

**LET
GOD
ARISE!**

The Season after Pentecost: The Coming of the Holy Spirit

6.3.12 - 7.7.12



The Salvation of Our Triune God

John 3.1-17 • Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis

Father of Heaven, Whose Love Profound

Edward Cooper, 1805

Father of heaven, whose love profound
A ransom for our souls hath found,
Before thy throne we sinners bend;
To us thy pardoning love extend.

Almighty Son, Incarnate Word,
Our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
Before thy throne we sinners bend;
To us thy saving grace extend.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
The soul is raised from sin and death,
Before thy throne we sinners bend;
To us thy quickening power extend.

Jehovah - Father, Spirit, Son -
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
Before thy throne we sinners bend;
Grace, pardon, life to us extend.

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Development.*

Pray for:

**Gateway Cities of
the 10/40 Window**
... see page 4

**Inner Cities
of America**
... see page 7

**World Impact's
Ministries**
... see page 8

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The Salvation of Our Triune God

In his conversation with Nicodemus (John 3.1-17) Jesus explains the dimensions of the salvation accomplished by our Triune God. He describes a new birth which results in our becoming children of God the Father, a new vision perspective based on his own incarnation, and a new salvation prompted by the Father's love, won through his death, and made real by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus describes the new birth as necessary, so much so that he suggested, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3.3). Nicodemus could neither understand nor see it, wondering how one could be reborn when they were old, passing through their mother's womb a second time. Jesus clearly said that without being born by the water (i.e., the Word of God) and the Holy Spirit (Titus 3.5-6) one will never enter the Kingdom. What is flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit. Apart from the Spirit's power and regeneration, no one can become God's child. When through faith in Jesus they repent and believe, however, they receive God's own nature (2 Pet. 1.3-4), and become God's own child, being adopted by God, and becoming God's heir. This is of the Father's devising and doing; the One who planned and purposed salvation is the One who makes all things new in the life of a believer.

Jesus also told Nicodemus that the one who believes receives a new vision-perspective of God's working through the revelation, the sacred announcement of the Triune God in the person of Jesus' own incarnation (John 3.9-13). As Nicodemus was unclear regarding Jesus' teaching on the new birth, Jesus taught the confused rabbi that his word was divine, that he was testifying of what he knew of heavenly things. As the Son of the Father, sent from above to redeem humankind, Jesus' testimony was neither his own nor untrue. He suggested that his knowledge of God and his purpose for salvation was utterly unique and final, for only he had been in heaven, and now was sent to earth to bear witness of God's purpose for his creation.



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“No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man” (John 3.13).

Finally, Jesus described the wondrous grace and love of the Father that would lead him to offer his Son as sacrifice for the world (John 3.14-17). In the same way that Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, resulting in the healing and salvation of the disbelieving Israelites, Jesus claimed that he, the Son of Man, would also be lifted up, in order that whoever believed in him would receive eternal life. And what was the motive for this love of the triune God for lost and sick humankind? “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him” (John 3.16-17). As God redeemed his people through the Exodus and wilderness wanderings bringing them into the promised land, so our triune God is saving a people for his name’s sake in Christ. Jesus has become our Passover, and we are to keep the festival now, not with the “old leaven” but with the “unleavened bread of sincerity and truth” (1 Cor. 5.7-8).

The triune God of the universe, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob has determined from eternity past to rescue out of the world a remnant of humankind that will belong to him forever. This season, let us stand in awe of the sovereign love and grace of our great and good God. The redemption of the cities is not dependent on us, but on the will and power of him whose will cannot be thwarted, and whose love prompted the greatest single act of sacrifice creation has ever seen – the incarnation, death, resurrection, and ascension of our risen Lord, Jesus of Nazareth.

As we intercede for the cities of America and the world this season let us remind our God of his wonderful works and boldly seek the grace that he alone can provide for the hurting and oppressed. His work in Christ reveals his heart, and now, by faith, let us claim his supply as we labor in his name for the salvation of the millions in our cities.



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Global Strategic Vision

Pray fervently and in faith for the following *Gateway Cities in the 10/40 Window*. Ask the Lord of the harvest to reveal the power of his Word within these great cities, that the Holy Spirit might enable the millions who do not know Christ to hear clearly God's gospel promise of new life in Jesus Christ.

- Northern Africa: *Dakar* and *Kano*
- Middle East: *Tirana* and *Manama*
- Central Asia: *Ahmedabad* and *Kathmandu*
- Eastern Asia: *Hanoi* and *Changchun*

Pray fervently for these great cities, supplicating on their behalf before the Lord, asking him to pour out his own dear Holy Spirit upon them, *that the Gospel of Messiah Jesus might penetrate these societies with power, signs, wonders, and proclamation, in order that genuine revival might be manifest within each of these influential Gateway cities*. Let us entreat the Lord on behalf of these key cities, believing God for his intervention:

- Pray for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit within *Dakar* and *Kano*. In *Dakar*, pray for workers to evangelize the many ethnic communities in the city, as well as the young people who have moved there for education (Dakar University) and employment; for continued religious tolerance by the Muslim government; for a spiritual breakthrough among the Sufi brotherhoods (some of the more fundamentalist Muslims); for the Spirit to fall on nominal Christians, making their lives and testimony a powerful witness to those around them. In *Kano* pray that Christian ministries may be established in the Muslim city center and for missionaries to be raised up among the Issawa, Maguzawa, and Bade tribes; pray that Christian professionals would develop effective cross-cultural evangelistic strategies; and that the burning of churches and persecution of Christian leaders would stop; pray that the city's high divorce rate may be lowered.



