

Family Guide

Bangladesh



“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 Bangladesh



From tiny brooks to mighty rivers to the Bay of Bengal, water is everywhere in Bangladesh! These waterways provide life-giving water to satisfy the thirst of millions of people all across the country and to help plants and animals thrive. Let's pray for God's Spirit to flow like water throughout Bangladesh, bringing the hope and salvation of Jesus to every man, woman and child.



Fun Facts About Bangladesh



The state of Iowa in the U.S. is similar in size to Bangladesh. Yet the populations are drastically different: Bangladesh has over 170 million people and Iowa only has about 3 million people!



Bangladesh is often called the “Land of Rivers” because it has about 700 rivers flowing through it. In comparison, the state of Iowa only has four rivers.



The Royal Bengal Tiger is the national animal of Bangladesh. It is a symbol of strength and courage, and its roar can be heard up to two miles away!



Bengali is spoken by almost 99% of the population, and there are around 40 other languages spoken in the country. At least 38 of these languages have gospel tools—films and other materials—available to them.



The largest mangrove forest in the world, which goes by the name Sundarbans, is in Bangladesh. It is a vast area with a unique ecosystem and an amazing variety of wildlife. Most of the Bengal Tigers live there.

Ready to pray for the people of Bangladesh?

Look around your house and you'll probably find lots of things made of textile, which is another word for fabric. That could be anything from towels, bath robes, dish cloths, napkins, bedding and more! Did you know that much of the world's textiles are made in Bangladesh? Actually, Bangladesh is the second-largest textile and clothing exporter in the world, after China. That is really amazing.

Look at a map and see how much smaller Bangladesh is than China. Next time you get clothes out to wear, check the tag and see where that piece of clothing was made. Take a moment and pray for that country. There is a good chance that you have clothing that came from several of our least-reached countries.

It's easy to forget to pray like we want to. We often need reminders to remember to pray. The tags on your clothing can be a good reminder. You can also make a prayer list of specific items to pray for each of your family members and friends. Pick a time each day to take out that list and pray for several people on it. It is helpful to do this at the same time each day.

We made this family guide to help you and your family know what to pray each day for Bangladesh. Thank you for joining us.

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



WEEK 1 REQUESTS



“The Lord is not slow in doing what He promised—the way some people understand slowness. But God is being patient with you. He does not want anyone to be lost. He wants everyone to change his heart and life.”

— 2 Peter 3:9, International Children's Bible



☐ Day 1

Church leaders have big responsibilities, like teaching the truth of the Bible and guiding people to think and live more like Jesus. Pray that Bangladeshi church leaders would wisely lead their churches.

☐ Day 2

Many Christian groups in Bangladesh are helping make life better for the poor or needy, but sometimes they are treated unkindly because of their faith in Jesus. Pray that they would be wise and careful as they work, and that the light of Jesus' message reaches those who haven't yet heard.

☐ Day 3

Movies that tell the true story about Jesus are a good way to share the gospel with those who don't yet know Him. Ask Jesus to show Himself to Bangladeshi men, women and children through movies, so they know that He is good, that He loves them very much and that He wants to be their friend.

☐ Day 4

Pray that God's Spirit, who lives inside His followers, would guide Christians in Bangladesh to speak with their neighbors about the hope God has given them.

☐ Day 5

When Christian workers go into new places to share the message of Jesus, everything goes better when they first make friends with the leaders of churches and groups already in that place. Ask God to help Christian workers in Bangladesh work together with the people there.

☐ Day 6

Pray that Bangladeshi people who do not yet know Jesus would recognize Him for who He is and see their need for Him.

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way. And I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through Me.’” — John 14:6, ICB

☐ Day 7

Do you know who is the leader of your country? What about the leader of your state or province? Who is the leader of your city, your school or your church? There are a lot of leaders who make decisions that affect us. The Bible instructs us to thank God for our leaders and to pray for them—whether they make good or bad decisions, whether they are kind or unkind, and even if we don't know their names. God wants us to pray for them to be wise and to lead us well. Remember to pray for your leaders and for all the leaders of Bangladesh.

Week 1 Activity: Tiger Coloring Page



WEEK 2 REQUESTS



“Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads. I will give you rest.”

— Matthew 11:28, ICB



□ Day 8

Pray that all the leaders of Bangladesh will find ways to work together for the good of the country and its people.

□ Day 9

Pray especially for those who are taking the gospel message to unreached people in different parts of Bangladesh to be wise and careful.

□ Day 10

There are Christian groups who work hard to help meet the needs of people in Bangladesh whose lives seem hopeless. May every person know it is the love of God that motivates these helpers to reach out and help.

□ Day 11

Christians in Bangladesh are sometimes treated harshly because of their faith in the God of the Bible. Pray that their faith stays strong and that unkindness will turn into respect and faith in the God of the Bible.

□ Day 12

Pray for Christian workers to love God with their whole hearts as they bring the good news of Jesus to the people of Bangladesh.

