



PRAYER FOCUS

FEBRUARY 2018

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US IN PRAYING FOR THE NATIONS!

“The greatest need in Africa is for good leaders,” says Eric Binion, a TEAM missionary to South Africa.

A majority of southern Africans claim to be Christians but if you look closer, it’s often mixed with traditional animistic religion. Others fall into churches that preach nothing but the prosperity gospel.

As a result, spiritual deprivation and corruption run rampant.

That’s why Bible colleges and institutes in Swaziland, South Africa and Lesotho are so vital — and why prayers for their success are so important.

THIS MONTH, JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR BIBLE SCHOOLS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA:

- 1. PRAY** for unity and love among staff and faculty.
- 2. ASK GOD** to bring the right number of students to the schools so that they can function at optimal levels.
- 3. ASK GOD** to bring students to these schools who are teachable, humble and willing to become grace-driven.
- 4. PRAY** that southern African Bible colleges will see disciple-makers as their end product, rather than merely biblically literate graduates.
- 5. PRAY** that these schools will be granted the legal standings they need to gain proper accreditations.
- 6. ASK GOD** to help each staff member identify a few students to intentionally disciple, mentor and coach.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- 1. TAIWAN** | An East Asian church that was started by TEAM in the 1980s is sending a small team on a two-week mission trip to Taiwan at the beginning of this month. The group will be joined by TEAM workers in the region and will help lead a camp for 40 Taiwanese children. Along with Bible lessons, volunteers will teach songs, games and the language from their home country. Pray that this cross-cultural ministry will be spiritually fruitful.

TURN OVER FOR MORE REQUESTS!



MORE PRAYER REQUESTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

2. **MEXICO** | Art and Vicki Reyes ask for prayers concerning the growing number of homicides in their town. Two drug cartels are fighting for control of the local drug market, and at least 900 locals were murdered in 2017. Over 35,000 groups of tourists have had to cancel reservations to local hotels recently. Until the situation gets better, the Reyeses say they must discourage church teams from coming to help with their ministry. Pray for peace and for many to come to the Lord during this dark time.
3. **CENTRAL ASIA** | One week before Christmas, more than 400 people were worshipping in an evangelical church when two suicide bombers attacked. Nine people died and at least 57 were injured. After a week of funerals, official rebukes toward the persecution of religious minorities began to increase. Pray for the families of the victims, and pray that this condemnation of persecution will continue.

PRAISE REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

1. **PHILIPPINES** | David North is thankful for a man who has visited his church plant for several weeks. He is not yet a believer, but he has seen how much God changed one of the church members, and he now wants to be discipled by that church member. The church member has since started a Bible study with him and some friends.
2. **JAPAN** | Georgia Landis praises the Lord for her friend, Kanako*. Since last June, Kanako has rarely missed a Bible study. Georgia recently challenged her to read the Bible to her 94-year-old mother, who used to be a member of a militant Buddhist sect that openly opposes Christ. Later, Kanako told her that she can now turn to the Bible passages they study and that she is really understanding it now.
3. **MIDDLE EAST** | One TEAM worker's friend, "G," recently shared that she had an upcoming meeting with her surgeon to set the date for a cancer surgery. G was clearly afraid, but shortly after that day, she attended the church's women's Christmas coffee. During the event, she heard the story of Jesus in her native language. She was brought to tears and continues to ask many questions. Her surgery was on Christmas Day, and everything went well. TEAM workers are hopeful that they will see her again soon.

**Names changed.*