

# By Prayer

## November-December 2019

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### Prayer Focus:

#### **Translation, literacy, literature development and distribution, video, online apps, audio, drama, music and art**

Communication is essential to sharing the gospel with people. Cultures have developed many ways to do it. The current age of instant worldwide connection on the internet has transformed many of the ways we connect with others. It also has opened doors for more effectively making the gospel available to entire people groups who have never heard of Jesus. This edition of *By Prayer* features ministries using many forms and methods of communicating, from the Bible on SD cards to sharing the hope of eternity in Christ at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Join us in expanding these exciting developments in communicating the good news *by prayer*.

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## November 2019

### NOV 01 FRIDAY

**International Leadership & Services** – Praise God for two internships in 2019: ethno-arts in the Philippines and visual arts in Kenya. Pray for wisdom as the next SIM Creative Arts internships are planned. Ask God for more workers gifted in communicating the gospel through arts and media.

### NOV 02 SATURDAY

**Sports Friends** – Praise God for a training resource for disciple-making that is being rolled out across Sports Friends fields. Pray it will help the 12,000 coaches understand and apply principles of disciple-making with the 265,000 young people on their teams.

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## THE AMERICAS

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### NOV 03 SUNDAY

**Ministry Focus, Allen and Mary Beth George, Peru** – I was extremely proud of my puppet-course students today as they pulled out the stops for two little church plants in Cono Norte, Arequipa. Allen tackled rough terrain to get us there, and we were pleasantly surprised by twice the number of kids who usually attend, all drawn by the novelty of a puppet show. This was my students' first performance and some of them were pretty nervous. Despite a few glitches, the show went well and the kids listened attentively. Pray these shows would continue to draw kids to Jesus, and also be a learning experience for my students.

### NOV 04 MONDAY

**Bolivia** – Chris Conti is coming from Peru to train Latin American mobilizers how to use the Movilicemos manual to motivate and equip churches in fulfilling the Great Commission. Pray Osvaldo, Timara, Dana and Marcelo plan well so this event sparks a passion for evangelism.

### NOV 05 TUESDAY

**Canada** – Brian Yung is a videographer producing videos to be used within the SIM global community and with its partners and supporters. Pray for more workers with creativity and wisdom to work with this effective, modern tool to tell engaging stories that connect people.

### NOV 06 WEDNESDAY

**Chile** – Pray for God's clear guidance as SIM Chile begins to implement suggestions given by the Strategic Country Review committee. Pray God sends just the right folks to join the team in ministry among the least reached in Chile.

### NOV 07 THURSDAY

**Ecuador** – Waves of Hope radio in Ecuador has reached many with the gospel for 18 years. Two years ago the frequency was revoked due to governmental changes. Pray for no obstacles in reinstating the license with an amplified signal and for the resources to run it.

#### NOV 08 FRIDAY

**Latinoamérica** – The Latinoamérica office wants more! Pray for more workers, more staff in Latinoamerican countries to mobilize workers, more churches to support and send workers, more volunteers to help the team process candidates, and more of God's love this Christmas.

#### NOV 09 SATURDAY

**Paraguay** – Praise God for Guarani Recording Group directed by SIM worker Xavier Bohorquez. Pray for funds so several minority language translations can be recorded. Pray also for a 4x4 vehicle so Xavier can access remote locations for recordings and leadership trainings.

#### NOV 10 SUNDAY

**Peru** – Pray for the Christian radio station in Cotahuasi Canyon to continue to be effective in reaching with the gospel people living in remote areas. Pray also for groups who work with SIM to reach Quechua people with the Scriptures.

#### NOV 11 MONDAY

**United States** – Pray for insight and strategic focus as Preston Smith leads the Communications team to inspire and inform people seeking to engage in God's global mission. Pray also for helpful resources and effective use of technology.

#### NOV 12 TUESDAY

**Uruguay** – The SIM church plant Iglesia Bíblica de Montevideo has been blessed with the use of a great meeting space and has been offering the Christianity Explored course. Please pray for the Spirit to cultivate new fruit!

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### EUROPE, NORTH & WEST AFRICA

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**Ministry Focus, Pierre Barassounon, Benin** – When testing the translation of Genesis in the Dendi language, a non-Christian reader was touched by Joseph's life. He was moved by the forgiveness Joseph showed his brothers, not rendering evil for evil as the reader himself was taught to do. I shared with him how God loves us despite our faults and forgives through Jesus' sacrifice. Pray the Lord will continue touching hearts through Genesis in Dendi. For the Yom language, pray for Dodi Forsberg's team as they finish the layout of the entire Bible this year, and for growth in the Church when they receive the Old Testament!

