



team
PRAYER FOCUS
APRIL 2021

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US IN PRAYING FOR THE NATIONS!

When a missionary goes to serve in Europe, most people assume they must have a pretty easy time. After all, there are already church buildings everywhere.

But TEAM missionary Jessica Applegarth describes it differently: “I heard a missionary here in Ireland says they feel like they spend all of their time pulling rocks out of the soil. [It’s] incredibly important for the planting process, but you don’t see any growth. You’re not even to the planting seeds stage yet.”

For generations, Europeans have seen religion used to gain political power. They’ve watched religious leaders abuse the vulnerable without being held to account. And they’ve sought solace in moralism and intellectualism.

“The predominant attitude across the board is that Christianity is a quaint relic of the past from which society has positively progressed,” says Dietrich Schindler, TEAM missionary to Germany.

For missionaries to succeed, they need to show nonbelievers that God is an active, living God, who is faithful to transform lives. And doing so will require long-term dedication, perseverance and boldness.

“God has called so many of us to pull out rocks — to show the world Christ’s love through our lives ... without any promise of seeing the harvest,” Jessica says.

WILL YOU JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE SO CLOSE AND YET SO FAR FROM THE TRUTH? LET’S PRAY FOR POST-CHRISTIAN CULTURES.

Sun: **ASK GOD** to show people the emptiness of life without Him. Pray that they will be drawn to abundant life in Him.

Mon: **PRAY** for patience and perseverance as missionaries invest in people in post-Christian cultures.

Tue: **ASK GOD** to break down misconceptions about Christianity. Pray that people will understand that Christianity is about more than institutions.

TURN OVER FOR MORE REQUESTS!



Wed: **PRAY** that missionaries will be able to provide organic, life-on-life discipleship for new believers and nonbelievers.

Thu: **PRAY** that missionaries and other believers will live authentic lives that draw people to Christ.

Fri: **ASK GOD** to soften hearts as current events and personal hardships rock people's sense of self-sufficiency and security.

Sat: **PRAISE GOD** for those He has pulled out of the darkness. Thank Him for working in people's lives, even when we don't see it.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- I. SPAIN** | Evangelical Christian Academy in Madrid has significant staffing needs for the upcoming school year. The school offers 12 grades of Christian education to missionary kids, as well as international and national students. In the upcoming year, they need a variety of teachers, as well as a finance manager, facility manager and other staff roles. Please ask God to send quality, godly workers to fill these needs.
- 2. PAPUA** | A missionary family in Papua is grieving two recent deaths: a neighbor's child and a neighbor who was also a co-worker at the local Bible school. They died within two weeks of each other. Please ask God to comfort the families, as well as our workers and Bible school students. Pray also for wisdom as our workers consider how they might facilitate first-aid training in this remote part of the world.

PRAISE REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- I. MEXICO** | TEAM missionaries Sandy and Carlos R. celebrated the eighth anniversary of their church plant. At the same time, the local governor announced that churches would be allowed to start meeting in person again with safety precautions. Praise God for preserving this church family's unity and allowing it to flourish in the midst of the storm.
- 2. JAPAN** | Last month, TEAM missionary Sandra P. began the demolition process on a cabin at TEAM's retreat center to turn it into a better dining area. Praise God for those who agreed to help her. And praise God for providing this center, which allows Christian workers to find rest and refreshment.