

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 December 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.



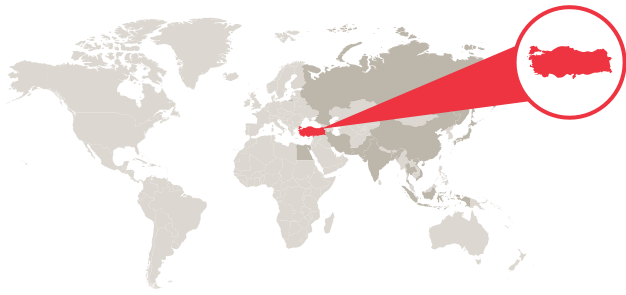
- Bangladesh*
- China*
- Egypt*
- India*
- Iran*
- Indonesia*
- Japan*
- Pakistan*
- Russia*
- Thailand*
- Turkey*
- Vietnam*

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 Turkey!



The seven churches that the apostle John wrote to in the book of Revelation are located in Turkey. The cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodecia, where these churches were located, still exist in some form in modern-day Turkey.



This month we will pray for a country that spans two continents: Turkey! Istanbul expands both east and west of the Bosphorus strait, resting in both Europe and Asia.

Did you know?

- ▶ Followers of Jesus were first called Christians in Antioch, Turkey, according to Acts 11:26.
- ▶ Turkey was the first to import tulips, coffee and cherries to Europe.
- ▶ Turquoise means “Turkish stone.” The beautiful mineral came to Europe from the Orient via Turkey and is one of the oldest gemstones in history.
- ▶ The city of Istanbul spans two continents – Europe and Asia. Only 5% of the country is in Europe. The other 95% is in Asia.
- ▶ Turkey is known for its delicious sweets, like baklava and Turkish Delight.



Praying for Turkey

Eastern Turkey is home to the famous Mount Ararat. Although Genesis 8 tells us that Noah's Ark came to rest on one of the mountains of Ararat, experts are not sure if this is the same mountain range mentioned in the Bible story. While the remains of Noah's Ark are still waiting to be recovered, we can rest assured that the Word of God is true.

This month marks the end of our "ACTS" study. We started looking at this prayer method in October with "Adoration," or as I call it, "Celebrating God." Next came "Confession," and we learned to turn to God for forgiveness. Last month we focused on "Thanksgiving," taking time to give thanks to God. Did you find a time to make giving thanks part of your daily schedule?

"S" is the last letter of the ACTS prayer. It stands for "Supplication." The root of this word means "to ask humbly." We should have a humble attitude when we request anything of God in prayer. God is all powerful, but He is also good and kind. He can, and often does, graciously deny requests that may ultimately lead to harm.


Even though God is all-knowing, He wants us to ask, intercede and make supplication for others—like in this packet—for our family and friends, and for ourselves.

Lucinda Mason

Jesus Film Project
Prayer Mobilization, Team Leader



Week 1: December 1-7, 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, New International Version



Week 1 Prayers

Day 1 More than 75% of Turkey's population lives in urban areas. Pray that the gospel will spread through the major cities throughout Turkey: Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Bursa, Adana, Gaziantep, Konya, Antalya, Kayseri and Mersin.

Day 2 Ask God to bless and strengthen those serving behind the scenes to support Turkish Christian ministries. May they not grow weary in doing good and choose to honor the Lord through their efforts to strengthen and expand the ministry.

Day 3 Pray that Turkish Christians who want to share their faith find people who want to hear. Pray they can use natural opportunities to meet like clubs, associations and social media groups to build relationships and begin to share God's love.

Day 4 Praise God for college students in Turkey who already know Jesus! Pray that God would give them a longing and boldness to proclaim the good news of Jesus and help younger believers grow in their faith.

Day 5 Social media ads and Christian websites draw those interested in learning more about the God of the Bible and seek to connect them with mentors.


Pray for more volunteers to mentor those who are seeking to learn more about God.

Day 6 Pray this for every Christian in Turkey:

"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 7 Turks living in the earthquake zone have expressed how their lives have been deeply touched by the consistent sacrifices made by local believers who minister to them. Pray that they would be open to hearing the testimonies of these believers and be powerfully drawn to the gospel.

Week 2: December 8-14, 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 2 Prayers

Day 8

Ask God to provide the facilities and equipment needed to establish a local recording studio to produce radio programs, podcasts and ministry videos, giving those proclaiming the gospel a wider reach.

Day 9

Ask God to encourage and strengthen Christian workers who are sharing about Jesus with students throughout Turkey. There are many barriers to the gospel and few students express a desire to know Jesus. Pray that God's Spirit would lead them, that they would joyfully carry His light into dark places, and that God would transform lives and communities.