#### NOV 13 WEDNESDAY

**France** – Many praises for Silvain and Carolyn Diedrichs who have recently joined the SIM France office team. Pray their family settles into housing, work and school for their boys, and adjusts to their new home quickly.

#### NOV 14 THURSDAY

**Switzerland** – Brigitta Pini travels to SIM workers in many countries and collects pictures and videos. Please pray editors transform them into powerful tools to attract and encourage young Christians to get involved in the ongoing task of sharing Jesus where He is least known.

#### NOV 15 FRIDAY

**United Kingdom** – Give thanks for the new mission workers joining SIM UK this week for orientation. Please pray the Lord will provide for all their needs as they follow His call to take the gospel to those who've not yet heard.

#### NOV 16 SATURDAY

**North Africa** – Across North Africa gifted musicians influence culture. They seek truth, find their faith empty and express what they feel in song. Young people are listening. Pray for our workers who influence musicians. May God transform these searching souls.

#### NOV 17 SUNDAY

**Benin** – The Benin Radio Ministry is recruiting several qualified interns to train as technicians for the recording studio. This 25+ year ministry reaches people speaking 18 languages. Pray for committed young people gifted in growing this expanding ministry field.

**Burkina Faso** – Security concerns have displaced members of the translation team and their office. Pray they will be able to continue producing a good quality translation of the Fulfulde Old Testament even at a distance from one another and under more stressful circumstances.

#### NOV 18 MONDAY

**Côte d'Ivoire** – The Cote d'Ivoire team need the Lord's strengthening physically, spiritually and emotionally. Ask God to give them wisdom to know when and how to rest and to make time for vacations and family.

#### NOV 19 TUESDAY

**Ghana** – The Way of Righteousness radio program in Dagbani is heard every weekend in Tamale, Ghana. Already people have asked pastors for help to understand more about God. Pray more people listen and God brings understanding. Pray for churches to lovingly care for MBBs.

#### NOV 20 WEDNESDAY

**Guinea** – Praise God for the airing of The Way of Righteousness on several radio stations in Upper Guinea and the calls received in response to the programs. Pray as SIM Guinea seeks God's guidance in renewing their audio recording ministry and training Guinean technicians.

#### NOV 21 THURSDAY

**Liberia** – Radio ELWA presenters and Bible translators work to bring the gospel and biblical teaching to five language groups in and near Liberia. Pray listeners who gather around radios or mobile phones to hear God's Word in their heart language learn more about Jesus.

#### NOV 22 FRIDAY

**Mali** – Recently a team captured sights, sounds and stories to use on video to recruit and mobilize workers for the Faithful Witness program among three unreached people groups. Pray God uses this in a mighty way to accomplish His purpose.

**Niger** – Tambaya, A SIM Niger board member and a member of a Bible translation team, was in a bad motorcycle accident. Pray for his complete recovery. Pray for the protection of all of our translation teams and their families in this important work.

#### NOV 23 SATURDAY

**Nigeria** – Pray the new *Hausa African Bible Commentary* will be a useful, affordable resource for many pastors, teachers, church workers and members. Give thanks the Hausa translation of the *Let's Go* missionary training manual is nearly completed.

#### NOV 24 SUNDAY

**Senegal** – Praise for opportunities to get God's Word out to more people in both the Wolof and Wolofal scripts through mobile apps. Ask for the response to the new Chronological Storying app to be as great and for technical difficulties with the iOS version to be resolved.

#### NOV 25 MONDAY

**Togo** – After sharing the gospel with those from the majority religion, Pete Bitner has been offering them The HOPE DVD to put on their phones. Pray this chronological overview of the Bible will be one more tool that is used to solidify their belief in Jesus.

#### NOV 26 TUESDAY

**West African Missions Office** – Praise God for a Nigerian doctor considering long-term service at Galmi after a short term there in August. Ask for support to be completed for 7 more WAMO members ready to serve in 3 West African countries. Ask God to send workers to join the WAMO management team.