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- Pray for *Tirana* and *Manama*, great Middle Eastern cities. Pray for *Tirana*, that God would use the post-communist economic struggles of the poor to bring many to himself; for improvement of roads so the Gospel can be better transported to villages in mountain regions and that all the short-term evangelistic work done will be successfully followed up. Pray for unity among the churches and for favor of these churches with the government; pray that the influence and plans of Islamic nations to “evangelize” Albania would be thwarted. Pray for Bible and literature distribution in *Manama*, that more people will listen to Christian radio programs beamed into the city, and for a spiritual harvest through these resources; pray that Christian expatriates would come from Asia and get involved in evangelism and discipleship; for the expatriate Arabic-speaking evangelical congregation and their witness to the many Muslims; and that the emir and his advisers will allow evangelism among the Bahrainis.
- Pray for *Ahmedabad* and *Kathmandu*, for the Holy Spirit to renew the *Ahmedabad* believers’ faith in the midst of Hindu influence, pray for outreaches to the vast slum population and the two universities, pray that the united peace march by the churches would demonstrate Christ’s love to the Hindus and Muslims who are in conflict; that the radical Hindu party (BJP) would lose its political influence and stop its opposition to Christianity, and that the government will continue to allow religious freedom. Pray that the churches in the *Kathmandu* valley would become unified, that the fire begun by the AD2000 Congress on Evangelism would continue to burn throughout the country and that believers would learn to walk by the Spirit; pray that the caste system would be brought down, for removal of the barriers to Christianity in the minds of Hindu Nepalis, that the government would continue to guarantee freedom of religion, and that the Church could evangelize without persecution.



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- Pray for *Hanoi* and *Changchu*, for these influential great Eastern Asian cities. Pray for a new generation of pastors to be raised up in *Hanoi* and that the study materials and books needed to train them will become available. Pray for the restrictions on the importation of Bibles to be removed, and for believers to have freedom to worship without harassment. Pray that the strongholds of communism and Buddhism would yield to the power of the Holy Spirit, and that tentmakers would be called to work and minister in the city. Pray for the growing church in *Changchu*, and that the ethnic Koreans in and around the city would zealously share their faith with unreached Koreans in the area as well as with family and friends in North Korea. Pray that the film industry would produce pro-Christian films, and that Christian radio programming would bring a great harvest to this city; pray that Bible study and teaching materials would become available and explain the Gospel to students and professors at the university.



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National Strategic Window

Intercede on behalf of eight of the inner cities of America (*Austin-San Marcos, TX; Bakersfield, CA; Greensboro-Winston-Salem-High Point, NC; Tulsa, OK; Dayton-Springfield, OH; Rochester, NY; West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL; Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT; Albuquerque, NM*), that the Word of God would spread like wildfire throughout the unreached neighborhoods, business districts, and suburbs of these places, and that revival would come to the Church in each city, with the renewal and illumination of the Holy Spirit reviving and refreshing dozens of local congregations, leading to new efforts in evangelism, discipling, and church planting, especially among the urban poor.

- Pray for *a new level of humility and brokenness among God's people, that they would renounce all fleshly power and glory*, that the pastors in these cities would humble themselves, return to God and to the Word, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that the *Christians would repent from low, ignoble views of God, and rediscover God as the Lord, the Sovereign God of history, Jehovah-Jireh, their Provider*. Pray for *manifestations of the Holy Spirit*, that those who do not know Christ would long for the Gospel, and that their hearts would repent and believe, and that God would add many numbers to the faith.
- Above all this month, pray for *an outpouring and visitation of the Holy Spirit*, one that would result in *transformed neighborhoods and changed families*, that would lead to *justice and safety*, and that would result in *thousands of new decisions for Christ and the establishment of new Christ-centered, Bible-based churches in these cities*.
- Pray for a *new spirit of faith and confidence in God* in the same spirit of Mordecai, Esther, Nehemiah, and Ezra, the kind of confidence that would lead God's people in these cities to *attempt great things for God*.



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Regional, Local, and Inter-Ministry Strategic Focus

Let us claim together the power of the Word of God on each ministry area listed below, trusting the Holy Spirit to manifest his wisdom and presence within each area, filling the members who serve within them, and empowering a new generation of believers through them to spark fresh revival and a new awakening among the unreached urban poor within Wichita, and throughout our entire geographic region.

