

Family 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



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 China!



Imagine standing before an army of clay soldiers, each one unique, or trying to count the stars in the night sky above the Gobi Desert. Think about the taste of savory dumplings or the thrill of watching a panda munch on bamboo, its favorite snack. China is a country full of wonders and traditions!

You don't need to travel far to experience China's influence. Over centuries, the Chinese have given the world incredible inventions and customs. For instance, the compass that sailors once relied on to navigate the seas and the fireworks that light up our skies during celebrations—both came from China. These are just some of the many gifts from this ancient and fascinating culture.



Fun Facts About China



The Great Wall of China isn't just one big, long wall like some pictures show. It's made up of lots of walls and forts built over many years by different Chinese leaders. It's so long it would take you a really long time to walk from one end to the other—it's over 13,000 miles (21,000 kilometers)!



China has about 300 different kinds of bamboo, which is more than many other countries have! Bamboo is like a superhero plant there; it's strong, it grows really fast and it's used for everything from building to art. In China, this amazing plant stands for flexibility and strength.



Tea was first discovered in China a long time ago—over 5,000 years ago! There's a legend that says Emperor Shennong discovered tea when some leaves accidentally blew into his hot water, and he liked how it tasted.



Imagine an army of more than 8,000 life-sized soldiers, with horses and chariots, made out of clay. This is the Terracotta Army, crafted many centuries ago. Each soldier has a different face, and each one was made to guard the first emperor of China after he died. The statues were placed in a huge underground room surrounding the emperor's tomb, making them like ancient, unique action figures!



Paper was invented in China by a man named Cai Lun around 105 AD. He figured out how to make it from stuff like old rags and tree bark. It's also possible that people were making paper even earlier than that!

Ready to pray for the people of China?

We've learned some interesting facts about China. Now we want to faithfully follow God's call to pray for its people as seen in 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13:

"We pray that the Lord will make your love grow more and more for each other and for all people. We pray that you will love others as we love you and that your hearts will be made strong. ..."
(International Children's Bible).

Our prayers for the more than 1.4 billion Chinese people can change hearts. God chooses to move in response to our prayers. Throughout this family guide, you'll find a prayer request for each day of the month. This allows us to pray specifically for needs that have been shared with us.

We are excited you and your family are here. Prayer spans the miles. You may be in the United States, India, Nigeria or Egypt. As we pray for the same request each day, our prayers go to the same one true God. He will work in our lives and in the lives of those we are praying for. What a privilege to join together, united in our desire to see God move in China for His glory and the furtherance of the gospel.

Please email us, or have a parent email us, if you have any questions or want to share what you are learning about prayer. We would love to hear from you! prayer@jesusfilm.org



WEEK 1 REQUESTS



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“The Father has loved us so much! He loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are His children. ...”

– 1 John 3:1, International Children's Bible



Day 1

The country of China has hundreds of groups of people who are different from each other. The groups don't always get along because things happened in the past that caused hurt feelings between them. Pray that the Christians among them will bring God's peace to the local people so that everyone can be kind to one another. Pray that the people of China will experience God's love.

Day 2

There are some places in China where Christians are not able to gather together as the family of God. Pray that they find safe places to meet, and that Jesus' love and truth will keep spreading in their neighborhoods.

Day 3

In China there are many small people groups living in places that are difficult to reach. It takes a lot of effort to reach these faraway places, and because of that many of these people have not yet heard about Jesus. Ask God to give Christian churches in China compassion and faith to keep sharing His love with these people groups. Someone must tell them so that they, too, can know there's a loving God who wants to be their friend.

Day 4

Pray for the many people of China who have not yet decided to put their trust in Jesus. His truth is very different and far more wonderful than anything they have ever known. Pray that they would worship Him and no one else.

Day 5

Every country has people who are homeless, poor, lonely, sick or disabled. These people have many needs but don't always receive help. The Bible shows us how Jesus drew near to people like these, and He loved them and met their needs. Pray that followers of Jesus in China would show love and care for needy people, and become regular helpers for them. Pray that needy people would see the love of Jesus in these helpers and want to follow Him too.

Day 6

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 the Christians in China would be thankful to God as these verses describe.

“Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever. ... You are my God, and I will thank You. You are my God, and I will praise Your greatness. Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever.” – Psalm 118:1, 28-29, ICB

Day 7

Just like children in every country, children in China know that even though they try to be good, they don't always make the right choice. Pray that God will give them a heart that wants to know Him and a heart that knows He is nearby, even though they don't see Him. He created each one of them, He loves them and He wants to forgive them when they mess up. God sent His son, Jesus, to die for our mess-ups. Pray that many children would accept Jesus' gift of forgiveness and grow to become men and women who will lead the church someday.