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### EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

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#### NOV 27 WEDNESDAY

**Ministry Focus, Dave and Ginny Long, Botswana** – In Ukhwi, Botswana we would visit Mayo's family and hold a small, weekly service of songs, prayer and discussion of a reading from Luke, all in !Xoon, her mother tongue. One evening she said, "After you leave, when we go to bed, we feel that we have been fed." This from a poor woman who likely only had one meal that day. Our translation of Luke and 62 other Bible passages is completed but not yet in the hands (and ears) of !Xoon speakers. Pray details work out for a visit we are scheduling in May to present this 16-year work of love to Mayo and those in all the settlements.

#### NOV 28 THURSDAY

**Angola** – Praise God for the progress being made in translating the NT into the Nyaneka language. Pray it will be completed by the end of 2020. Pray Brother Nene wisely leads the literacy training program, raising up local leaders as teachers.

#### NOV 29 FRIDAY

**Botswana** – Praise the Lord that Heidi was granted legal guardianship for the next 5 years for her mentally challenged foster son who is now an adult. The social worker is applying for incapacity allowance for him. Please pray this process would also pass very smoothly.

#### NOV 30 SATURDAY

**East Africa Service Center (EASC)** – Kenya and South Sudan are searching for directors. Ministry coordinators are needed for Chad and Eritrea. Pray excellent workers fill these essential posts for teams reaching those who don't yet know Jesus. Praise for amazing unity in leadership talks in Ethiopia.

## December 2019

#### DEC 01 SUNDAY

**East African Office** – The East African office works with likeminded ministries and organizations to recruit and equip new mission workers. Pray for candidates gifted in the area of developing media and art that will impact those who have never had a chance to hear the gospel message.

#### DEC 02 MONDAY

**Eritrea** – Churches have been growing in unity and cooperation recently. Please pray this unity will be translated into standing strong in reaching out to those who do not know Jesus. Ask for Eritreans abroad to actively join them, following the Holy Spirit's guidance.

**Ethiopia** – Pray for the millions of Amhara and Gurage people in off-road, remote areas of Ethiopia to fearlessly listen and respond to the Lord through SIM Ethiopia's radio broadcasts.

#### DEC 03 TUESDAY

**Kenya** – The SIM Kenya office is low on staff since several are on home assignment. Pray essential ministries are cared for in the absence of teammates. Ask for fulfilling renewal for those away from the office.

#### DEC 04 WEDNESDAY

**Madagascar** – After relocating to Switzerland, Jimmy continues to supervise the activities at the Timothy Center from afar. Pray his eagerly anticipated first visit is an encouragement to both local volunteers and himself.

#### DEC 05 THURSDAY

**Malawi** – Praise God for the innovative work of Ian and Lindsay Farrimond over the past seven years in firmly establishing the communications department. They are retiring at the end of the year. Pray a potential replacement will work out well in God's timing.

#### DEC 06 FRIDAY

**Mascarene Islands** – The Mascarene Islands are small and scattered with few SIM workers. Pray for more workers to build up the team and encourage them in the task of sharing Jesus with those who do not know Him.

#### DEC 07 SATURDAY

**Mozambique** – Please pray for the second year of classes at Instituto Teologico de Lichinga (INTEL) beginning in February. Ask for God to really transform the lives of second year and incoming students to create a community of faith that is alive in Jesus.

#### DEC 08 SUNDAY

**Namibia** – Summer holidays in December mean many people are on the roads. Please ask for safety for all travelers. In 2020 SIM Namibia will be looking for a new director. Praise God for His care in the past and ask for His guidance in the selection of the new director.

#### DEC 09 MONDAY

**Southern Africa Service Center (SASC)** – Pray for the service manager who is partway through a six-month home assignment, and for the treasurer who is currently on maternity leave. Pray the rest of the team draw strength from Jesus as they take on extra responsibilities to cover absent members' duties.

**South Africa** – Praise God for the completion of a year of transition and restructuring. Ask Him to send gifted writers, proofreaders and media experts to produce quality publications and internet videos to attract many to His vision for mission in Southern Africa and beyond.

#### DEC 10 TUESDAY

**South Sudan & Sudan** – A SIM partner is translating the Old Testament into Uduk. Pray this work is completed well and in a timely manner so the Uduk people can read God's Word soon.

#### DEC 11 WEDNESDAY

**Tanzania** – Just by learning to read, sixteen-year-old Susie's whole personality blossomed into a smiling and friendly, self-assured teen who is open to engage in conversations. Pray she continues to grow and develop in faith in Jesus Christ as she reads and learns about Him.