Wichita

Please pray for:

- Continued perseverance and fruit for our Christ the Victor Church plants in Wichita and for the leaders, Gerson and Mayra Berrios, Alvero and Orpha Mora and Manolo and Jodi Saenz.
- Property Manager Search - please continue to pray that God would provide a missionary property manager in his timing. We have had some potentials, but nothing for sure yet. We are trusting God to provide just the right person to come and serve us with their skills of excellence in managing a large property.
- A guys' house in the neighborhood just west of Hillside and 13th. Josh is forming his church planting vision and so we are praying for greater incarnational living opportunities for him to be in the neighborhood.

Planted Churches in Wichita

Please pray for our church plants, for their growth and impact on their respective communities, for the glory of God.

- Lighthouse Community Church in Oaklawn
- La Iglesia Cristiana Vida En Cristo Jesús in Planeview
- Living Hope Church
- Christ the Victor



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TUMI

Satellites, Hope School, and Growth

- Praise God with us for the continuous, steady growth of the number of TUMI satellites in America and across the world (102 satellites, with 10 satellites in countries outside the US [Ethiopia, Ghana, Mexico {4}, Canada {2}, Kenya, Romania, Guatemala, and Honduras), with approximately 1070 students being equipped for ministry and mission through them.
- Pray for the entire TUMI satellite network, i.e., the site coordinators, mentors, and students, applications in process, and new sites recently accepted into our family. Pray for their vision, commitment, resourcefulness, and protection as they lead their students into the Word of God more fully.
- Pray for our local Hope School of Ministry classes, and the new training format of workshops and seminars we will start in the fall. Pray for the new TUMI satellites starting in Wichita, especially the satellite beginning at Tabernacle Bible Church this fall.
- Pray for Ron Phelps and Ryan Carter, their contribution to our enterprise and their participation in various TUMI projects for teaching and research.
- Pray for local Wichita TUMI satellites, soon to be four in the metro area, for their funding, leadership, and potential students.
- Pray for new volunteer and support staff here at National, and their efficient and helpful transition into our work flow, and their contribution to our projects and work.
- Pray for the plans for our Curriculum Distribution Center, for the architectural and construction ideas, and for God's grace to bring the vendors with the time to complete this facility by September.

New Initiatives and Potential Partners

- Thank God for the June rollout schedule being completed with the infrastructure and systems necessary to support our Prison Fellowship



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expansion. Pray for their organization and planning, their workers and the prisons they serve, and for smooth operation of our new storage and inventory systems, and our organization processes to continue to meet the goals of the expansion this year.

- Continue to pray for Cathy Allsman's role as Prison Administrator, for the PF administrators rolling out the expansion, and for the leaders of both World Impact and PF as they sketch out the specific steps of the California prison outreach, and new possibilities in Florida, Colorado, and Ohio.
- Pray for possible partnerships with the COGIC denomination and ETA, both who desire to integrate TUMI training into their respective ministries soon.
- Pray for the creative work of the Chicago-based rap music ministry, Streetlights, which continues to develop resources we hope to integrate within our TUMI curriculum.
- Pray for Fernando and Telma Argumedo's future in Las Vegas as they complete their support at TUMI National, and go on to equip leaders with their parents in churches there in Vegas.
- Pray for God's leading for a new Dean of Hispanic Ministries, someone to fill Fernando's space, and oversee the expansion of TUMI satellites among Spanish-speaking countries around the world.
- Pray for the WI Associates program, for the leaders we are befriending and supporting, and for the funding, contacts, and openings they are employing to plant new churches and set up TUMI sites.
- Pray for the continued development of TUMI satellites and the AWANA Malachi Dads program, for the Lord's timing and leading in how these satellites are formed, and for AWANA's vision and effort to make these happen over the next months.
- Pray for God's leading as we pursue translating Capstone into French and Portuguese, and concerning inquiries of starting satellites



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in Zambia, Haiti, Brazil, Mexico, Costa Rica; pray for timing, contacts, and clear direction as we pursue new relationships.

- Pray our connections to empower church plant movements in Los Angeles, Guadalajara, Denver, Colorado Springs, India, and other places considering creating TUMI sites.

Staff and Personal Requests

- Pray for God's healing for Don's nephew, Robert James, recently diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and for Norma Bridgewater, who continues to recover from various physical and mental health issues.
- Pray for TUMI marriages and families, for their strength, refreshment, protection, and leading as they serve the satellite clientele.
- Praise God for his healing of Lorna's mother's health crisis with her esophagus, and continue to pray for her as they seek to discover any related issues with her health.
- Pray for Lorna's niece, Collette, who recently was treated for necrotizing fasciitis, a serious illness that required multiple surgeries; pray for her convalescence and bed rest (she is a mother of three).
- Pray for Cathy Allsman's transition to our team, and her physical health and strength.
- Thank you for praying for Don Allsman's mother, and her ongoing struggle to defeat cancer; pray for her complete restoration to health.
- Pray for TUMI staff's protection and health, our spirituality and growth as we pursue new exciting directions in leadership training with the Great Tradition.
- Pray for Don's upcoming speaking engagements for inspiration, clarity, and impact.
- Pray for the efforts and planning in constructing our Curriculum Distribution Center, which will enable us to support the Prison Fellowship expansion in California; pray for Joe Graham, our team



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leader in overseeing the building's construction, and all others who will be contributing to its creation in the coming months.