Week 1 Activity: Trace

Trace John 14:6 in Chinese

耶穌說我就是
道路、真理、
生命；若不藉
著我，沒有人
能到父那裡。

約翰福音 14:6

Chinese Union Version (Traditional)

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 2 REQUESTS



*“People everywhere will remember
and will turn to the Lord.
All the families of the nations
will worship Him.
This is because the Lord is King.
He rules the nations.”*

– Psalm 22:27-28, ICB



□ Day 8

Pray that Christians in China would find other Christians and a church that teaches about the God of the Bible. Pray that they would grow to love God and each other, and support one another as God’s family.

□ Day 9

Pray that the sick will receive proper medical care to get better. Pray that Christian doctors and nurses would treat their patients with compassion and care, as Jesus would. May they bring comfort to those who are sick or hurting, letting them know they are loved by God.

□ Day 10

The majority of Chinese people don't believe in any god. However, there are some Jesus followers and Chinese Christian churches who are working to change that. Pray for all Chinese people to learn about Jesus and what He's done for them, so they can choose to know Him.

□ Day 11

Christians in China sometimes face unkind treatment. Pray God will help Christians be strong when they face hard things and unkind people. Pray that their strong faith in God will show others Jesus’ peace.

□ Day 12

Did you know there are many children and young people in China who have never heard of the Bible’s God or His son Jesus? In fact, many schools teach that there is no such thing as God. But we know that the God of the Bible already knows and loves them all, and that each of them needs God. Pray they would learn the truth about Him, that they would put their trust in His son Jesus and keep their faith in Him all the days of their lives.

□ Day 13

When a person decides to trust in Jesus, they begin a new life and learn to follow His ways. He has a plan for that person’s life, and sometimes that means going to a special school where they learn how to become a pastor, church leader or missionary. Pray that these students would get the very best training possible so that they can become the best Christian leaders that they can be.

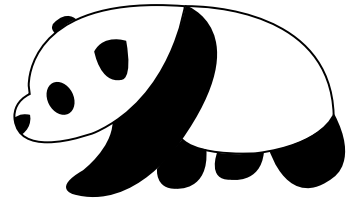
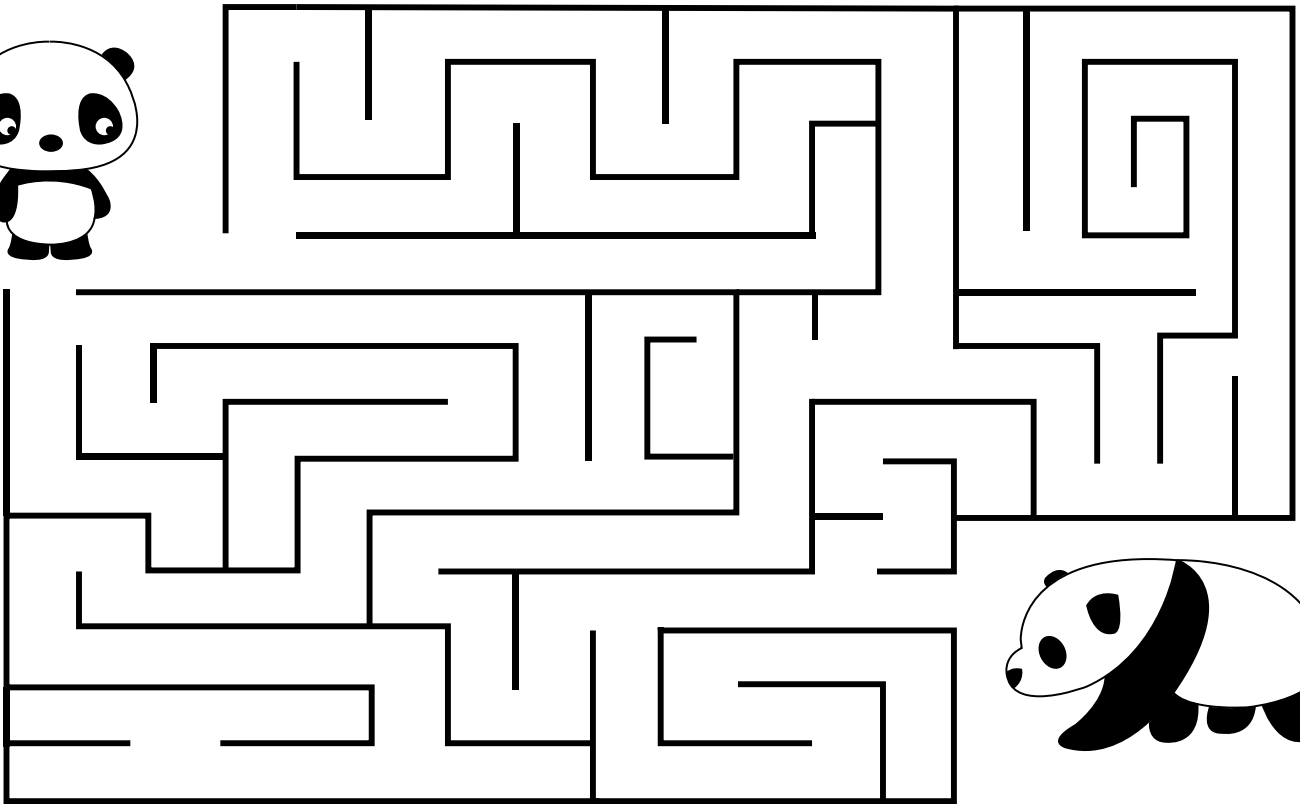
□ Day 14

