

# Family Guide

Iran



“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 family guides covering 12 countries this year—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 Iran!



Iran is a land with much diversity. Ancient palaces stand side by side with busy modern cities. The country has beautiful mountain ranges, volcanoes and unique deserts.

Many Iranians love traditions and enjoy what's happening now. Our prayer is that they will also accept the love of Jesus and that every Iranian will have a healthy church near them.



Iran is one of the largest countries in the Middle East. It has *lots* of beaches in the south and on the Caspian Sea in the north.

# Fun Facts About Iran



The Bible's book of Esther took place a long time ago in the kingdom of Persia. Today, that part of the world is known as Iran.



Even during ancient times, Iran constructed some amazing things without all the tools that help us nowadays. For example, more than a thousand years ago, Iranians built a way of managing all their water underground, and it is still being used today!



Iran's mountains are spectacularly beautiful with snow that's powdery and perfect for people who love to go skiing.



The city of Nashtifan in Iran is home to some of the world's oldest windmills. As wind blows through the blades, they spin around, making a way to turn grain into flour as they have for almost 1,000 years.



Persians helped spread the game of chess to the Arab world and later to Europe. The Persian word "shah mat" (meaning the king is helpless) is probably where chess players got the term "checkmate."

# Ready to pray for the people of Iran?

What do you think about when you hear the word “prayer”? To pray means to talk with God, just like you talk with your parents or your friends. Take a moment and think about what prayer means to you.

Did you know there are different ways to pray? Here are some different types of prayer:

**Asking God** for something (for yourself or others)—most of the requests in this guide are prayers like this.

*“We can come to God with no doubts. This means that when we ask God for things (and those things agree with what God wants for us), then God cares about what we say.”*

— 1 John 5:14, International Children’s Bible

**Thanking God** for something specific

*“Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever.”*

— 1 Chronicles 16:34, ICB

**Praising God** for who He is

*“Lord, my God, I will praise You with all my heart. I will honor Your name forever.”*

— Psalm 86:12, ICB

**Confessing** what we have done wrong

*“But if we confess our sins, He will forgive our sins. We can trust God. He does what is right. He will make us clean from all the wrongs we have done.”*

— 1 John 1:9, ICB

**Listening** to what He wants to say to you (especially when we ask for Him to guide us)

*“But if any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. God is generous. He enjoys giving to all people, so God will give you wisdom.”*

— James 1:5, ICB

**Praying Scripture**—We included one Scripture prayer per week in this guide.

When you pray, do you rely on just one or two of these types of prayer? It’s very easy to fall into that habit. Since prayer is simply talking with God, each kind of prayer is important. As you keep walking with God, try to pray each kind of prayer as you go about your day.

Throughout this guide, you’ll find a prayer request for each day of the month. This lets you pray for the needs that our ministry partners around the world have shared with us. What a privilege to join together, united in our desire to see God move in Iran for His glory and the furtherance of the gospel.

Your 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](mailto:prayer@jesusfilm.org)



# WEEK 1 REQUESTS



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*“Lord, all the nations You have made will come and worship You. They will honor You.”*

– Psalm 86:9, ICB



## Day 1

If you could gather all Iranians and separate them into groups of 100 people, only one person in each group would say he knows about Jesus. The other 99 would know nothing about Him! There are a lot of people in Iran who haven't heard about Jesus' great love yet. Ask God to make a way for all people in Iran to hear about His love for them.

## Day 2

Every Sunday tens of thousands of Iranians meet in secret to worship God. Please pray that all of Iran will discover Jesus, and that believers can praise His name out in the open!

## Day 3

Lord Jesus, shine Your light in the hearts of those who don't know You, so that they will come to know You—the way, the truth, and the life.

## Day 4

Pray that God's Holy Spirit will fall upon all of Iran. May every man, woman and child discover that *God so loves them* that He gave His son Jesus to die for their sins, who then rose to live forever! By trusting Jesus, they will spend eternity with Him!

## Day 5

People don't always keep the promises they make. Pray that Iranians realize that the Lord honors every promise He makes, and that their hearts can trust Him.

## Day 6

Today we are praying this verse for every Christian in Iran.

*“Lord, teach me what You want me to do. And I will live by Your truth. Teach me to respect You completely.”* – Psalm 86:11, ICB

When praying Scripture, you can add names or whole groups of people into the verse. Like this: “Lord, teach Christians in Iran what You want them to do. May they live by Your truth. Teach them to respect You completely.” This is another great verse to pray for yourself, your family and your friends.

## Day 7

Pray for Christians in Iran to grow in their love for Jesus. Pray they will learn how to lead other Christians in becoming more like Jesus, too.

