and unify. Pray that God would reveal Himself to many of those in the industry. Pray that believers in the industry would have a powerful faith story and be able to influence many.
- Day 20** May Indian Christians sense when the Holy Spirit makes them aware of their sin, and be quick to confess and seek forgiveness. May they also realize that God sees them as He sees Jesus: righteous and pure.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." – 1 John 1:9, NIV
- Day 21** Pray for Delhi, India's national capital, nestled in the heart of north-central India. May righteousness and justice prevail in the political, judicial and social arenas of the city and the entire nation. May God raise up many people like the Bible's Daniel, Esther, Nehemiah and Joseph to take up positions of power and influence the country in a righteous way.

Week 4: October 22-28, 2023

A woman wearing a vibrant red headscarf with a gold and jewel-encrusted headband is holding a young child. She is dressed in a green sari with a floral pattern and a red border. The child is wearing a red sleeveless top and blue shorts. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with trees and a clear sky.

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

— Romans 15:5-6, NIV



Week 4 Prayers

- Day 22** Pray that Christians remain faithful in the midst of challenging circumstances. May believers unite and serve together for the good of their communities.
- Day 23** Pray for the church in India to lift up the name of Christ, honoring Him in everything they say and do. May Christians gain a reputation for showing love to a hurting world. Pray for a growing love for God's Word and for believers to walk in wisdom, humility and strength, sharing the good news of Jesus in all its power and truth. Pray for God's power and protection against all evil.
- Day 24** Pray people all across India will hear the gospel and turn to the Lord for salvation.
"Turn to Me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other." – Isaiah 45:22, NIV
- Day 25** Pray that believers will leverage social media and new technologies to build discipleship movements. Pray that an army of digital volunteers will mobilize to invest their time, talent, treasure, and technology to help fulfill the mission to make disciples of all nations. Pray that those who spread the gospel would be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves" as described in Matthew 10:16.
- Day 26** Pray for the healthcare system in India. May healthcare workers turn to God and seek His help. Ask God to provide for the needs of the sick and open their hearts to know Him.
- Day 27** The city of Chennai, on the southeastern coast of India, has been crucial in the traditional, historical, and academic growth of India since the first century. Today, it stands as one of the largest cities in India. Pray that Christian leaders will plant influential churches throughout the metropolis. Pray the power of the gospel will reach and transform all levels of society.
- Day 28** Pray for Christians who have been rejected by family and friends to hold strongly to their faith and find comfort in community with other believers. Pray for God to raise up influential leaders like the apostle Paul from those who do not yet believe in Him. Pray the work of those providing legal aid to suffering believers will be successful.



Week 5: October 29–31, 2023

Week 5 Prayers

Day 29

Pray that Christians would unite in caring for and loving their neighbors, no matter their beliefs. Pray that believers who come from different backgrounds would befriend and share Christ with their neighbors who don't know Him. Pray that God would reveal Himself to those who don't yet know Him, even giving them dreams and visions of Him. Pray for more people to read the Bible and, as a result, accept Jesus as the true Son of God.

Day 30

Kolkata is a megacity with about 15 million people. Less than one percent of those who live in Kolkata are believers. Pray that Christians will strategically approach the way they reach out to unreached people groups. Pray also for justice to prevail and for an end to corruption.

Day 31

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for India 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 Indian 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 India. <https://joshuaproject.net/countries/IN>

Prayercast has great prayer videos: <https://www.prayercast.com/india.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



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.



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