- Pray for our financial support, and wisdom as we oversee our various projects.
- Pray for our TUMI staff family members who need God's care:
 - Lorna's brother, Odrey, and his complete healing of Lou Gehrig's disease
 - Dan's mother's health
 - Carolyn's sister-in-law, Nancy, and healing from recurring cancer
 - Beth's mother, Kathlyn, in her nineties in a nursing home
 - Don's family members (Robbie, Alicia, Norma, and the children of deceased Veronica) and all his family members

TUMI Satellites

Pray for:

- International partnerships with Awana
- Finalizing Spanish translations of textbooks and materials for sites
- Finalizing logistics to support the prison fellowship expansion

CAP

Please pray for our upcoming CAP session at the end of June (23-29). It looks like we will have 11 missionary candidates participating. Pray also for the finishing work that needs to go into the CAP planning and for all the staff who are working so hard to make this event happen.

World Impact Health Ministries

- Please pray for four sites here in Wichita and those who are ministered to in Christ's name that they would respond to the good news that is founded in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Pray for the physicians that usually are volunteering in the evening after a twelve-hour day in the clinic. Also pray over the mobile clinic, drivers, and nursing.



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Wichita Thrift Stores

Please pray for the many who are without work and imprisoned.

Dallas

Pray for the staff and various ministries of World Impact Dallas.

Deer Creek Christian Camp/Denver TUMI

Pray for the staff and ministry of Deer Creek Christian Camp.

Morning Star Ranch

Please pray for:

- More full-time missionary staff . . . we are praying for two families/couples by the end of this year
- Remaining funds and laborers to complete the new dining hall/kitchen by this summer
- Continued grace as we rely on the Lord to lead us in ministering to the churches in the city

St. Louis

Pray for our battleground discipleship group. Two guys have gone through “The Making of a Disciple” and are wanting to go even deeper.

Other Regional Items

Please pray that we can work together more with our church plant efforts and have a coordinated vision. Pray for wisdom and discernment as we seek to follow and strategize for the plans that we believe the Lord has given to us.

San Diego

Pray for the staff and various ministries of World Impact San Diego.

Newark

Pray for the staff and various ministries of Newark: church planting, thrift store, Newark Christian School, TUMI-NJ, job training.



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Chester

Church planters are seeking to find indigenous leaders to disciple and empower for our church plants. Pray for open doors to build relationships and for fruitful discipleship. Pray also for TUMI in PA prisons as more students are interested in taking TUMI classes in the Chester prison. And our Grace Dental Clinic will be opening very soon. Please pray for no more delays in our construction and launch date.

Fresno

We are praying for 100 disciples, 15 faithful dependable church leaders, and 5 new church plants. We recognize that all of this can only be done by the might of our Lord so please join us as we pray for these specific things which we believe will contribute significantly toward a church planting movement.

San Francisco Bay Area

- Pray for us as we hold our summer TUMI courses.
- Please pray that we will continue to find churches that we can serve with TUMI.
- Pray for us as we expand into new cities with TUMI.

Los Angeles

Please pray for the following staff needs:

- A clinic administrator for the Watts Health Ministry
- A store manager for the Sonshine Shop Thriftstore
- A healthy baby girl and healthy delivery for Robyn and Byron Siemsen
- Continued faithfulness and confidence in achieving our vision of planting 8 new church plants in 2012 through empowering urban leaders, World Impact church planters and strategic partnerships



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Los Angeles Christian School and Watts Christian School

Please pray that the summer would be a good, refreshing, rejuvenating one for all of our students, teachers and families!

Kaleo Young Adult Ministry

Please pray for our Kaleo young adult ministry that just started a month ago. We are asking God to help our group of young adults be missional in inviting their non-believing friends to attend our informal get-togethers where relationships would be built and the Gospel presented.

TUMI LA

Please pray for the success of our mission to equip ministers to build God's kingdom among the urban poor. This includes recruiting and orienting new mentor-teachers, planting new classes in locations that are easily accessible to the urban poor, and raising scholarship funds to support our students. Many potential students are in county jails and state prisons, so please pray for the ministry of Mike Broyles as he seeks to establish TUMI centers there. Finally, pray for our students who are called by God to ministry but who face daily challenges to the completion of their training.