# Week 1 Activity: Esther Coloring Page



# WEEK 2 REQUESTS



*“Then all the people of the world will know the Lord is the only true God.”*

– 1 Kings 8:60, ICB



## Day 8

Pray that the Lord will protect the nation of Iran from all evil. May people make good choices and desire to live in a way that follows God’s truth.

## Day 9

Many people in Iran are so troubled that they harm themselves and their families by making bad choices. Pray that they ask Jesus for help. He can bring them joy and hope even when their life is hard.

## Day 10

Some adults in Iran don’t have a job, which they need to pay for food and other important things. Please ask the Lord to help them find jobs. Pray that they discover that the Good Shepherd, Jesus, can meet their greatest needs.

## Day 11

Ask God to help Iranians receive a fair amount of money for their work so they can provide for their families.

## Day 12

Pray that whole families throughout Iran experience Jesus’ love and forgiveness.

## Day 13

In the verse below, the writer Paul clearly encourages us to pray for everyone. That includes our family, our friends, our neighbors, our classmates, the people in our city, state, nation and all the people of Iran. Does this seem impossible? It doesn’t have to be. Make a plan to pray for one group each day.

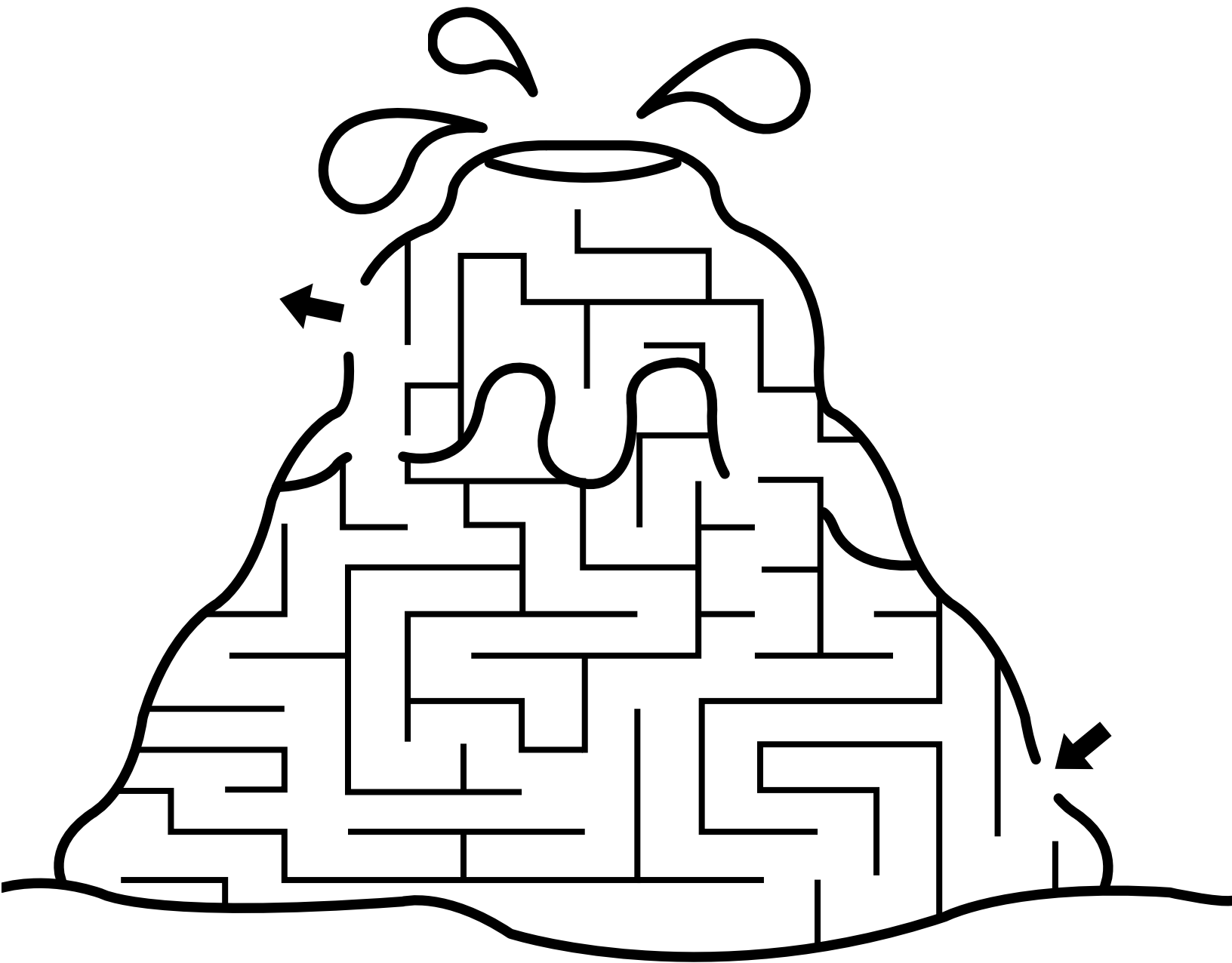
*“First, I tell you to pray for all people. Ask God for the things people need, and be thankful to Him. ... God wants all people to be saved. And He wants everyone to know the truth.” – 1 Timothy 2:1, 4, ICB*

## Day 14

Ask the Lord to help the government provide a safe living environment for all its citizens.