Day 10

Pray for an upcoming gathering of Christian workers to be fruitful and encouraging to all who attend.

Pray that Christian gatherings in Turkey would follow Paul's instructions from this Bible verse:

Day 11

"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 12

Serving as a land bridge between two continents, Turkey is home to several million refugees. Ask the Lord to give the Turkish church a tender heart for the refugees in their midst, and a commitment to reach them with the good news of Jesus.

Day 13

Pray for Christian leaders serving behind the scenes to provide the tools and resources needed to extend the reach of the gospel in Turkey. May God grant them wisdom and guidance as they work.

Day 14

It can be challenging for Christian expats to get stable, long-term visas to continue living and serving in Turkey. Ask God to continue to provide for this need.

Week 3: December 15-21, 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 3 Prayers

Day 15

Ask the Lord to protect and strengthen marriages in Turkey, especially within the Turkish church. Pray that believers would deepen their biblical understanding of marriage and their commitment to love their spouses in God-honoring ways.

Day 16

Ask that Christians in Turkey would be joyfully expectant—looking forward in faith for how God will accomplish His will in them and in the nation of Turkey! Pray that believers in Turkey would be aware of God’s guidance through the Holy Spirit and reverently responsive to Him.

Day 17

Pray for new Christians in towns and provinces of Turkey where there are few believers and no church. Pray that God would provide trustworthy mentors to help them grow in their faith and that they would tell their friends and family members about Jesus.

Day 18

Christian workers from other countries moved to Turkey years ago to help begin the work of making disciples. By God’s grace, the church in Turkey is moving toward all-Turkish leadership. Ask God to continue raising up local leaders and to give wisdom during this transition.

Day 19

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 Turkey 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 20

Some Christian leaders specialize in caring for and assisting other Christian workers, helping them be spiritually healthy, well-trained and effective in their ministries. Pray God will grant wisdom to leaders serving in this way, that they would clearly know how to customize care and assistance for those they serve.

Day 21

Three Christian films (*Magdalena*, *LUMO: The Gospel of Mark* and *JESUS*) will be broadcast during Christmas week on 20 TV stations in Turkey. Please pray for ten million people to watch these films and for the viewers to visit the listed website to learn more about the gospel.



Week 4: December 22-28, 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 4 Prayers

- Day 22** When Christians lead others to Christ, and those new Christians in turn lead others, and so forth, we call this spiritual multiplication. Small groups can help each new generation of believers learn and grow in their faith. Pray for many groups like this to be started in Turkey this year.
- Day 23** Pray for Turkish 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 24** Pray for behind-the-scenes workers who guide and care for those in face-to-face ministry. Ask God to help them be wise stewards of the resources He provides, including finances and financial policy.
- Day 25** Christians can grow weary as they labor to take the gospel to the unreached places of Turkey. Ask that God would renew their vision and passion for the ministry.
- Day 26** Many young people in Turkey are disillusioned and questioning the things they’ve been taught to believe. Pray that they would desire to seek truth and that God would lead them to Christian friends and websites to help answer their questions.
- Day 27** Young people in Turkey enjoy learning and practicing different languages. Language clubs are a great way for Christian mentors to meet students and build relationships with them. Ask the Lord to continue to use language clubs to connect students who want to learn about Jesus with Christians who can help them.
- Day 28** Having celebrated their nation’s centennial this autumn (October 2023), many Turks feel hopeless and desperate in their current political and economic environment. Ask God to draw those feeling hopeless to Himself and to give them a hunger for His truth!



Week 5: December 29–31, 2023

Week 5 Prayers

- Day 29** Access to university campuses remains difficult for Christian workers in Turkey. Ask the Lord to powerfully open new doors, so that these workers can have consistent access to students who are seeking and spiritually open to the gospel.

- Day 30** Pray that an upcoming city-wide conference focused on discipleship training will be well-attended and will bear much fruit locally and beyond.

- Day 31** Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Turkey 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 Turkish 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.

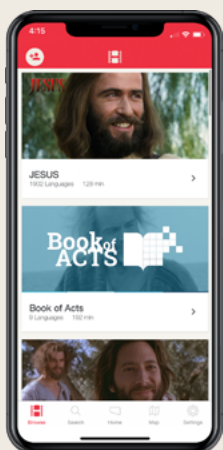
Joshua Project has a tremendous amount of information about every country. This link will take you to information about Turkey. <https://joshuaproject.net/countries/TU>

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



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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