

By Prayer

January-February 2019

Prayer Focus:

The development of teachers and students in schools, training centers, and church courses

Jesus instructed His followers to make disciples wherever they went, teaching them to obey everything He commanded. Teachers can take many roles: parent, learner, pastor, coach, mentor, and guide. The goal of Christian education is to disciple followers of Jesus to take their next steps of obedience with Him. Through January and February we will pray for teaching ministries, whether in homeschool or formal school settings, or in churches. "Pray for Teachers" (www.simusa.org/prayforteachers) is a SIM USA campaign in February, when many schools begin to pray and plan for next year's staffing needs. Teachers are needed to disciple the next generation of students. Thank you for investing in the next generation *by prayer*

January 2019

JAN 01 TUESDAY

International Leadership & Services – The People Development and Care team exists to serve the global SIM community. Pray for wisdom and discernment as members wait for the Lord to bring a leader to their team for worker development.

Sports Friends – Leadership development is ongoing within the Sports Friends ministry network. Praise for regional events last year that supported ministry leaders. Ask God to use training events planned for this year to encourage and equip more Sports Friends leaders.

THE AMERICAS

JAN 02 WEDNESDAY

Ministry Focus, Nate Harley, Uruguay - In July you prayed for our Uruguay director, Andrés Corrales's family, who needed the Lord's financial provision for their junior-high-aged daughter to attend the only appropriate school in the city. Because you prayed, two generous donors covered the entire registration fees for this daughter, and also the fees for their younger daughter. God went above and beyond, so now the family can have both girls in the same school, which is a huge help. Praise God, and pray He will provide for the schooling needs of all SIM kids.

JAN 03 THURSDAY

Bolivia – Carachipampa Christian School has transitioned its administration from SIM to an independent foundation. Pray for wisdom in the stewardship of resources, faithfulness in vision and purpose, and provision for godly, qualified teachers and administrative staff.

JAN 04 FRIDAY

Canada – Pray for Nancy Gibson, SIM Canada's new training coordinator, who oversees SIMStart and the preparation for SIMGo. Canadian long-term appointees go to SIM USA for SIMGo training. Praise God for the encouragement and blessing of the partnership between these offices.

JAN 05 SATURDAY

Chile – Pray for the annual week of training for cross-cultural service offered February 12-17 at Koyamentu by ProVisión, SIM's Chilean partner sending agency. Pray for God's deep preparation in the life of each participant.

Ecuador – Please pray the Lord would soon provide additional teachers for the small school for missionary children. The biggest need is for someone to teach children ages 10-13.

JAN 06 SUNDAY

Latinoamérica – Give thanks for expanding opportunities to utilize the Simply Mobilizing course throughout Latin America. Please pray for mobilizers facilitating this course and for the local churches partnering with SIM throughout the Latin America region.

JAN 07 MONDAY

Paraguay – Praise God the SIM-owned camp (Campamento Yvytyrusu) and school (CEI) have been approved to receive funding that will be used to construct sleeping quarters at the camp and three classrooms at the school.

JAN 09 WEDNESDAY

JAN 08 TUESDAY

Peru – The Bible Institute of Arequipa begins its 3-month residential program this month. Pray for the teachers' preparation and communication and for the students to focus, learn and be equipped for life and service in their local churches.

JAN 9 WEDNESDAY

United States – Pray for those who lead and attend key 2019 training events: Short-term Associates Orientation, SIMStart, SIMGo, SIMSendOff, security training, Replenish, leadership training cohorts, and Trauma Healing workshops. Ask God to multiply the influence of these efforts.

JAN 10 THURSDAY

Uruguay – A partnering ministry has offered to donate a property to SIM Uruguay complete with a good-sized building once used as a retreat center. Please pray for the team as members enter into the initial planning stages of a new ministry at this location.

EUROPE, NORTH & WEST AFRICA

JAN 11 FRIDAY

Ministry Focus, Becky Ester, Niger - This year at Sahel Academy I am teaching second grade to a diverse group of eight students who are American, Korean, Brazilian, Nigerian, Dutch and Chinese, and two from Niger. This is exciting but also challenging, since some are just beginning to speak and write English. The advice and support the other teachers have given me have been so helpful! I am learning something new every day and trusting God for wisdom and patience to do well. Pray nonbelieving students will come to know Jesus as they participate in Bible class.

JAN 12 SATURDAY

France – Alain and Christiane Soudrain's leadership training ministry in West Africa fills a great need there. Pray the training is well adapted to each culture so these leaders are strengthened and equipped to serve the Church faithfully.

Switzerland – It's a challenge to teach new missionaries what they need to know in a short time before their departure. Please pray they can understand the necessary things, even if they don't know how life will be in their future environment.