LA Church Plants

- Pray for our World Impact Associate, Hector Cedillo. He is doing the work of an evangelist with the hopes of establishing a house church among the spanish speaking Mexicans in the Bronx, New York. Pray for God's favor to go before Hector. He just finished his first of three journeys to the Bronx (he is from Los Angeles) and as he says, "I felt like I got my feet wet. My next trip I will be up to my waist."
- We are in a growing relationship with Yetem Geta. He is a church planter from Ethiopia who now lives in Los Angeles. He has a vision to reach the Muslims from Ethiopia and Somalia who live here. "This is our Jerusalem. Let's start here." Join us in praying how we



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may be able to partner together to preach the Gospel so that a movement to Jesus will take place among these two people groups.

- Pray for our efforts to reach more ethnic people groups in the mega city of Los Angeles. Pray that God will direct us to more people like Yetem Geta whom we can link our efforts together to expand and advance God’s Kingdom in the city. We are seeking more church planters and church planting pastors. Pray that the Spirit will call, they respond, we connect, and together we labor in the planting of new churches.

The Oaks

Pray for the staff and various ministries of The Oaks Camp.

Harmony Heart Camp

Please pray for the staff and various ministry opportunities of Harmony Heart Camp.

Winnipeg - TUMI

- The School of Urban Leadership is seeking to hire a new part-time satellite director by this summer. Pray that the Lord will send us just the right person for this task. Pray also for each of our students but especially for our first year student, Karuba Suven. Karuba is blind and we are seeking to come up with the best possible ways to include him in every lesson. Pray for our creativity and resources.
- Regarding Escuela de Entrenamiento Biblico: Pray that our third year students will complete their classes with great joy. They have only four more classes to graduate. Pray for our students as we are starting to take them on “missions trips” to two other small cities in Manitoba with growing Hispanic communities. We desire to see our students become more Missions minded and be open to exploring new doors of opportunity for ministry in these cities.



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Friends and Partners

God's continued leading and direction through our WI national and local Board members, God's blessing, protection, and wisdom for Dr. Phillips and the executive team, for all the Directors of WI ministries nationwide, for all our supporters and volunteers; pray for our partnership churches, here in Wichita and throughout the nation, that God would bless them, empowering them to grow, mature, and multiply so that the Gospel of Christ would spread in their own communities, and from them across the country and world.

Continue to pray for our elderly parents, and for those who have recently lost their parents and other loved ones.

Lift up all those who have recently lost loved ones. Pray that the Lord will comfort all of our family (and their families) during this time of loss and that the Lord will use this time of sorrow to direct the attention of any in their circles who do not know the Lord to our Savior.

Please continue to pray for the health of our ailing parents. Please pray also for all of the parents of staff who are aging and beginning to experience health concerns.

Please pray for our staff children across the country. Pray for their encouragement, safety, strength, and growth as they serve with their families in the city. Pray that each will follow the Lord's leading in their lives and that all will be radical disciples of Jesus.

For the National Office Ministry

Pray for wisdom for the leadership and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our entire staff. Pray for health, nurture and joy along with vision and encouragement among our staff. Pray for their provision and refreshment as they serve us all!



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Pray fervently for God's great favor and leading upon Dr. Phillips, and for strength and anointing as he travels and speaks. Continue to pray for his family, and for all the members of our excellent National Board, and all the ministries, staff, and friends of World Impact.

For World Impact

Please pray for more laborers for the harvest in partnership with World Impact. Pray that we would have more applicants to join World Impact staff.

Pray for God's blessing on our urban church plants around the country, for church plant team leaders and members, for outreaches in new neighborhoods, and prospects of new teams.

Pray for a new level of power and spiritual passion for our workers on the field, for their health and stamina, and for a new vision of how God wants to use them to make disciples of Jesus, both in their own communities and around the world.

Pray for God's financial blessing upon our local and national ministry, that we would gain the resources to do effectively and excellently what God is calling us to do.



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Ahmedabad

(ah-med-uh-bahd)

Day 16

Meaning: "Ahmed's town"
Country: India, Gujarat Province*
Population: 4,396,000
Poverty: 41% slum dwellers
Religious Breakdown:
75.0% Hindu
10.93% Muslim
5.0% Sikh
3.58% Christian
0.52% Evangelical

Status of the church: 63 churches

Major Religious Sites:

Jami Masjid Mosque,
Sidi Saiyad Mosque,
Ahmed Shah Mosque,
Hathee Singh Temple,
Hathee Singh Temple

City Significance/History:

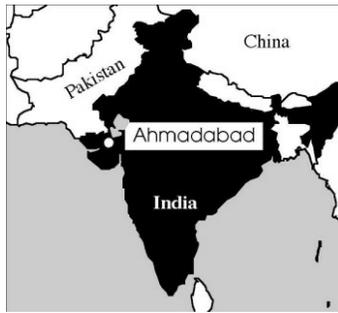
Ahmad Shah I, sultan of the Gujarat state of western India, founded the city early in the 15th century. The city found life along the Sabarmati River, where he built the city on the site of Karnavati. Karna was a Hindu god—the son of the Sun and Pritha. It was said that Karna was born clothed with arms and armor. He was later killed in a battle, and his religious fame died with him.

