

Daily Prayer Guide

— December 2022 —



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

Thank you for praying!

Prayer is the foundation of our ministry, which means that you play a vital role in the transformation of lives in mission.

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pray@multiply.net

604.859.6267

1.866.964.7627

USA: 4867 E. Townsend Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727-5006 USA

CANADA: 300-32040 Downes Road, Abbotsford, BC V4X 1X5 Canada

Our daily prayer requests can also be found on our website:

multiply.net/daily-prayer-guide

To ensure their safety, we are using initials or an alias for long-term workers serving in restricted areas. Also, the names of their contacts in country are routinely changed. Please pray for their protection. Ask the Lord of the harvest to continue to show them favor as he works through them to transform communities among the least reached.

December 1-3

1 THURSDAY: MULTIPLY (BRUCE ENNS)

GLOBAL

“Please pray for our churches and workers in Ukraine, caught in the devastation of this war. Pray also for Multiply’s work in Europe, giving various expressions of sacrificial support to address the many needs of their Ukrainian brothers and sisters.”

Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. ~ Psalm 31:2-3

2 FRIDAY: REBECCA HIEBERT

THAILAND

“Tis the season for Christmas outreaches! This month I am hosting a church team that is coming to help over the Christmas season. Our prayer is that many would come to know Jesus and abide in him. At Christmas, Thai people are more willing to hear and reflect on the message of the Gospel than at other times of the year. Pray that each of us would have the opportunity to lead a friend to Christ this Christmas.”

... he bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors. ~ Isaiah 53:12c

3 SATURDAY: EMERSON CARDOSO

BRAZIL

Pray for Emerson as he serves as Multiply’s Regional Director for Latin and Central America, supporting and training church leaders and global workers. Pray for ongoing outreach among the indigenous people groups along the Amazon River in Brazil.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ~ Roman 12:12

December 4-10

4 SUNDAY: JUSTAS AND KAMILE SERSTKOV

LITHUANIA

Pray for this couple, leading a church plant in Kaunas, Lithuania. Justas is also involved in translating various devotional materials from English, and Kamile leads the ALPHA course and various Bible studies, and helps with worship, prayer, and Sunday school teaching.

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ~ Hebrews 4:12

5 MONDAY: STACY KUHNS

PERU

Pray for Stacy, serving as Multiply’s Regional Coach for global workers in Latin America. Stacy works closely with the Peruvian MB conference in leadership development, as well as serving on the Latin American Regional Team of ICOMB (International Community of Mennonite Brethren) to assist in the planting and resourcing of new churches.

We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ~ 1 Thessalonians 1:3

6 TUESDAY: SANDRA FENDER

THAILAND

“The Christmas season in Thailand has always been an open door to share our Christmas ‘traditions. Pray for creativity for our workers, for new opportunities, and for stamina for the many outreach events that will be held all over Thailand. Pray also for opportunities for me to share with my local church and the surrounding farming community here in Minnesota, as I continue to care for my mother, age ninety-seven, as her health declines.”

In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ~ Philippians 1:4-6

7 WEDNESDAY: ISRAEL & SANDRA CHAVEZ-PLETT

MEXICO

“In November we led four craft-making workshops with women in the Punto Vida (Lifepoint) community. Praise God for the new connections we made and pray that hearts would be open to God. Pray for our volunteers from Bolivia and Colombia as they help us with the thrift store, children’s outreach and a new community Bible study. In December people tend to be more open to the Gospel; pray for a harvest in our church community.”

In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good. ~ Ecclesiastes 11:6

8 THURSDAY: NASSER AL'QAHTANI N. AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST

“Praise God for a new FOCUS intern that will be serving in the Middle East for six months. Pray that God would send more workers like this, especially more teachers and shepherds in the faith. Pray for our ministry partners S, M and D, facing strong opposition and persecution in North Africa. Along with the many advances of the Gospel in this region, there are still many hardships.”

