

# JULY

## Hope for the Harassed and Helpless

Jesus often ministered to the marginalized and those considered at risk. Matthew 9:36 references Jesus' compassion for those "harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Throughout this edition we'll be praying for some of the harassed and helpless, people suffering from famine, tempted by or escaped from the sex industry, wrestling with the stigma of having had Ebola, battling HIV/AIDs, or struggling as refugees. Regardless of the prayer request topic, all are connected to the work of communicating the gospel of love, acceptance, and new life in Jesus Christ to those who are living and dying without Him. This task is still urgent and the workers few. Jesus' words in Matthew 9:38 still ring out, "Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers..." Thank you for your gospel work, *by prayer!*

## JUL 1 SATURDAY

**SIM Director Team & Board** – Stacy Conard facilitates SIM's Trauma Healing ministries worldwide. Pray caregivers effectively transfer to Jesus the pain they often absorb from those they care for. Pray Trauma Healing ministries will remove barriers that keep many from knowing and worshipping Jesus.

## JUL 2 SUNDAY

**International Services** – Chibok girls released from their Boko Haram captors now must transition back into society. Pray family and church members will patiently love them as they process the trauma they suffered. Pray they experience complete restoration and healing in Jesus.

## JUL 3 MONDAY

**Worldwide Ministries** – Many SIM workers daily serve people with few resources or hope. This constant contact can be draining as they help and share the gospel. Pray they stay close to God and maintain balance to continue serving and loving with energy.

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## THE AMERICAS

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### JUL 4 TUESDAY

**Ministry Focus** – SIM is partnering with local churches to provide relief after the catastrophic floods of March displaced over 700,000 people. We have helped provide food, water filters, blankets, temporary housing, and more. On one trip we visited locations where people are living in tents or sleeping in the open. Many Peruvians have lost all their worldly possessions and have no home to return to. Pray many will come to know the Lord through this trial.  
—*from Jason and Marcy Brink, Peru*

### JUL 5 WEDNESDAY

**Bolivia** – A new law is being proposed to legalize abortion. Pray the Bolivian Church wisely and gracefully brings to society awareness of the sanctity of prenatal life. Pray the mission community prayerfully discerns its role in this sensitive debate.

### JUL 6 THURSDAY

**Canada** – John Cassells works with street-involved youth and advocates for women caught in sex trafficking. Pray he makes strong connections with these marginalized people, and shines the light of Jesus in these dark areas of Canada.

### JUL 7 FRIDAY

**Chile** – Chilean missionary E works among refugees in the Horn of Africa. Pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual stamina to be a bearer of hope and joy to those without Jesus. Pray God will build His Church in this dark place.

### JUL 8 SATURDAY

**Ecuador** – SIM is establishing ties with the Latin American branch of Intervarsity and local churches to initiate a student ministry in Loja City. Pray for unity among the participating organizations, creativity, for opportunities on campuses, and especially in students' hearts.

### JUL 9 SUNDAY

**OCLA** (*Office Connection Latin America*), Ecuador – Praise God for the faithful OCLA workers equipping and sending new Latin American missionaries throughout the world. Pray financial and prayer support comes in for applicants waiting to go. Pray health and wisdom for those already on the field.

### JUL 10 MONDAY

**Paraguay** – Please be praying for the general health of the missionary team in Paraguay. Their Spiritual Life Conference is in July; with many visitors, it is the largest group ever. Pray for a true time of encouragement and refreshing for all.

### JUL 11 TUESDAY

**Peru** – Many lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods in Peru's recent mudslides. Pray they will find hope and strength in God as they rebuild their lives. Pray Christians will continue to reach out and help them.

**United States** – Pray for Christians ministering to least-reached people groups in the U.S. An IT person is needed to help one team reach a people at risk, many of whom are seeking truth. Pray for provision, and for many to meet Jesus through this ministry.