JAN 13 SUNDAY

United Kingdom – Josh and Helen Chard are joining the SIM-UK orientation course on Friday before studying theology at Africa International University, Nairobi. Pray God will guide their steps and open opportunities as they prepare for where God is calling.

JAN 14 MONDAY

North Africa – Praise God for new personnel coming to this region in 2019. One family will assist with regional leadership and two others will be coming after RDM to begin language training. Pray their training and funding are completed quickly and they adjust smoothly.

JAN 15 TUESDAY

Benin – SIM Benin Togo continues to search for a new director and for people to fill other leadership positions. Pray God raises up people for these roles, and strengthens and encourages colleagues who continue to carry extra responsibilities.

JAN 16 WEDNESDAY

Burkina Faso – The Mission Leadership Training College teaches West African students. Pray especially for fourth-year students developing projects to implement in their home countries. Pray for missionary families now homeschooling their children since Life Academy closed.

JAN 17 THURSDAY

Côte d'Ivoire – Praise God for the ongoing proclamation of the gospel through Radio Fréquence Vie and the leadership Jean Seri provides. Pray for more people to listen to the programs so they can come to know Jesus and His love for them.

JAN 18 FRIDAY

Ghana – Steve and Cyndie Iwan serve among the Sisaala people in northern Ghana. Cyndie is the MK coordinator for Ghana. Pray for their work to help these people know and love Jesus, and for Cyndie as she helps MK families look for God's best educational options.

JAN 19 SATURDAY

Guinea – Praise God for two first-term workers and for more coming soon. Pray for the training of language assistants and the development of language learning materials so workers can connect as quickly as possible with those who have yet to understand the Good News.

JAN 20 SUNDAY

Liberia – Missionaries new to Liberia often find unexpected challenges in adjusting to different-sounding versions of English with new meanings for some expressions. Pray they exercise patience and respect in establishing good communication and relationships with Liberians.

JAN 21 MONDAY

Mali – Praise God for new things! A first group of missionaries is in Bamako learning French. Pray they have a good experience and learn well. Pray God's clear guidance for an ongoing dialogue with churches in Bamako to start a three-year Bible school.

JAN 22 TUESDAY

Niger – A SIM Education works with local Christian teachers and schools, encouraging them as they teach the next generation with a Christian worldview. Pray for good relationships with teachers, and for the team to know how to improve training to encourage and help teachers.

JAN 23 WEDNESDAY

Nigeria – Thank God for Hillcrest School in Jos, which helps educate missionary children. Ask the Lord to raise up missionary teachers for this important school. Urgently needed are a youth pastor and Bible teacher.

Senegal – The Wolof church-plant leaders meet on Mondays to debrief and grow in their understanding of God and His kingdom. Pray for this church to grow in spirit and numbers. Pray for staffing needs to be met this year at Dakar Academy and Bourofaye Christian School.

JAN 24 THURSDAY

Togo – Four pastors are translating Bible study and discipleship materials into Lokpa. Pray for accuracy and the Holy Spirit's guidance as they translate and teach these materials in Togo and Benin through six trainings and two large-group seminars each year.

JAN 25 FRIDAY

West African Missions Office – Praise the Lord for bringing more applicants to the WAMO. Pray God guides the staff in wisely planning the candidate orientation program. Ask God to provide trainers and a good location. Pray for affordable educational options for WAMO workers' children.

EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

JAN 26 SATURDAY

Ministry Focus, Mark and Debbie MacLachlan, Ethiopia - We recently trained to be facilitators for International Training Partners, which offers the Sharpening Your Interpersonal Skills (SYIS) course. Mark and I have a huge passion to see believers function as the Body of Christ. SYIS teaches essential biblical knowledge, attitudes, and skills for relating well. Few things glorify God more than living together in a spirit of unity...and few things are more destructive than not doing so. We hope to lead week-long SYIS trainings twice a year in Ethiopia. Pray for opportunities and for God's working.

JAN 27 SUNDAY

Angola – The academic year begins in February at ISTEEL. Ask God to call 30 or more new students. Pray returning students faithfully complete their ministry preparation. Pray, too, for the 14 master's degree students preparing for their second learning module.

Botswana – Paul and Tania visited a center for immigrants in their town and found open doors for doing the Alpha course. Pray people have open hearts to receive the Good News, and church volunteers helping with the course gain confidence in sharing the gospel.

JAN 28 MONDAY

East Africa Service Center (EASC) – Praise God for the EASC team as members continue providing good, quality services to the region. Pray for a godly, knowledgeable replacement for the EASC director to be found in a timely manner.

JAN 29 TUESDAY

East African Office – Praise God for the many East African workers the EAO is sending to unreached people around the world. Pray these families find workable educational arrangements for their children where there are language and educational system challenges.

JAN 30 WEDNESDAY

Eritrea – Praise the Lord for the ways He has been using the radio ministry. The team continues to receive testimonies from around the world with encouragements of the Lord changing lives with the real message of God's Word!