With the city's name change also came a strengthening of Islam. Mosques were built and Islam grew stronger. The Jami Masjid Mosque was constructed from the demolished Jain Temple. Tensions between Hindus and Muslims continue. Mahatma Gandhi longed for a peaceful unification of the two religions. From Ahmedabad he walked to the Indian Ocean in protest of the Salt Laws. However, the rise of the BJP, a radical Hindu political party, has threatened to destabilize the country's political life and social balance. The BJP is threatening the freedom of minority religions.

The city is one of India's most important textile centers. Yet it has a huge slum population, which possesses no or inadequate civil amenities. Most people are illiterate and unemployed, and street children are the byproduct of this tragic situation.

Prayer Points

1. The Hindu Navaratri festival has also attracted many Christians, adversely affecting their faith. Pray that believers would be renewed by the Holy Spirit.
2. Pray that the united peace march by the churches and the "Love Ahmedabad Project" would demonstrate Christ's love to the Hindus and Muslims who are in conflict.
3. The city is a stronghold of the BJP. Pray that this radical Hindu party would lose its political influence and stop its opposition to Christianity.
4. Pray for outreaches to the vast slum population and to the two universities.
5. Pray that the government will continue to allow religious freedom.



Kathmandu (kat-man-doo)

Day 20

Meaning: "one temple by a tree"
Country: Nepal*
Population: 372,000
Poverty: Many are just trying to survive
Religious Breakdown:
89.0% Hindu
7.0% Buddhist
0.58% Christian
0.56% Evangelical

Status of the church: 56 churches, some growing fellowships

Major Religious Sites:

Pashupatinath Temple,
Talejo Temple,
Bodhanath Stupa,
Swayambhunath Stupa,
Kaba Aye Pagoda

City Significance/History:

Trade routes from Tibet and northern India passed through the high Himalayas and flowed past the foothills, where the fertile Kathmandu valley became an important trade center. By the 17th century, the local Newari people refined much of the Hindu temple and worship art. The valley consisted of small city-states competing to outdo each other in art techniques and creativity. Many of the carved gods and temples took shape during this period.

100 years later, Nepal was unified by the first Gorka king. From this time, the metro area of Kathmandu grew as more and more villagers came from all over Nepal, the vast majority being Hindu.

The Bagmati River cuts through the valley on its way through the foothills of Nepal and meets the Ganges River many kilometers later. Along the river is Pashupatinath, the most holy Hindu temple in Nepal. Pilgrims from India will come here because it is the holiest Shiva temple in the world. Shiva, the creator, the shepherd—Shiva, the destroyer, the bloodthirsty, is who the pilgrims seek. Protecting the entrance to Shiva's temple is Nandi, Shiva's golden bull.

Not many kilometers to the west, the Great Stupa of Bodhanath is the largest Buddhist temple in Nepal.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the removal of the barriers to Christianity in the minds of Hindu Nepalis.
2. Pray that the government would continue to guarantee freedom of religion and that the church could evangelize without persecution.
3. The churches in the Kathmandu valley are clannish and divided. Pray that they would become unified in Christ.
4. Pray that the believers would be delivered from superstitions and old ways of living and that they would learn to walk in the Spirit.
5. Pray that the caste system, which separates people, would be brought down.
6. Pray that the fire begun by the AD2000 Congress on Evangelism in Kathmandu would continue to burn throughout the country.



Kano

(kahn-oh)

Day 4

Meaning: unknown
Country: Nigeria, Kano State*
Population: 660,000
Poverty: Many live in mud block homes with poor nutrition, sanitation, and health
Religious Breakdown:
80.0% Muslim
5.0% Traditional Religion
14.9% Christian
0.1% Evangelical

Status of the church: None in the old walled city, Hausa people are converting

Major Religious Sites:

Central Mosque,
New Mosque

City Significance/History:

In the middle of Nigeria there is an imaginary line drawn. The forces behind it have spiritual roots. To the north of this line, the knowledge of Christ is almost nil. From the line south, amazing church growth has occurred. The capital, the largest city, and most churches are in Nigeria's south.

Kano, Nigeria's third largest city, is the oldest city in West Africa. It has been a commercial center in the region for hundreds of years. Camel caravans have been replaced by trucks, but it is still a lively city.

Some miles away from Kano, the tall, white minarets and green tile dome of the mosque tower appear above the heat waves lifting off the desert sand. The interior part of the city is surrounded by a wall. Inside this wall on Friday, the holy day, 50,000 Muslims will bathe, remove their shoes, and enter the mosque to pray.

As the mosque gets closer, this ancient Hausa city takes on shape. A few shade trees cover one-story adobe homes. The walls are thick to give warmth in the winter, and bring needy relief from the sun during the summer. Streets run in all directions, twisting and turning as the city continues to grow, as homes are being built out of the earth around them.