# Week 2 Activity: Volcano Maze



# WEEK 3 REQUESTS



*“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper. He will give you this Helper to be with you forever. The Helper is the Spirit of truth. ... He lives with you and He will be in you.”*

— John 14:16-17, ICB



## □ Day 15

Because of the internet, the good news of Jesus can reach people in faraway places. Pray for the internet to connect every village so people everywhere can know Jesus.

## □ Day 16

Pray for students in Iran to be able to learn about Jesus at school. Ask God to help each student discover who Jesus is and choose to follow Him.

## □ Day 17

Many Iranians are upset about things happening in their country. They have restrictions that make many of their lives difficult. Pray that Iranians will put their trust in God and accept His comfort and strength. May God make Himself known to them, and may they find His love irresistible.

## □ Day 18

Ask Jesus, who is the light of the world, to shine brightly in the hearts of the people living in Iran so that they choose to follow Him.

## □ Day 19

Have you ever ridden on a bumpy dirt road or one that is full of mud? That makes travel very difficult. Some roads are like that in Iran. Ask the Lord for better roads so that God’s message of hope can spread throughout Iran!

## □ Day 20

Join us in praying this prayer written by Paul. In the Bible, he was praying for the Christians in a city called Ephesus. Today, we are praying for Christians in the country of Iran.

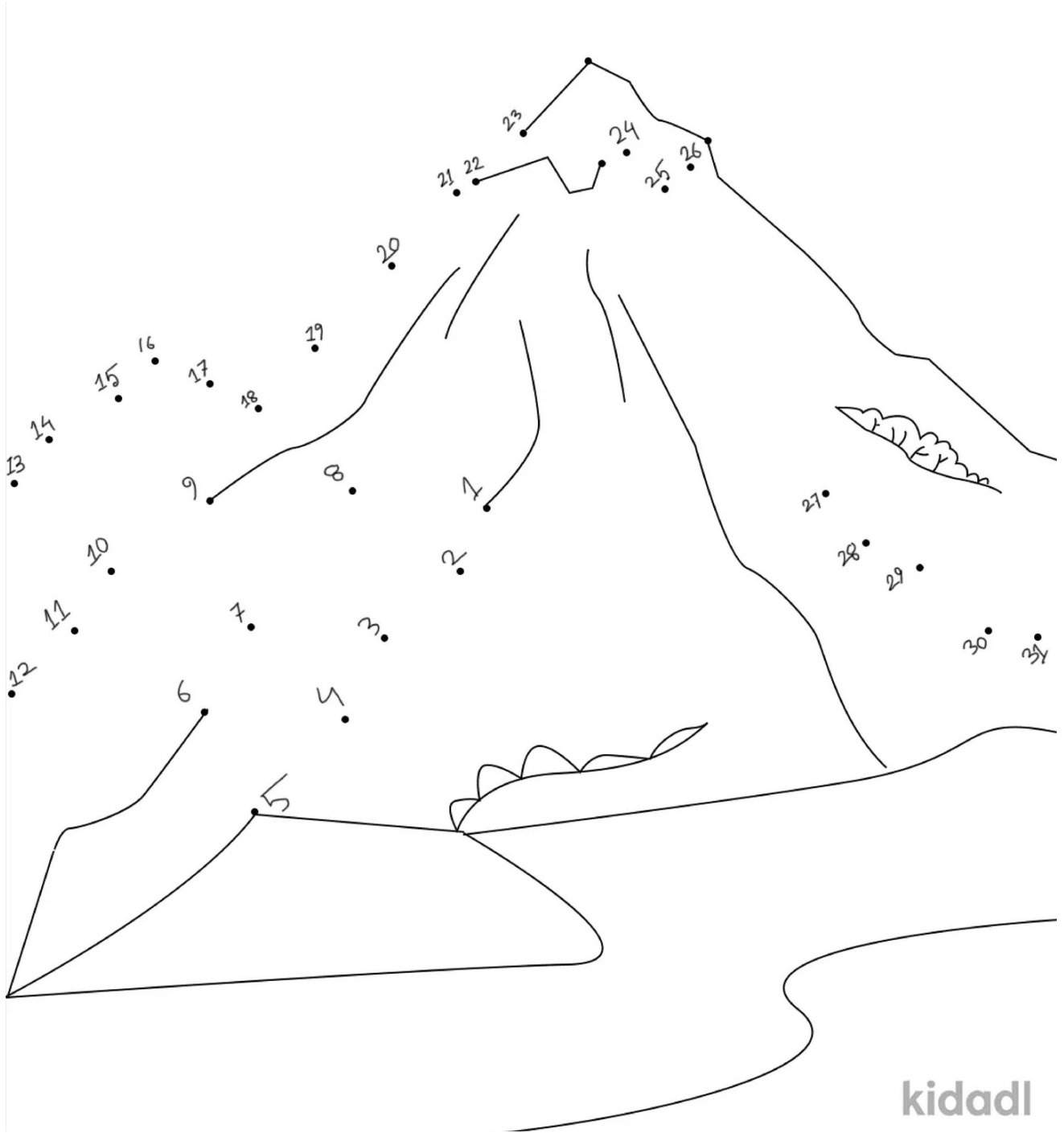
*“I always pray to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ—to the glorious Father. I pray that He will give you a spirit that will make you wise in the knowledge of God—the knowledge that He has shown you.”*