### JUL 12 WEDNESDAY

**Uruguay** – SIM Uruguay invests in children in a lower-resourced neighborhood with a growing homework club called *Atrévete a Soñar* (Dare to Dream). Please pray God would provide sufficient materials and volunteers to expand it to other parts of Uruguay.

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## EUROPE

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### JUL 13 THURSDAY

**Ministry Focus** – SIM researcher Josh Chard traveled six months throughout Europe to discern how SIM can minister to refugees. Results showed generous influx of humanitarian aid, but very little gospel outreach. There are tremendous opportunities to reach migrants who have never heard the gospel and are longing for purpose and meaning. Sports, teaching, practical training, and other ministries are possibilities. Pray for God's people to mobilize to show Jesus' love and transform communities.

### JUL 14 FRIDAY

**France** – Becoming a Christian is risky and must be kept secret where E serves. The SIM team is creating a company to reach these people with Jesus' good news. Pray wisdom and protection for them to reach many through this project.

#### JUL 15 SATURDAY

**Switzerland** – Several missions organized the week of July 17–21 to debrief families. Pray all are refreshed by the Lord, wounds are healed, and those leaving ministry assignments experience the help they need to transition back to their home culture.

#### JUL 16 SUNDAY

**United Kingdom** – Many traumatized refugees and migrants fleeing atrocity, fear, and hardship have left everything behind. Pray for a campaign SIM UK is launching to help the UK Church compassionately respond so refugees will encounter Jesus' healing acceptance and love.

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### NORTH & WEST AFRICA

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#### JUL 17 MONDAY

**Ministry Focus** – "Will God forgive me if I sell myself to feed my children?" asked a Christian woman living in a camp for those displaced by Boko Haram violence. A suffering economy has brought many to the verge of starvation, especially the 3 million in the camps. Also, many of our Bible students are struggling to pay school fees, and some have had to withdraw. Ask the Lord to meet their physical and spiritual needs. —*from Kevin and Alexis Stokes, Nigeria*

#### JUL 18 TUESDAY

**Benin** – Pray for HIV/AIDS patients as many suffer from family rejection and the harsh stigma around HIV. Pray children who come to the support group will understand the gospel message and be encouraged by the activities.

**Burkina Faso** – MART is a street girls' shelter and training center in Ouagadougou offering young women at risk a welcoming, Jesus-loving family with education and skills-based training. Pray they come to love Jesus and effectively transition back into the community.

#### JUL 19 WEDNESDAY

**Côte d'Ivoire** – Younoussa Djao is acting SIM Côte d'Ivoire director. Arnaud Sleuvale is working to reorient his denomination's financial structure. Pray both of these men manage their responsibilities well while the Seris are on home assignment.

#### JUL 20 THURSDAY

**Ghana** – Young Sisaala women in northern Ghana work hard to help their families. They have limited opportunities once they complete school. Pray they remain strong in their faith and resist pressure to compromise their purity and/or to marry outside their faith.

#### JUL 21 FRIDAY

**Guinea** – "Timothy" is a young new believer whose wife and son were taken from him because he's now following Jesus. Pray they will be reunited, and for him to joyfully and peaceably remain steadfast in Jesus' love regardless.

#### JUL 22 SATURDAY

**Liberia** – Survivors of the 2014 Ebola crisis and their families still face social stigma, trauma, and economic challenges. Pray God enables the Church and SIM to use resources to reach out to these communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.

#### JUL 23 SUNDAY

**Mali** – There is much illegal gold mining in Mali, with many opportunities for child labor, sex trade, and trafficking. Pray the Lord sends compassionate laborers to bring the healing love of Jesus to the gold mining camps.

#### JUL 24 MONDAY

**Niger** – Largely a country of subsistence farmers, plenty or famine is determined by the quantity and regularity of yearly rains. As the rainy season begins this month, pray God will send regular rains in the right quantities for His glory.