Prayer Points

1. Pray that Christian ministries may be established in Greater Kano, the Muslim city center which is separated by a physical wall. Pray that the spiritual wall, which it symbolizes, may be broken down in the hearts of the Kanawas.
2. Pray that the city's high divorce rate may be lowered. This is caused by forced marriages of girls aged 10-12, who become pregnant and damage their reproductive organs at delivery. Husbands then divorce their sterile wives.
3. Pray that the burning of churches and persecution of Christian leaders stop—that civic officials will allow outdoor crusades for evangelism.
4. Pray that Christian professionals would develop effective cross-cultural evangelistic strategies such as medical service and well drilling.
5. Pray for missionaries to be raised up among the Issawa, Maguzawa, and Bade tribes.



Hanoi

(ha-noi)

Day 27

Meaning: "the city at the river's bend"
Country: Vietnam*
Population: 1,260,000
Poverty: Poor economy because of war
Religious Breakdown:
52.0% Buddhism
29.8% Nonreligious/Atheist
3.0% Animist
9.8% Christian (mainly Catholic)
0.78% Evangelical

Status of the church: Small but growing

Major Religious Sites:

Chua Mot Cot (One Pillar Pagoda),
Dien Huu Pagoda,
Quan Su Pagoda,
Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum

City Significance/History:

For 1000 years, Hanoi has housed emperors and government officials. Under the Emperor Ly Thai To, the site was known as Souring Dragon. By the 20th century, the French ruled Indochina from their regional capital at Hanoi. The French colonial period inspired many Vietnamese to desire a free and independent homeland. The French suppressed a number of uprisings, but Marxist-Leninist revolutionary theory was taking root among the educated.

During World War II power control of Indochina changed from France to Japan, while the Communist Party grew in northern Vietnam. The following years saw the Vietnamese communists take power, dividing the country between north and south in civil war. This war escalated into the Vietnam War, where cities and villages of civilians were destroyed to kill a few of the enemy's forces. In the end, the communist north gained control of the whole country. Slowly the civil war gave rise to peace under communism.

Four decades of suffering have started to allow greater freedom for a market economy. Religious figures (Buddhist and Catholic) have been imprisoned in recent years because they represented voices against communist oppression.

Prayer Points

1. Pray that restrictions on the importation of Bibles will be removed.
2. Pressure by security forces on unregistered churches is growing. The government officially has loosened its rigid grip on religion, but police continue to raid churches. Pray for believers to have freedom to worship without harassment.
3. As business relations normalize with the outside world, pray for tentmakers to be called to work in the city.
4. Pray for a new generation of pastors to be raised up, and that the study materials and books needed to train them will become available.
5. Pray that the strongholds of communism and Buddhism would yield to the power of the Holy Spirit.



Dakar

(dah-kahr)

Day 1

Meaning: "tamarind tree"

Country: Senegal*

Population: 1,847,000

Poverty: Slums and many seasonal migrants

Religious Breakdown:

91.0% Muslim
3.6% Traditional Religions
5.4% Roman Catholic
0.07% Evangelical

Status of the church: Only a few of the ethnic groups have churches

Major Religious Sites:

Grand Mosque

City Significance/History:

Many of the capital cities in Africa were developed by European ruling powers almost 200 years ago. At this time, African seaport cities became important economic centers, trading everything from peanuts to slaves.

Dakar has the most strategic location of them all. It was from Goree Island that 3 million slaves were shipped. As the westernmost point in Africa, Dakar is the best departure port for South America, making it a strategic military location for the Atlantic south of the equator, and a trade hub for West Africa.

Founded by the French in 1857, Dakar was named the capital of French West Africa. This beautiful city is economically wealthy compared to the rest of the country. As the national railway terminus, it fosters significant trade and revenue.

Many poor villagers come to the city to sell vegetables and fruits, or move there in hopes of making money to send back to the village. A missions strategy has developed from this kind of migration. By reaching large, significant cities it might be possible to reach all the ethnic groups in the whole country. If one of these migrants hears the good news of Jesus, he or she might take Jesus back to the village.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for workers to evangelize the many ethnic communities living in the city. Most of these communities need separate church planting efforts because they speak different languages.
2. Pray for continued religious tolerance by the Muslim government. The freedom to witness without fear of persecution is rare in Muslim countries.
3. Pray that a spiritual breakthrough can occur among the powerful *Sufi* brotherhoods, who are some of the more fundamentalist Muslims in the country.
4. Pray that the lifestyle of the nominal Christians would be transformed to reflect better a life in Christ.
5. Pray that young people who have moved to Dakar for education and employment would be reached with the gospel. Pray for students at Dakar University.



Changchun

(chahn-chun)

Day 21

Meaning: "eternal spring"

Country: China, Jilin Province *

Population: 2,620,000

Poverty: Communism has provided basic needs

Religious Breakdown:

59.1% Nonreligious/Atheist
30.1% Chinese Religions
1.4% Muslim
6.1% Christian
5.0% Evangelical

Status of the church: TSPM 36,000 members (see [Jinan](#) for TSPM explanation)

Major Religious Sites:

Weihuaningong Imperial Residence

City Significance/History:

Watchtowers top the many buildings of the tree-lined avenues of Changchun. Most of these buildings were built by the Japanese during their military occupation of this region from 1933—45. The city was used for administrative headquarters and the capital of the Manchukou, a "puppet" government set up by Japan. Most of the electric lines were run underground to better protect them during this extremely traumatic time. The Japanese slaughtered many Chinese during their occupation.