You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me. ~ Luke 22:28, 29

9 FRIDAY: B & C CENTRAL ASIA

“We are still moving toward long-term ministry in Central Asia, but there have been many obstacles with securing visas. These are somewhat bittersweet days; on one hand we have the happiness of seeing that our sending is drawing near, and on the other hand we face the pain of leaving family, friends, disciples and ministries here in Colombia. Please pray that we would be instruments of God’s blessing in Central Asia, seeing people come to follow Jesus.”

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ~ 1 Thessalonians 3:11

10 SATURDAY: CORY & MASAMI GIESBRECHT JAPAN

“Christmas is a time when the Japanese are especially open to the Gospel. Pray that churches will be the Body of Christ to them; so many people need a hug! Pray for the Christmas outreach at an Okinawa stadium, hoping to draw 9,000 people this year. Our local Ishibashi church is hoping to have a community Christmas, and Roses Church in the park is planning to distribute food and the Good News on the streets of Nishinari.”

I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness; for your promises are backed by all the honor of your name. As soon as I pray, you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength. ~ Psalm 138:2, 3 (NLT)

December 13-19

11 SUNDAY: KYLE & DANAE SCHMIDT UGANDA

“We’ve been in Mityana just under two months now and are settling in well. Pray that our house would be a sanctuary, not only for us, but for locals and visitors alike. We’re excited to see what God does with the extra rooms! Pray for

patience as we learn the language and adjust to our new ministry context and roles. Praise God for Nathan, the FOCUS intern who will be serving here for the next six months.”

God makes a home for the lonely; he leads out the prisoners into prosperity. ~ Psalm 68:6a

12 MONDAY: WENDY EROS JAPAN

“Please pray for me as I share about the birth of Jesus with students, especially new ones. Pray that our class activities will be an encouragement to them and that they will open their hearts and ears to hear how our Savior came to the world so that they could have eternal life. Pray for my friend, Rocky, who has a stress fracture due to osteoporosis, and for Yutaka, hoping to be able to attend seminary next spring.”

That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe. ~ 1 Timothy 4:10

13 TUESDAY: EDD & INGRID RUSSELL THAILAND

“We are thankful to have had the opportunity to share God’s love in practical ways with families in nearby areas affected by flooding. Many families lost this season’s rice crop, which would have been food on their table and would have helped pay bills. Providing some basic food items and drinking water also gave us an opportunity to share the Good News, and three ladies put their trust in Jesus! Pray that at Christmas time new believers in villages would invite others into their homes to hear the Christmas story and celebrate together.”

I know that you can do all things and no plan of yours can be thwarted. ~ Job 42:2

14 WEDNESDAY: SEAN EAST ASIA

“As we help equip local believers in East Asia to engage unreached minority groups, we are so thankful to hear how they have owned the vision and boldly moved forward. This year they had more volunteers for short-term outreach and reached more students than ever before! A local fellowship is even adopting one region, committing to a decade of summer outreach and planning for long-term workers. These are great answers to prayer!”

The Cow Thief

MAURITANIA | By Janet Meachem

Samba was a cow thief, and worse. In addition to theft, he was guilty of rape and even murder. He seemed to be beyond redemption.

“No one could stop me,” he said. “I did whatever I wanted, and what I wanted was for the world to know that no one was in control of me.”

Then one day, as he was going to the market to sell stolen livestock, a foreigner and his wife approached him, started talking with him and gave him a Bible. Samba had many questions. “What is this book?” he demanded of the strangers. “Why are you even talking to me?”

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“God guided us to you,” they replied simply. Astonished, Samba thought to himself, *If God has guided these men to speak to me, perhaps I had better listen!* He took the Bible they offered and began reading it regularly. As time went on, Samba found that its message of hope and love was penetrating deep into his heart. He decided to reach out to some old friends, whom he knew

were Christians, and rekindle those friendships. Those friends then taught him even more about Christ’s love for him and about how Jesus had died on the cross for his sins.