#### JUL 25 TUESDAY

**Nigeria** – Due to past terrorist activity or ongoing unrest in other areas, many who have returned to their homes in northern Nigeria are enduring famine. Please pray for aid to reach those in need, and for this humanitarian crisis to ease.

#### JUL 26 WEDNESDAY

**North Africa** – The North Africa Office partners with an agency touching numerous people at risk due to poverty, alienation, and/or incarceration. More workers are needed to fill the many gaps in this ministry. Pray for sensitive and loving workers to come soon.

#### JUL 27 THURSDAY

**Senegal** – Praise for the recent third annual overnight Sports Friends camp. Pray the message and love of Jesus will multiply in the hearts of the kids who came with their coaches, and spread throughout their families and villages.

**Togo** – New believers from the majority religion face persecution in varying forms. Pray mature Christians come alongside them to encourage, and even take them in if necessary. Pray wisdom for missionaries' participation, especially in the areas of discipleship and mentoring.

#### JUL 28 FRIDAY

**West African Office, Côte d'Ivoire** – Daniel and Malata are concerned for drug addicts in Ouaga. Pray God speaks to these addicts through the evangelism that is done every Thursday. Pray the staff are kept safe and encouraged even though the work is not easy.

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### EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

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#### JUL 29 SATURDAY

**Ministry Focus** – After evacuating due to recent fighting, our team is now back in Doro providing outpatient, maternity, nutrition, and leprosy care. We recently received a call that an 8-year-old, living under some trees with other internally displaced people, needed urgent transport to the clinic. Thankfully, our staff found him and gave him proper care. Please continue to pray that our clinic will shine as God's light in a needy place. —*from the SIM Doro Health Team, South Sudan*

#### JUL 30 SUNDAY

**Angola** – August is the month in which national elections will be held in Angola. Pray for a peaceful and fair electoral process as well as for an outcome that assures continuing open doors for ministry.

**Botswana** – The Tanner family, on home assignment in the UK, expect their third child in September. Ask God for a safe delivery, and for wisdom as they prepare for a new ministry with many decisions regarding location, children's schooling, language learning, etc.

#### JUL 31 MONDAY

**East African Office, Ethiopia** – The East African Office is working to send missionaries to a number of high risk context nations unreached with the gospel. Pray God will call, equip, and sustain those who will say, "Yes, I will go!"

# AUGUST

## AUG 1 TUESDAY

**Eritrea** – Continue to pray for the Persecuted Church. May God reveal His presence to the hundreds enduring harsh prison conditions for His name's sake. May the families be comforted and their needs supplied.

## AUG 2 WEDNESDAY

**Ethiopia** – Ellilta Women At Risk (EWAR) works with street women to equip them to become a productive part of society. Pray increased funding for two of its four sites to keep running. Also pray its license renewal proceeds smoothly.

## AUG 3 THURSDAY

**Kenya** – Recent events have intensified hardship on the poor and vulnerable. Pray those ministering to them are guided by God's wisdom. Pray God is revealed in personal and undeniable ways that pour hope into the lives of those affected.

## AUG 4 FRIDAY

**Madagascar** – The Rabeantoandro family is on home assignment. They are looking for a French-speaking teacher to school their children when they return in September. Pray their time is restful and encouraging, and they find a well-equipped teacher to go with them.

## AUG 5 SATURDAY

**Malawi** – Tiyamike Sewing's nine-month program empowers vulnerable women and girls with sewing skills and God's Word. Each receive a sewing machine upon graduation. Pray wisdom for expanding and relocating this growing ministry to reach more women and girls with the gospel.

## AUG 6 SUNDAY

**Mascarene Islands** – The elderly are often left to live and work alone, struggling without help and vulnerable to being taken advantage of. Pray retirement homes are established to provide safe and caring places where they can experience the love of Jesus.

## AUG 7 MONDAY

**Mozambique** – Please pray for the few missionaries remaining in Mozambique as several families are on home assignment and the director is on medical leave. Also pray for Janice Peters (previous director) who is recovering after two major surgeries.