The arrival of the Cultural Revolution brought persecution of Christians, and churches were closed. Recently restrictions for churches to minister have been somewhat lifted. Few believers want to identify with the "official" church because of fear of persecution. House churches continue to meet.

Today Changchun is known for its university and automobile industry. It is the site of one of China's most famous film studios.

Because of its proximity to North Korea, the population of Koreans living in the city is significant. When militant communism started to grip Korea, many Koreans fled across the border into the Jilin Province.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the growing church among the ethnic Koreans in and around the city and that they would zealously share their faith with unreached Koreans in the area.
2. Pray for the ethnic Korean Christians as they seek to contact family and friends back in North Korea. May they bring a bold witness to them.
3. Pray that the film industry would produce pro-Christian films.
4. Pray that Christian radio programming that is broadcast into the city would bring in a great harvest.
5. Pray that Bible study and teaching materials would become available to explain the gospel to students and professors at the university.



Tirana

(ti-rah-nuh)

Day 8

Meaning: ancient name of Tuscany

Country: Albania*

Population: 427,000

Poverty: Poorest nation in Europe

Religious Breakdown:

81.0% Muslim
18.0% Christian
0.06% Evangelical

Status of the church: A few evangelical fellowships have recently started

Major Religious Sites:

Ethem Bey Mosque,
Enver Hoxha Memorial

City Significance/History:

Paul, in Romans 15:19, reported that he had "preached the gospel of Christ" in the region of Illyricum, which lays on the Adriatic Sea.

Romans marched through this area on their way to Thessalonica and Constantinople. Other invaders in turn conquered, but were replaced by the Muslim Ottoman Turks. Albania became the only European country to be predominantly Muslim.

Barkinzadeh Suleiman Pasha, an Ottoman Turk, founded Tirana in the 17th century, and it became Albania's capital in 1920. At this time, there were about 12,000 residents living in the city.

During World War II, communism gripped the city and radically changed it. For almost 50 years the strictest communism in the world closed churches and mosques, outlawed all religions, and sealed off the country from the outside world. Party propaganda shaped the lives of the people. The citizens were told that they were the richest people in the world because in other Western countries only a handful of people were rich while the masses were extremely poor.

People's eyes have been opened to the lies. Albanians now realize they are the poorest nation in Europe, with 60% unemployment and rapid inflation.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the poor as they struggle to live in a post-communist country—that God would use the economic struggles to bring many to himself.
2. Pray that the influence and plans of Islamic nations to "evangelize" Albania would be thwarted.
3. Pray for the improvement of roads so that the gospel can be better transported to villages in the mountain regions.
4. Pray that all the short-term evangelistic work done during the summer will be successfully followed up as planned. Without effective follow-up many young believers will not receive the needed discipleship.
5. Pray for unity among the churches and that the church would find favor with the government.



Manama

(ma-na-muh)

Day 7

Meaning: "place of rest"

Country: Bahrain*

Population: 270,000

Poverty: Great wealth

Religious Breakdown:

85.0% Muslim
6.2% Hindu
7.2% Christian (among expatriates)
0.77% Evangelical

Status of the church: Expatriates can worship freely, a few national believers

Major Religious Sites: Juma (Friday) Mosque,
Beit al-Quran Islamic Center,
Al Fateh Islamic Center

City Significance/History:

Manama the money center, Manama where riches lay hidden. In the land of saltwater and desert sand, fresh water brings life. The city's wealth once richly flowed because of ample fresh water to help date groves flourish and because of pearls lifted out of knee-deep waters.

Now pearl divers have been replaced by urban oil workers; wooden sailing ships stopping to fill their water tanks have become supertankers moving millions of barrels of oil. The wealth continues to grow.

It is expected Bahrain will be the first Gulf state to run out of oil, but they are already planning ahead. Building a supertanker dry dock and an aluminum plant are only a few ways they are preparing for the future.

In Manama, commercial banks were started when the oil revenues flowed. Because of this financial system, it leads the way in banking in the Gulf and is the major banking center between London and Singapore. The economy is strong, and with investments under way, Manama will continue to be a leader in the Gulf.

Prayer Points

1. Pray that more people will listen to the Christian radio programs beamed into the city, and pray that more Bibles will become available for distribution.
2. Pray that more Christian expatriates will come from Asia to be involved in evangelism and discipleship.
3. Pray that the emir and his advisers will allow evangelism among the Bahrainis.
4. There is one Arabic-speaking evangelical congregation consisting mainly of expatriates. Pray for its witness to the many Muslims.
5. Pray for a spiritual harvest through the distribution of Christian literature and videos.