“I slowly began to understand just how much Jesus loved me,” he said. “And I realized that I no longer wanted to live a life of sin.”

Samba had many regrets; there were the animals he had stolen, the people he had killed, and the women he had violated. Humbly, he asked Jesus to forgive him, and looked for ways to somehow make amends. “I could not change the past,” he admitted, “but I decided to return anything I could from what I had stolen.” Others were astounded at the changes they saw in him.

“My old life has ended; I have found Christ,” he told them. “I was a cow thief, a rapist and a murderer, but I am those things no longer. Jesus holds my heart, and has turned my life around.”

Samba prays that his testimony will be a blessing to others and that his story will lead many to know Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. “If my life was not beyond redemption,” he said, “then anyone can find forgiveness and freedom under the Lordship of Christ. Even a cow thief, like me.”

Undercover

THAILAND | By Carmen Owen

They escaped hoping to find a place where they could practice their Christian faith openly, but Pin and her husband found that the persecution in a neighboring country was just as severe. It was in desperation that they finally crossed the swirling waters of the Maekhong River into Thailand, only able to bring some of their children with them. After years of hiding, they finally found freedom to worship Jesus.

Now, she wanted to go back.

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Pin has been serving at Naomi House in Chiang Mai, discipling others while herself being disciplined under the leadership of Siriwan, one of Multiply’s key national partners. When, months ago, she first told Siriwan of her desire to return to her country of origin, they both knew the risk involved. Pin felt an urgent need to share the Gospel with her own village, and especially with her family and her sick and aging mother. Air travel was out of the question, as it would involve

submitting paperwork which would identify her to the authorities; she would have to go “undercover”.

It was an arduous journey. At one point, Pin climbed a mountain in order to have a data signal strong enough to connect and let us know she was safe. Despite moments of harrowing danger, she made it to her village and found it just as spiritually dark as ever. She also found her mother, crippled with pain and near death. None of the witch doctors had been able to heal her; their offerings to the spirits had produced no results, and the family had given up. Pin immediately began to pray in the name of Jesus, and within a short time the pain went away, and her mother was able to walk again. It felt like a miracle!

Pin longed to openly preach the Gospel to the entire village, but it was forbidden to even speak the name of Jesus in public. So, with her brother and other villagers, they began to gather secretly behind closed doors, and as she was preparing to return to Chiang Mai, Pin told the new believers that they, too, would need to remain undercover. Pray for Pin, as she and her husband hope to be sent again to evangelize in their village.

Daily Prayer Guide

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 MULTIPLY (Bruce Enns) GLOBAL	2 Rebecca Hiebert THAILAN	3 Emerson Cardoso BRAZIL
4 Justas and Kamile Serstkov LITHUANIA	5 Stacy Kuhns PERU	6 Sandra Fender THAILAND	7 Israel & Sandra Chavez-Plett MEXICO	8 Nasser al'Qahtani NORTH AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST	9 B & C CENTRAL ASIA	10 Cory & Masami Giesbrecht JAPAN
11 Kyle & Danae Schmidt UGANDA	12 Wendy Eros JAPAN	13 Edd & Ingrid Russell THAILAND	14 Sean EAST ASIA	15 Benni & Franzi Hermann GERMANY	16 Lavern Pratt PANAMA	17 Robert & Marlene Baerg MONGOLIA
18 G & N CENTRAL ASIA	19 Paul & Sara Raugust FRANCE	20 VR UKRAINE	21 Joanna Chapa USA	22 Joanna (Pharazyn) & Jonathan Gutierrez PORTUGAL	23 Johanna Neudorf GERMANY	24 Robert Thiessen CANADA
25 Doug Hiebert SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	26 A & A CANADA	27 Dave & Louise Sinclair-Peters THAILAND	28 Tomas & Melody Vidal MEXICO	29 Cynthia Friesen THAILAND	30 M & V SOUTH ASIA	31 Carmen Owen THAILAND

December 18 - 24

My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ~ Colossians 2:2, 3

15 THURSDAY: BENNI & FRANZI HERMANN GERMANY

Benni and Franzi are serving on our church-planting team in Dortmund, Germany, where every third person in the city is a migrant. Their vision is for the Church to become a community for everyone and a family for those without any family.