JAN 31 THURSDAY

Ethiopia – Praise God for the leadership team who graciously and sacrificially provided support and leadership while director Trent Cox was on sabbatical. Pray for the next steps in designing a new, permanent and sustainable leadership structure for this complex field.

February 2019

FEB 01 FRIDAY

Kenya – Praise the Lord for the many opportunities missionaries in Kenya have for lifelong learning. Pray this would be a priority for them so they would carve out time in their busy schedules to sharpen their skills for life and ministry.

FEB 02 SATURDAY

Madagascar – The country is still transitioning to the new president and government elected in November. Pray for peace and good governmental relationships that allow SIM missionaries to minister freely.

FEB 03 SUNDAY

Malawi – Watson Rajaratnam is leading the Kairos course preparing potential missionaries one on one. AEC church leaders are taking a discipleship training course. Pray each learner in these courses is invigorated and equipped to serve God so many come to know Jesus.

FEB 04 MONDAY

Mascarene Islands – Ask God to send more Sunday school teachers. Pray for trainers to better equip teachers with creative methods so children and adults catch and transfer the passion, determination and enjoyment of building a lasting relationship with Jesus.

FEB 05 TUESDAY

Mozambique – Praise God for the leaders at Instituto Teologica de Lichinga. Pray students hear the Word of God and absorb it into their hearts and lives so the ministries growing from their education spreads the love of Jesus to many who do not yet know Him.

Namibia – The Namibia Evangelical Theological Seminary has commenced with the study courses for 2019. Pray for the lecturers as they equip Christian leaders, and for the students as they learn in this Christ-centered, Bible-based environment.

FEB 06 WEDNESDAY

Southern Africa Service Center (SASC) – Some SIM leaders in southern Africa are in transition. Siegfried Ngubane and Marcus Baeder are moving to new positions. The SIM South Africa board is searching for a new country director. Pray for God's leading and support in all these changes.

FEB 07 THURSDAY

South Africa – SIM SA strives to encourage workers and mobilize the Church in actively partnering to send those called to missions. Pray for increased cooperation in calling, training and mentoring those preparing and serving to spread the Good News of Jesus around the world.

FEB 08 FRIDAY

South Sudan & Sudan – Generations have grown up in the shadows of war in South Sudan. Pray for the education of tomorrow's leaders who have been affected by these shadows. Pray they also go on to shine God's light in dark corners where He is least known.

FEB 09 SATURDAY

Tanzania – Praise the Lord for new team members from Taiwan, South Africa and the USA who joined in 2018, increasing the team to six. Pray the team keeps listening to the Lord's Word and following His guidance so members flourish both as individuals and a team.

Zambia – The Zambia team has a big need for additional personnel in nearly all areas. Pray passionate, gifted and equipped workers answer the call to Zambia soon so more people can hear the Good News of Jesus.

FEB 10 SUNDAY

Zimbabwe – Pray for the Famine Relief ministry to effectively minister to worst affected communities and bring the love of Jesus to them at this peak of the hunger season. Please pray for smooth adjustments, success and clear vision for MKs in this new school year.

WEST & SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA

FEB 11 MONDAY

Ministry Focus, Murree Christian School, Pakistan - Benjamin is an English teacher and boarding parent to junior boys. His missionary parents brought him to Pakistan as a baby, and he attended MCS from the beginning, graduating in 2017. He enjoyed learning at MCS and investing in younger students, and fondly recalls feeling like part of a team. After graduation he studied Bible, and hopes to begin studying Sports Science next year. Pray for more boarding parents like Benjamin who will commit to providing long-term stability, love and spiritual nurture to our missionary children.

FEB 12 TUESDAY

Middle East – SIM Middle East partners with the Lebanese Evangelical Society in two schools. Ask for qualified, godly teachers to present God's Word clearly in chapels and assemblies, and for students' hearts to be opened by the example they see and the teaching they receive.

FEB 13 WEDNESDAY

Bangladesh – Grace International School has 50 MKs and 150 other students. Pray the staff teach effectively and share the truth of the Word faithfully, and students meet and grow in Jesus. Ask for wisdom in building the school up to meet the needs of more MKs in Bangladesh.

FEB 14 THURSDAY

India – One international school for MKs partners with SIM. Pray God's protection over this school so it can grow with increased numbers of committed staff and students, financial support and in favor with the property owners.

FEB 15 FRIDAY

Nepal – Give thanks for the re-opening of the Global Leadership Training Center, which trains Asian students in ESL and cross-cultural ministry. Pray the current and future classes of students become proficient in English and grow in their walk with Jesus.

FEB 16 SATURDAY

Pakistan – Boarding school children of missionary parents need house-parents who will commit to providing long-term stability, love and spiritual nurture. Pray the Lord supplies all the school's needs as leaders respond to these challenging and changing times.