— Ephesians 1:17, ICB

## □ Day 21

Please pray that God will meet the needs of the disabled and sick and that these people would be cared for. Pray they would desire to know the Lord who loves them and laid down His life for them.

# Week 3 Activity: Mountain Dot to Dot



# WEEK 4 REQUESTS



*“God, have mercy on us and bless us.  
Show Your kindness to us.  
Then the world will learn Your ways.  
All nations will learn that You can save.”*

— Psalm 67:1-2, ICB



## Day 22

Iran is having major water pollution problems. Ask the Lord to give wisdom to its leaders so that they can fix this and other big problems which greatly affect the health of the Iranian people. Ask Jesus to draw people to Himself, the only source of living water.

## Day 23

Pray that many people in Iran will see gospel messages on social media and want Jesus in their lives.

## Day 24

God may call Christians to move to another country, especially one where there are few believers, so they can tell others about Jesus. Pray that those taking this step will quickly learn the new language so they can clearly talk with their neighbors in their heart language.

## Day 25

Please pray for safe living and working conditions for all people in Iran. Pray that people would see God's goodness through His provision of their needs.

## Day 26

Pray that the leaders of Iran would respect the Lord and His ways. Ask God to help them understand they need His wisdom and strength to lead their nation well.

## Day 27

Join us in praying that all Iranian Christians will read the Bible to learn what God wants them to do and then obey His teaching every day.

*“So you must fully obey the Lord our God. You must follow all His laws and commands. You must continue to obey in the future as you do now.”*  
— 1 Kings 8:61, ICB

## Day 28

Many Iranians travel to nearby countries during holidays and vacation times and get to hear the good news of Jesus from Christians while they are traveling. Pray that the truth they hear will cause them to believe in Him.

## Week 4 Activity: Iran Word Search

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

### WORD LIST:

BEACHES  
CASPIAN SEA  
CHESS

DESERTS  
ESTHER  
MOUNTAINS

NASHTIFAN  
PALACES  
PERSIA

SKIING  
VOLCANOES  
WINDMILLS

# WEEK 5 REQUESTS



## □ Day 29

A team of Christians is working on a new short film that will make clear something Iranians mistakenly believe about Jesus, and that keeps many from accepting Him. Pray that Iranians will see this film and choose to put their faith in Jesus.

## □ Day 30

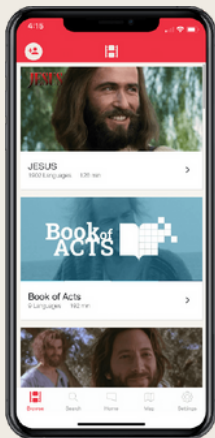
Those in Iran who are poor often end up owing money to people who treat them unfairly. May they find help from trustworthy and fair sources. May they see God as the giver of all good things and trust Him to faithfully provide.

## □ Day 31

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

# Resources

- ▶ Joshua Project has a tremendous amount of information about every country. This link will take you to information about Iran.  
[joshuaproject.net/countries/IR](http://joshuaproject.net/countries/IR)
- ▶ Prayercast has great prayer videos.  
[prayercast.com/iran](http://prayercast.com/iran)
- ▶ 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 2,000 languages on our website.  
[jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html](http://jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html)
- ▶ We also have multiple other films and short films available. [jesusfilm.org/watch](http://jesusfilm.org/watch)
- ▶ 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](http://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.



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 the love, hope and forgiveness found in Jesus. A new family guide is available every month.

Learn more at [jesusfilm.org/pray](https://jesusfilm.org/pray).



First published: March 2024