Therefore my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. ~ 1 Corinthians 15:58

16 FRIDAY: LAVERN PRATT PANAMA

“Praise God that we and the team of Wounaan brothers and sisters are learning to communicate openly and humbly, and to encourage stewardship of the gifts God has given to us. Pray that my landscape design for the *Casa Del Sembrador* will be culturally sensitive, sustainable and draw people to God. Pray for good progress in learning the language, and for boldness in speaking what I learn.”

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ~ 1 Peter 3:8 (ESV)

17 SATURDAY: ROBERT & MARLENE BAERG MONGOLIA

“It has been a whirlwind, with a busy grafting and harvest season, a revolving door of guests and a growing sense of community among our workers. Praise God for Ganbold, a pastor in a neighboring town who also works for us as a watchman. He shared that his work out on our land has given him time to walk, pray, meditate, read and write. With the demands of being a pastor and busy father of five, this has been a gift. Pray as we discern dates for visiting supporters in North America, February to April.”

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ~ James 1:17

18 SUNDAY: G & N CENTRAL ASIA

Pray for this couple, ministering to a diverse group that includes those with a strong Muslim background, as well as others who are very secular. Both G & N are involved in teaching and counseling in a local K-12 school and provide discipleship training and leadership development to national partners within a network of three local churches. G is also helping churches in Romania and Moldova minister to Ukrainian refugees.

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. ~ 1 Peter 1:3

19 MONDAY: PAUL & SARA RAUGUST FRANCE

Pray for this couple, working alongside the local church to catalyze spiritual growth, whole-life discipleship, leadership development, and holistic church planting among the North African and Turkish population in Europe. They also work to raise up transformational peacemakers in conflict regions of the world, through an ongoing peace camp initiative.

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness. ~ James 3:18

20 TUESDAY: VR UKRAINE

Pray for this worker, serving in Central Ukraine, helping to care for those who have been displaced and traumatized by the war, with food, clothing, and the hope of the Gospel.

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ~ Galatians 6:2

21 WEDNESDAY: JOANNA CHAPA USA

Pray for Joanna, now serving in the role of Mission Mobilizer in the Midwest US, a role similar to the one she held prior to serving in Peru. Please pray for her transition from ministry, and for her ongoing journey of discovery with regards to her health.

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases... ~ Psalm 103: 1-3

22 THURSDAY: JOANNA (PHARAZYN) & JONATHAN GUTIERREZ PORTUGAL

“Praise God for a young man who, at first indifferent to knowing Jesus, has now declared with tears in his eyes that he is ready to lay down his life and follow Jesus! The harvest is plentiful, and we need more workers. Ask the Lord if he is inviting you or someone else to come and live on mission with us. Continue to pray for the church to go out with the Good News to their families, colleagues and friends. Pray for us; it is a battle.”

All this multitude, too, shall learn that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves. For the battle belongs to the Lord... ~ 1 Samuel 17:47a

23 FRIDAY: JOHANNA NEUDORF GERMANY

“Praise God for the many challenging, encouraging, high and low moments we have experienced at *PräsentKirche* during 2022. Pray that the Holy Spirit would be experienced through all the Christmas activities, and that people in the neighborhood would see the real reason for Christmas. Pray for unity as we involve church members in leadership, and for commitment as the church grows in depth and in numbers. This is his church.”

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. ~ Psalm 34:8

24 SATURDAY: ROBERT THIESSEN CANADA

“I continue with Multiply at a 60%-time commitment. The need for training new missionaries is being met through other avenues, leaving me to concentrate on First Nations ministry, as part of a team of three families spread out over hundreds of miles. A lot of the next year will be a time of learning and relating for me. Anne is now working full-time as an educational assistant in a Christian school, and is glad to have the routine and to be back in the educational world.”