Sri Lanka – Praise God with Kumar Abraham and his family for good news regarding a potentially serious health risk. Pray doors of service open for a family coming soon. Ask God to send more workers to Sri Lanka, particularly counselors.

ASIA-PACIFIC

FEB 17 SUNDAY

Ministry Focus, Bruce and Janet Swanson, Asia - When we asked church leaders what the biggest needs were in their families, churches and communities, they listed biblical training on marriage. Cultural values bring non-biblical practices into family relationships, including spousal abuse. In January we addressed this need, offering pastors in our country and a neighboring country training on biblical roles of men and women in marriage and family. This training has been very well received. Ask the Holy Spirit to use what was taught to transform marriages and families.

FEB 18 MONDAY

Australia - SIM Australia has many families with a variety of schooling arrangements. Pray those in boarding schools have caring dorm parents. Ask God to feed those attending campus Bible study groups. Request safety for those growing up in a foreign culture.

FEB 19 TUESDAY

China - Thank the Lord for opportunities to train Chinese Christians in cross-cultural ministry. Please pray the Lord continues to equip them through SIM team members, and gives them wisdom and courage as they prepare to go out and serve cross-culturally.

FEB 20 WEDNESDAY

Continental & Southeast Asia (CSEA) - CSEA urgently needs personnel. The finance director needs support to join the office by March. A wise services manager is needed soon to oversee several departments. Myanmar and Vietnam need country directors. Plead with God to supply in His time and way.

FEB 21 THURSDAY

East Asia - Praise God for Rev. Dr. Lim Kheng Hai & Mrs. Lim Gek Lang, who joined the East Asia team recently as pastors-at-large and advisors for training and personnel development. Pray God will use them greatly to bless the missionaries sent out from East Asia.

FEB 22 FRIDAY

Indonesia - Praise God for A and T, and B, new SIM workers from North East India, studying language in Indonesia. Pray they learn easily and are granted long-term visas quickly. Ask God to show them areas for ministry at the right time.

Japan - Pray for fruitful relationships with both ongoing connections and new seekers. Next month marks eight years since the triple disaster in northeastern Japan, where SIM has 13 missionaries and families. Pray also for work and school transitions across Japan.

FEB 23 SATURDAY

Korea - The SIM Korea team urgently needs directors for personnel, mobilization, and training. Pray God sends gifted and committed people to fill these roles so recommended future plans can be well implemented.

Mongolia - There are many opportunities to teach English. Pray more teachers come to serve and impact the people with the gospel of Jesus. Pray believers in the schools set strong examples of godly life so fellow students and teachers will come to know Jesus.

FEB 24 SUNDAY

Myanmar - In spreading the gospel, training is essential to equip workers for specific settings in their various locations. Pray the Lord sends more skilled trainers to develop materials to assist those reaching out to people who do not yet know Jesus.

FEB 25 MONDAY

New Zealand - Join SIM New Zealand in asking God to empower His called people to further their participation in missions throughout the Church in New Zealand. Ask for workers to answer the call to take the gospel to people who have not heard of Jesus.

FEB 26 TUESDAY

Philippines - The Philippine team holds monthly worker training and development sessions. Pray these workers have increased opportunities to apply what they are learning in intentional spiritual conversations with friends from other faiths.

FEB 27 WEDNESDAY

Thailand – SIM Thailand has a new leadership training and development program to provide opportunities for individual growth and increase its overall leadership capacity. Pray participants in this initiative learn to encourage collaboration and model effective leadership.

FEB 28 THURSDAY

Vietnam – Workshop instructors need strong skills to effectively equip adult learners. Pray for an upcoming workshop teaching instructors to design training that respects adult learners, and helps them use teamwork and problem solving. Pray new trainers join the work soon.

West Malaysia – Thank you for your prayers in 2018. Please continue to pray the Lord of the Harvest will send more workers to West Malaysia to minister to refugee children and international university students. The fields are ripe unto harvest!

Thank you for praying.

If you would like to receive these prayer calendars by email, please reply to simusa.byprayer@sim.org. To update your postal address or request to be added or removed from this mailing, call (800) 521-6449.

"Prayer is what opens up the floodgates for God to come down and be involved in our everyday circumstances." —Priscilla Shirer

"They all joined together constantly in prayer..." Acts 1:14 NIV

"Prayer is what changes our study from the pursuit of knowledge to the pursuit of God himself." —Jen Wilkin

Colossians 1:9-14; Ephesians 3:14-21; and Philippians 1:9-11 are all Bible passages that can be prayed over any Christian brother or sister, regardless of where they are serving Jesus.

This edition of By Prayer focuses on the development of teachers and students in schools, training centers, and church courses.

"Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name." Psalm 86:11 NIV