Pray for Chinese people to go to the Lord in prayer even when they face many challenges. May they discover the beautiful promise of Jesus in Matthew 11:28-30:

“Come to Me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads. I will give you rest. Accept My work and learn from Me. I am gentle and humble in spirit. And you will find rest for your souls. The work that I ask you to accept is easy. The load I give you to carry is not heavy” (ICB).

Week 2 Activity: Panda Maze

Help the baby panda find its mom.



WEEK 3 REQUESTS



*“He is the One who makes the mountains.
He creates the wind.
He makes His thoughts known to man.
He changes the dawn into darkness.
He walks over the mountains of the earth.
His name is the Lord God of heaven’s armies.”*

– Amos 4:13, ICB



Day 15

In places where Christianity is kept secret, followers of Jesus may face difficulty. Ask God to help Christians in these places to trust and listen to Him. He will guide them on what to say. He will make them strong when their life is hard.

Day 16

Pray that the people of China will have the food and other important supplies they need each day. Ask God to help Christians grow in thankfulness for the way He provides for them. He wants them to know they can trust in Him even when their lives are hard.

Day 17

Pray that the leaders of China will want to learn about the God of the Bible and will put their faith in Him. Pray they will lead in a way that is fair and right, and best for the people of the country.

Day 18

Pray that Christian men and women would have healthy bodies, relationships and spiritual lives. Pray that they would remember to practice what they are learning from the Bible and be careful to resist temptations to make the wrong choices.

Day 19

Pray that the Chinese people who don’t yet know about Jesus will learn about Him through things like TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, their computers and phones. May these connections open their eyes to the truth of His claims—that He is God’s Son, that He proved His love for them, and that He is alive today and forever, inviting everyone to follow Him.

Day 20

Pray this for every Christian in China:

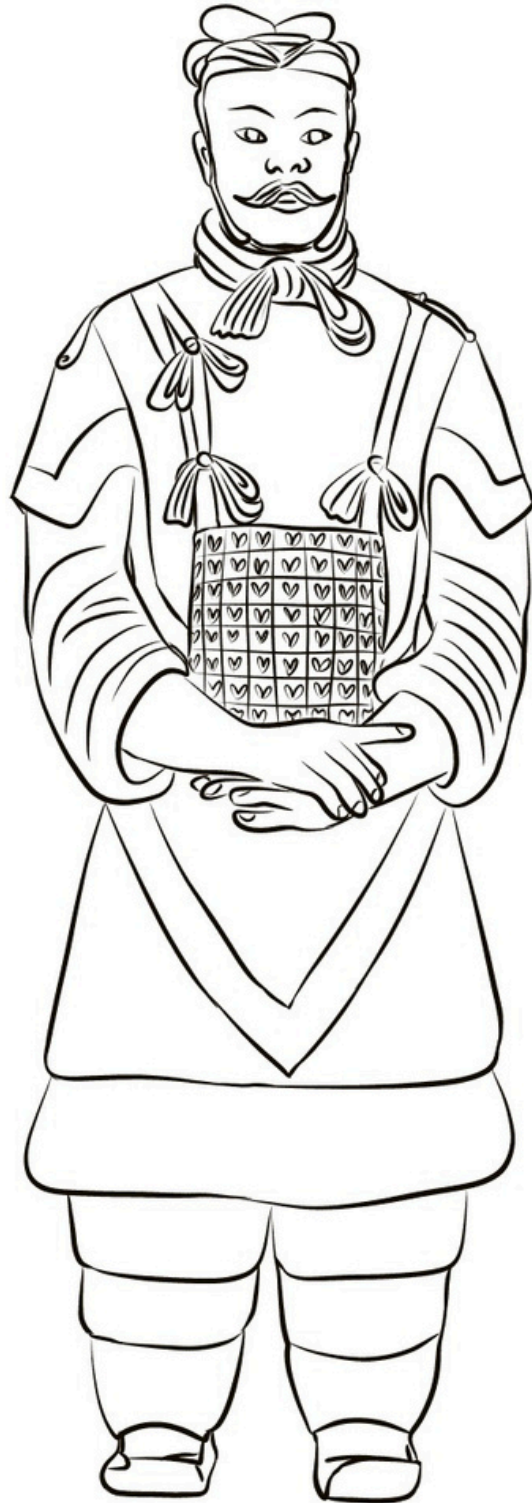
“Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. And God’s peace will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace that God gives is so great that we cannot understand it.” – Philippians 4:6-7, ICB