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. ~ Proverbs 3:5, 6

25 SUNDAY: DOUG HIEBERT SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

“Praise God for a team from Cornerstone Church that spent time at Karubabi Harvest School, investing in the teachers and students. Pray for fruit from the recent gathering in Malawi of all our African leadership. It was a time of worship, prayer, contending together for the things of God for this continent, learning from one another and wrestling with how we can help one another in the great task of participating in God’s master plan. Please, let’s all redouble our prayers for this world!”

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. ~ Jude 1:24, 25

26 MONDAY: A & A CANADA

This couple have been sent to Canada from their home church in South Asia, on mission to facilitate the development of a church-planting movement among the Punjabi diaspora in Canada. Pray for the multiplication of home fellowships that can provide a safe place for those who would not otherwise enter a Western church.

Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed. ~ Revelation 15:4

27 TUESDAY: DAVE & LOUISE SINCLAIR-PETERS THAILAND

Louise serves on the Global Lead Team as Regional Leader for Myanmar and Central Thailand, and Dave serves as Church Planting Coach for global workers throughout Southeast Asia. Pray for them as they are mentoring and training Thai and Myanmar pastors and evangelists, planting churches, and resourcing churches in Thailand and neighboring countries to become self-sustaining through small Kingdom business initiatives.

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. ~ Revelation 22:17

28 WEDNESDAY: TOMAS & MELODY VIDAL

MEXICO

“We are celebrating our first group of graduating students in the Aquila and Priscilla Institute, entering their last year of studies in January. Our next six-month HADIME discipleship program begins in January; please pray for the participants as they prepare, setting aside time to seek the Lord and his guidance for their future. We are again getting all our visa paperwork ready to submit at a consulate in Arizona. Please pray for a long-term visa to be granted!”

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. ~ 2 Timothy 3:16, 17

29 THURSDAY: CYNTHIA FRIESEN

THAILAND

Pray for Cynthia, ministering to young women in a Juvenile Detention Centre in Chiang Mai, who struggle with addictions, poverty, and abuse. She runs Freedom Trades, a discipleship and vocational training program for those released from detention, and also serves to support a national leader at Naomi House, a community church plant and small business center serving refugee women.

Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and oppressed. ~ Psalm 82:3

30 FRIDAY: M & V

SOUTH ASIA

Pray for this couple, serving in South Asia through work in children’s homes and a holistic ministry initiative that employs and empowers local artisans. They are also serving the national church, providing resources and support for church planting and the mobilization of short- and long-term global workers.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. ~ Psalm 89:14

31 SATURDAY: CARMEN OWEN

THAILAND

“December is a big month in the Naomi House community. Pray for them as they finish out the year’s production orders, take an evangelistic outreach trip into one of the women’s home villages, move the Naomi House production center into a different, temporary facility, and engage in several community outreach opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus’ birth! May Christ be glorified in each one of these events and may many more souls respond to the Prince of Peace.”

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. ~ Romans 10:13

Regional Spotlight: Central Asia

Multiply Global Workers are serving in Central Asia with a vision to rebuild and restore the Church where historically it once flourished. They work alongside one of our key national leaders who is involved in church-planting initiatives in the face of strong religious opposition, requiring that our public communications be restricted. Workers build partnerships with local believers, enhance discipleship efforts, and find creative ways to reach remote mountainous regions where there is a lack of Gospel presence. There is currently one established church and two church plants, with a vision to multiply.



Johann & Hedi Matthies

Pray

- For our workers to have a strong partnership with the local church in their city
- For ongoing visa challenges for expats in this region
- For courage for new believers facing rejection from their families and persecution from their communities
- For vision and strategy for evangelism and church planting initiatives
- For Regional Team Leader Johann Matthies, overseeing church planting, short-term mission, and resourcing of churches in this region as well as in Europe

Explore people, projects, and stories at

multiply.net/project/central-asia-resourcing

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