□ Day 13

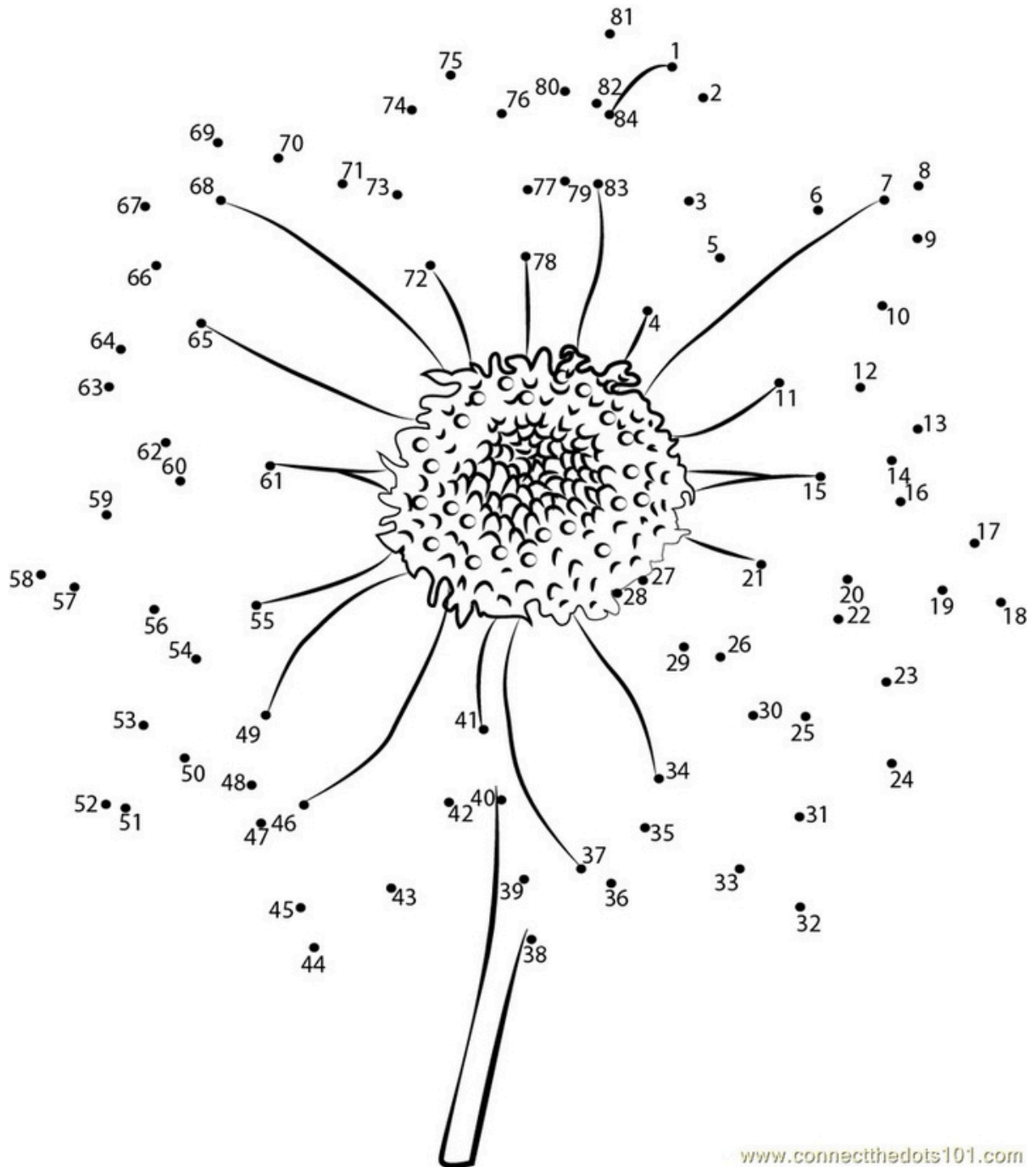
Using Scripture is great to pray for yourself, your family, your friends, and for people far away. Pray this for every Christian in Bangladesh:

“You were raised from death with Christ. So aim at what is in heaven, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Think only about the things in heaven, not the things on earth.” — Colossians 3:1-2, ICB

□ Day 14

Do you know how to make your faith stronger? First, read your Bible often and work at understanding it. Knowing what God says in Scripture can help us obey God. Second, talk to God often. That’s called prayer. Third, invite His Spirit, who lives inside you, to guide you, your thoughts and your behavior. Finally, love God and each other. Let’s ask God to help Bangladeshis, and believers everywhere, do these things to make their faith stronger.

Week 2 Activity: Sunflower Dot to Dot



WEEK 3 REQUESTS



“For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son. God gave His Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life.”

— John 3:16, ICB



☐ Day 15

Pray that Christian leaders in Bangladesh would have more opportunities to guide and train others in God’s ways. Many are leaders because they studied well in school and learned what the Bible teaches. So, study well so you can lead well, and pray Bangladeshi children do that, too.