Day 21

Everyone needs to know about Jesus! Pray that Christians in China would share their belief and trust in Jesus with their family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Pray that these Christians would come alongside new believers, teaching them about their new heavenly Father and how to trust Him each day, so they too may soon share their faith with others.

Week 3 Activity: Coloring

Terracotta Soldier



WEEK 4 REQUESTS



“Then I looked, and there was a great number of people. There were so many people that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth. ...”

— Revelation 7:9, ICB



□ Day 22

Pray that China and all the other countries in the world will find ways to work well together, even if they sometimes disagree with each other. Pray that leaders will hear the gospel of Jesus, and that they can find the best ways to work together to make the world a better place.

□ Day 23

Being a parent is hard work. That is true in China as well. Pray that Christian moms and dads in China would ask God for wisdom in being parents. Pray they learn how to best express love to their children so that each child knows they are dearly loved.

□ Day 24

People in every country love entertainment, like television, movies, video games, and books. But some forms of entertainment aren't honoring to God. Pray that Christians in China can help create uplifting forms of entertainment. Pray that more and more people would look for entertainment that honors God.

□ Day 25

Pray for Christian men and women who have not found a husband or wife yet, that they will see being single as God's gift to them for now. He has a purpose! Pray they will patiently wait for whomever God has for them to marry, and use the time they have now to make their faith stronger by trusting Him in all things.

□ Day 26

Jesus was the very best example of how to live rightly. People were often watching Him, and they saw that He was kind, loving and wise in all that He said and did. His love and kindness toward others honored God, His Father in heaven. Pray that Christians in China would live this way too. Whether they are business people, leaders, teachers, moms, dads or kids, may their words and actions always be kind, fair and loving to everyone. By doing this, those who don't yet know Jesus may want to follow Him too.

□ Day 27

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

“Let the teaching of Christ live in you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and strengthen each other. Sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

— Colossians 3:16, ICB

□ Day 28

Pray Christians in China would model God's plan for marriages and families. God's plan includes husbands and wives who love and care for each other, treat each other well, and put each other's needs before their own. He can empower parents to love and train their kids in the ways taught in the Bible. Let's also pray that kids would love, respect and obey their parents.

Week 4 Activity: Word Search

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

WORD LIST

BAMBOO

CAI LUN

COMPASS

DUMPLINGS

FIREWORKS

GOBI

GREATWALL

KILOMETERS

LEAST REACHED

PANDA

PRAYER

SHENNONG

SOLDIERS

SPANS

TERRACOTTA

UNDERGROUND

WEEK 5 REQUESTS



□ Day 29

There are 24 hours in each day. So if you thank God at mealtimes, pray at bedtime, and pray for the daily requests in this guide, that leaves many hours of not talking at all to our heavenly Father. But God wants us to talk to Him often and about everything, including things like your homework, your friends, your family and even your attitude. He wants you to ask Him about each decision you make. Ask God to help you, and the believers across China, to build a habit of prayer. He's waiting to hear your prayers right now.

□ Day 30

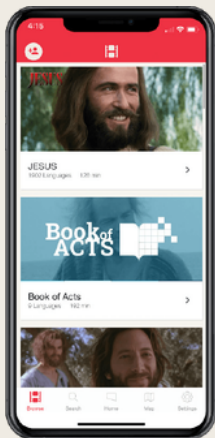
God hears the prayers of all His followers. Every prayer is important to Him. Our hope is that when we pray for China and other least-reached countries, some will feel so much compassion for China's people that they pray and pray all day long and every day. Let's ask God for many people to pray like this, to lead others to pray like this, and to start a wave a wave of prayer that spreads across all of China. Will you be one of them?

□ Day 31

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for China each day this month. We believe You will continue Your work there until everyone has heard clearly about Jesus and has the chance to follow Him. Someday we'll see how You answered our prayers. May heaven be filled with Chinese 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 China.
joshuaproject.net/countries/CH
- ▶ Prayercast has great prayer videos.
prayercast.com/china
- ▶ 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/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.