## AUG 8 TUESDAY

**Namibia** – Pray for Namibia's personnel needs, especially in focus areas of discipleship, youth and children, and outreach ministry to those of other faiths. The work visa process is becoming more difficult; pray for current and new applications to be approved.

## AUG 9 WEDNESDAY

**ROSA (Region Of Southern Africa), South Africa** – Praise for a beneficial spiritual life conference for the service center team in early July. Pray the refreshment, connections, and renewal from this conference will build long-lasting community among the attendees.

## AUG 10 THURSDAY

**South Africa** – Many refugees and migrants face dangers in their journey to Europe. Those who embrace Christianity are at risk there; if they are returned home they face greater danger. Pray for more workers to serve among refugees and migrants in Europe.

**South Sudan** – Famine threatens 100,000 nationwide. Many suffer tremendously, struggling to meet basic needs. Most children have no school, and 1 million are refugees in neighboring countries. Pray God supplies these needs, and many find peace and safety in Jesus.

## AUG 11 FRIDAY

**Tanzania** – Jason and Lauren and their two boys are returning for their second term in September. Pray the Lord encourages them by confirming their calling so they will come with renewed strength, motivation, and love for the people.

## AUG 12 SATURDAY

**Zambia** – Please pray wisdom and discernment for the search committee as they continue to look for a SIM Zambia country director. Pray God would be glorified in all the interim director does as he leads SIM Zambia.

## AUG 13 SUNDAY

**Zimbabwe** – Many marginalized and poor are at risk. Pray funding for SIM's famine relief program so many of these people can get food. Pray also for Caiphas and Sekai Ngarivhume's August trip to share SIM Zimbabwe ministries with churches in Australia.

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## ASIA-PACIFIC

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## AUG 14 MONDAY

**Ministry Focus** – Five-year-old Sarah is in our care because a motorbike accident left her single mom too disabled to care for her. Mom signed papers to allow for Sarah's adoption, but they were lost in an antiquated system, greatly hindering the adoption. Our foundation is developing a computer project to track each child's important paperwork to prevent such loss. Ask the Lord for wisdom and discernment as we work with multiple Thai authorities. —from Ken and Sharon Wade, Thailand

## AUG 15 TUESDAY

**Australia** – Pray for mobilizers, missionaries on home assignment connecting with churches, and mobilizing events to result in more workers, pray-ers, and givers to be a blessing to people at risk—both overseas and in Australia, especially refugees and migrants.

## AUG 16 WEDNESDAY

**Bangladesh** – To escape the sex industry, "Lily" married her customer, who soon left her. She now believes in Jesus but struggles with appropriate life decisions. Pray God's love will help her make wise decisions, overcome temptations, and meet all her needs.

## AUG 17 THURSDAY

**CSEA (Continental & Southeast Asia), Thailand** – Cliff is acting CSEA director during David's four-month home assignment. Pray wisdom for Cliff and the CSEA team to serve well, providing ministry infrastructure for priority ministries in the region. Also pray rest and renewal for the Park family.

## AUG 18 FRIDAY

**China** – Many disabled children are hidden away by their families because of guilt and shame. They seldom receive education or proper care. Pray these parents meet Jesus and attitudes change so these children can get loving care and appropriate education.

## AUG 19 SATURDAY

**East Asia, Singapore** – Pray for wisdom to know how to balance the urgent need of sharing Jesus with peoples at risk, while being sensitive to the environment and those being ministered to. Pray for discernment for workers and prepared hearts of the people.

#### AUG 20 SUNDAY

**India** – Redlight-Greenlight (girls 12–17) and Beauty for Ashes (women) are homes ministering to survivors of sexual abuse and trafficking. Pray they come to know Jesus and lead others to Him. Pray ministry leaders grow in discernment, love, and courage.