☐ Day 16

Like a good shepherd takes care of his sheep, pray that Christian leaders in Bangladesh would be good shepherds to God’s people.

☐ Day 17

Pray for God’s Spirit to guide Christian workers and teams as they join God in the work He is doing in Bangladesh.

☐ Day 18

Have you ever video-called someone? When meeting in person with someone is difficult, video calls can help two people in different places talk to each other and see each other on their screens. Many Bangladeshis can learn about Jesus and be mentored to grow their faith using video calls like this. Pray the mentors will find the best way to teach and train new Christians.

☐ Day 19

Ask God to provide enough money for Christian workers in Bangladesh so they can take care of their families.

☐ Day 20

The Bible teaches us that we have an enemy (the devil) who wants to keep Christians from trusting God. God wants us to stay close to Him and let Him fight for us. The Christians in Bangladesh need to do this as well, so join me in praying God’s word for them.

“Control yourselves and be careful! The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to eat. Refuse to give in to the devil. Stand strong in your faith. ...”

— 1 Peter 5:8-9, ICB

☐ Day 21

Sometimes it’s hard to believe that God loves all people, even those who do really bad things, but it’s completely true! In fact, God gave His son Jesus to die on the cross, so that anyone who believes and follows Him can be in His family forever! Pray that all Bangladeshis, even those who have done really bad things, will know they are loved by the God of the Bible.

Week 3 Activity: Bangladesh Word Search

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

WORD LIST

BENGALI
BENGAL TIGER
IOWA

LAND OF RIVERS
LANGUAGES
LEADER

MANGROVE
PRAY
RIVERS

ROAR
SCRIPTURE
SUNDARBANS

WEEK 4 REQUESTS



“All the earth should worship the Lord. The whole world should fear Him.”

— Psalm 33:8, ICB



□ Day 22

God uses different situations in our lives to help us change and grow to become more like Jesus and to trust Him more. Pray that Bangladeshi Christians would confidently trust that God works everything out for their good—and pray that we would believe this too!

□ Day 23

Pray for Christians in Bangladesh to be good examples to young believers in loving God, in studying His Word and in walking in His ways.

□ Day 24

There are many people from a neighboring country coming to live in Bangladesh hoping for a better life. Living in Bangladesh and away from their home country causes them to face different struggles. Thankfully, there are Christian groups helping to improve their living conditions. Pray for these Christian groups, that they would bring hope to those who feel hopeless through Jesus' love.

□ Day 25

Many Christians all over the world pray and give money to help Christian workers who are serving in countries that need to hear the message of Jesus. What a great help that is! Ask God to bless those who are being generous with their prayers and money.

□ Day 26

Pray that Christian websites in Bangladesh would be safe places for people to learn about God and help make His name known.

□ Day 27

God wants every Bangladeshi to understand what Jesus did for them. For this to happen, we need Christians to go tell them. Let's pray for that.

“But before people can trust in the Lord for help, they must believe in Him. And before they can believe in the Lord, they must hear about Him. And for them to hear about the Lord, someone must tell them. And before someone can go and tell them, he must be sent. It is written, ‘How beautiful is the person who comes to bring good news.’”

— Romans 10:14-15, ICB

□ Day 28

Those who are chosen to be pastors need to be especially sensitive and obedient to God's Spirit who lives inside them. Pastors are His examples to people and teachers of how Jesus wants people to live. Pray that Bangladeshi pastors keep on learning to live and lead well.

Week 4 Activity: Trace John 14:6 in Bengali

ঈসা তাকে বললেন,
আমিই পথ ও সত্য
ও জীবন; আমার
মধ্য দিয়ে না আসলে
কেউ পিতার কাছে
আসতে পারে না।

ইউহোনা 14:6 BACIB

‘Jesus answered, “I am the way. And I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through Me.”’

- John 14:6, ICB

WEEK 5 REQUESTS



□ Day 29

Sometimes Jesus-centered films are broadcast on television throughout Bangladesh! Pray that many would tune in and discover new life in Christ.

□ Day 30

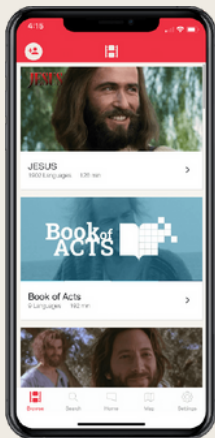
Pray for Christian leaders to help their people grow a strong faith and desire to join God in the work He's doing in Bangladesh.

□ Day 31

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Bangladesh 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 Bangladeshi 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 Bangladesh.
joshuaproject.net/countries/BG
- ▶ Prayercast has great prayer videos.
prayercast.com/prayer-topic/bangladesh
- ▶ 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 2,100 languages on our website.
jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html/english
- ▶ We also have multiple other films and short films available. 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



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

Learn more at jesusfilm.org/pray.



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