

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 India 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.



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 is geographically diverse. The country is host to jungles, plains, deserts, plateaus and islands, with the Himalayan Mountains (the highest mountain range in the world) at its northern border. There are over 2,000 distinct people groups across this diverse land, including one-third of the world's unreached people groups. Pray that all of India's people come to know Jesus.



Did you know?

- ▶ India is home to several hundred languages but has 22 official languages, with Hindi and English being the most commonly spoken. The Jesus Film Project® app currently has films in 280 languages spoken in India.
- ▶ India declared independence from British rule in 1947. It has since developed into the world's largest democracy and the country with the largest population.
- ▶ The Taj Mahal, in Agra, is one of the Seven Wonders of the World.
- ▶ In India, people have the right to choose whatever religion they want to follow. The vast majority of people are Hindu, likely because they were born into a Hindu family. A few are Muslim, and a very few are Christian.
- ▶ Indian food has lots of variety, with states and local areas having their own unique flavors and specialties. So it's not surprising that India is the world's largest spice producer, making about 70% of the world's spices.



Praying for India

Prayer, at its most basic level, is simply talking with God. Like a normal conversation, it includes both speaking and listening. This month we are looking at a prayer model called PRAY, which is based on the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6:9-13. Each letter in PRAY stands for something different.

- **Pause:** To pray effectively we must stop our activities and focus on the Lord. In Psalm 46:10, God tells us, "Be still and know that I am God" (New International Version). When we quiet our hearts and minds we can experience His presence.
- **Rejoice:** As we consciously focus on the Lord and experience His presence, our natural response is to worship. In Matthew 6:9, we read, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name." Take time to rejoice in who God is, in His character and in His attributes. Celebrate Him and rejoice in His glory.
- **Ask:** "Your kingdom come, Your will be done... Give us today our daily bread." Verses 10 and 11 encompass three specific requests: We seek God's kingdom to come to earth, for His will to be done instead of our own, and for our daily needs to be provided for. Asking involves both praying for ourselves (petition) and praying for others (intercession).
- **Yield:** Yielding in prayer means surrendering our plans to the holy God ("Your will be done"). It involves confessing our sins, "forgive us our debts" (verse 12), and receiving His forgiveness. Additionally, we yield our choices to His will to avoid temptation.

Prayer does not always follow a specific model. While it is beneficial to set aside extended time to focus on the Lord and follow the steps in the PRAY method, each step can also be practiced individually. This guide offers daily opportunities for you to join us in the Ask step of this model as we pray specifically for the people in India.



Week 1



*"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, NIV

Week 1 Requests



Day 1

Pray that churches in India will experience God's powerful presence in a new way, leading 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

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 3

Nearly half of India's total population is below 25 years of age. Pray the government will effectively equip its working population, especially those who are younger, 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.

Day 4

Pray for all pastors and Christian leaders in India. Pray for their marriages and families, asking 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 5

Let's pray for Mumbai, the second-largest city in India, with a population of about 22 million. 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 6

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 7

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 Christian workers from and for campuses, workplaces, villages and digital spaces.

Week 2



*“The Lord is near to all who call on Him,
to all who call on Him in truth.”*

— Psalm 145:18, NIV

Week 2 Requests



Day 8

Thousands of India's villages still lack Christian influence. Many organizations are working to make a positive impact. Pray for increased progress as they plant multiplying churches among Indian villages.

Day 9

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 of them.

Day 10

As Jesus captures the hearts of students and calls them to make disciples of all nations, may they go into the world as Christian leaders. Pray that every student in over 50,000 colleges and universities in India would have an opportunity to hear the gospel and begin a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Day 11

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 12

Young adults in India 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 13

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 14

Researchers estimate that over a 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



"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 Requests



Day 15

Pray for a short film series that helps Indians see Jesus' life and miracles portrayed in culturally relevant animation and dialogue. Pray for God to help many people come to know Him.

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! The vast majority of people groups in Uttar Pradesh are unreached. Pray for God to release thousands of laborers to share the gospel and make disciples in this key state.

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 will have an opportunity to learn.

Day 18

Pray for the 65 metro areas 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. It's nestled in the heart of north-central India. 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



“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 Requests



Day 22

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 the work of those providing legal aid to suffering believers will be successful.

Day 23

Pray that 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 24

Pray for the health care 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 25

The city of Chennai, on the southeastern coast of India, has been crucial in the country's traditional, historical and academic growth since the first century. Today, it is 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 26

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 27

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 28

Pray that Christians remain faithful in the midst of challenging circumstances. May believers unite and serve together for the good of their communities.

Week 5 Requests



Day 29

Pray that Christians would unite in caring for and loving their neighbors, regardless of their beliefs. Pray that believers 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.

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.

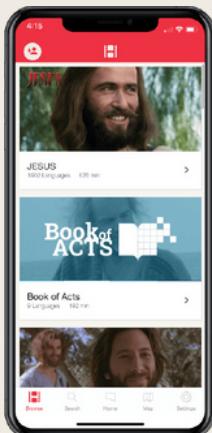
Day 31

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

- ▶ The Joshua Project has a tremendous amount of information about every country. This link will take you to information about India. joshuaproject.net/countries/IN
- ▶ Prayercast has great prayer videos: prayercast.com/india
- ▶ 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. jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html/english
- ▶ We also have multiple other films and short videos 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.



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.

Learn more at jesusfilm.org/pray.