#### AUG 21 MONDAY

**Indonesia** – Praise for new colleagues who have arrived. Pray they quickly adjust and adapt, bond with the SIM team, learn the language, and begin fruitful ministries. Also ask for good health for all, including their children.

#### AUG 22 TUESDAY

**Japan** – In August many churches have summer camps and special programs during school break. Pray for God-inspired encounters and fruitful follow-up. May many be drawn to Jesus and experience vibrant community in His Church!

#### AUG 23 WEDNESDAY

**Korea** – Korea's new president faces huge tasks. One is to support calm interactions in international politics between North Korea and the superpowers. Pray God gives wisdom for the new president to assist in facilitating peace in the peninsula.

#### AUG 24 THURSDAY

**Middle East** – Lebanon has many abused and deprived Asian maids. Some are shut in without passports and pay withheld. Praise God for a colleague who finds and gives them iBibles and music in their language. Pray these seeds will produce the hope of Jesus in them.

#### AUG 25 FRIDAY

**Mongolia** – Transformation Training and Counseling Centre for Addiction Recovery is building a team of committed, ethical Mongolian addiction counselors and a counseling office. Pray God guides these efforts, and for single-minded cooperation among the government, NGOs, and churches addressing addiction.

**Myanmar** – Praise Myanmar has been an official SIM country a whole year this month! Please ask the Lord to send more workers to serve this great nation God created and lead many to Jesus.

#### AUG 26 SATURDAY

**Nepal** – Many affected by the 2015 earthquake, especially the poorest, still have not rebuilt, and promised government funds have not yet come. Pray funds will arrive so homes can be rebuilt. Pray also for God's comfort and peace.

#### AUG 27 SUNDAY

**New Zealand** – SIM NZ's office personnel team is going through another transition. Pray everyone will ease into their new roles and the team will function smoothly. Pray abundant blessing for seven of our mission partners who are raising support to continue their ministry.

#### AUG 28 MONDAY

**Pakistan** – The Navuri are poor tenant farmers. SIM provides technical training for young men, and many also come to Jesus. Pray growth for E, a former student who now runs a tailor shop and leads a church plant in his village.

#### AUG 29 TUESDAY

**Philippines** – Ghie Sibayan is serving as acting country director. Pray God's wisdom and insight as she juggles these responsibilities. Pray seasons of rest and renewal to help her maintain balance. Ask God to knit the whole SIM team together.

#### AUG 30 WEDNESDAY

**Sri Lanka** – Praise for a successful four-day evangelism training in remote mountains. Participants learned evangelism techniques and were encouraged. A village trip generated many inquiries. Pray God uses these participants to multiply results so Jesus' message spreads throughout this unreached area.

**Thailand** – Connie's Home helps young women in the juvenile center early release program. Pray for wisdom and perseverance to develop character, job skills, and a relationship with Jesus. For young parents, pray the cycle of poverty and dysfunction will be broken.

#### AUG 31 THURSDAY

**West Malaysia** – An estimated 2 million to 4 million migrants, many undocumented, reside in West Malaysia. Most come from countries and communities where Jesus Christ is least known. Ask the Lord to send more workers to share Jesus with these spiritually hungry people.

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Thank you for praying. If you would like to receive *By Prayer* by email, please reply to [simusa.byprayer@sim.org](mailto:simusa.byprayer@sim.org).

"But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish."  
—*Psalm 9:18 NIV*

"Missionaries working with people at risk carry the added daily pressure of the constant concern for their friends. 2 Corinthians 11:28 makes clear the need for us to continue lifting them up in prayer."  
—*from Praying for Missionaries*

"Prayer is not for the enhancement of our comforts, but for the advancement of Christ's kingdom." —*John Piper*

"In the day of my trouble I will call to you, for you will answer me." —*Psalm 86:7 NIV*

**NOTE:** Parentheses behind a name indicate the nationality and/or SIM sending office; if none, the person comes from either SIM USA or the office submitting the request, or it is omitted for security reasons.