#### DEC 12 THURSDAY

**Zambia** – Flying Mission Zambia is a significant ministry partner and support to SIM Zambia's workers and ministries. Ask God to supply their personnel needs in leadership and especially for the immediate need for additional pilot/mechanics.

**Zimbabwe** – There is an urgent need for missionaries for the Leaders Equipping and Resourcing Network and theological education ministries going into 2020. Pray enquirers have clear vision to see God at work in Zimbabwe and will come feeling they will be safe there.

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### WEST & SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA

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#### DEC 13 FRIDAY

**Ministry Focus, SIM worker, India** – Scripture in the mother tongue speaks directly to the heart. William Tyndale said "...it was impossible to establish the lay people in any truth except the Scripture were plainly laid before their eyes in their mother tongue." India has 22 official languages, but the total number of mother tongue languages is 1,652! These languages need the Scriptures. There's also need for songs in the mother tongue to be written and used by local fellowships. Please pray for God to open opportunities and provide people who will translate the Scriptures into these languages.

#### DEC 14 SATURDAY

**Middle East** – Thank our Father for technology that enables people to hear gospel broadcasts privately. Pray those who hunger and thirst for God will tap into these resources with freedom to explore beliefs outside their norm. Pray God will reveal Himself to their hearts.

#### DEC 15 SUNDAY

**Bangladesh** – Praise God for a new smart phone app that includes the Bible and also worship songs. Pray for smooth production of the Old Testament audio being recorded and added, as well as more worship songs.

#### DEC 16 MONDAY

**India** – There is great need for the gospel to be put into the many unofficial languages of India. Plead for trained workers to translate the gospel so local fellowships can study, worship, sing songs of praise and tell their neighbors about Jesus in their heart languages.

#### DEC 17 TUESDAY

**Nepal** – Half of SIM Nepal's workers have been there fewer than two years and are involved in language and culture orientation. Ask for God to strengthen and comfort them as they, no doubt, miss family and friends back home this Christmastime.

#### DEC 18 WEDNESDAY

**Pakistan** – Praise for God's provision of funds to begin building a new center for education and training ministry. Ask for the wisdom, grace and resources needed to bring this exciting project to completion.

**Sri Lanka** – Kumar is writing a proclamation evangelism book to build up evangelists. Pray for him to use his time wisely, for clarity of thought to cover relevant issues, good working relationships with editor and publisher and for the book to have worldwide fruitful use.

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## ASIA-PACIFIC

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### DEC 19 THURSDAY

**Ministry Focus, Robert Adair, Japan** – In 2002, a short-term team from Texas got to know Mrs. W while working with a church north of Tokyo. Through her love of gospel music, her relationship with church members, and her interactions with the short-term team, she met Jesus. Now she serves as an evangelist at this same church. Short-term teams are a powerful opportunity to partner with local Japanese churches and help them reach the over 99% of Japanese people who do not know Jesus. Please pray for SIM's effort to send teams to plant gospel seeds during the summer 2020 Olympics.

### DEC 20 FRIDAY

**Australia** – SIM Australia is using many media platforms to spread messages of SIM's identity, mobilization needs, and to proclaim the gospel. Pray these messages effectively reach and attract many of the younger generation to engage in the mission world.

### DEC 21 SATURDAY

**China** – Please pray the SIM China team will be able to wisely have specifically planned opportunities over Christmastime to share the gospel with those whose hearts are open to receive the good news of Jesus. Ask for God's protection on these times.

### DEC 22 SUNDAY

**East Asia** – Pray for wisdom as SIM EA increases its use of social media and digitalization to engage the younger generation. Please pray for willing content developers and the production of suitable materials and media to reach the many young people in EA and around the world.

### DEC 23 MONDAY

**Indonesia** – SIM is still new in Indonesia, the nation with the highest Muslim population. Pray for contact with like-minded organizations to apply for visas for SIM workers. Pray also for more qualified workers willing to serve there.

### DEC 24 TUESDAY

**Japan** – In the summer of 2020, the Olympics will be in Tokyo. Please pray for the missionaries and short-term workers partnering with the Japanese Church to share Jesus during this exciting season. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

### DEC 25 WEDNESDAY

**Korea** – SIM KOREA is preparing a field-based training program to recruit more workers for global missions. The team asks for wisdom and prayer support as they polish and finalize the process. Ask God to raise up more harvest workers for His kingdom through this training.

### DEC 26 THURSDAY

**Mongolia** – Nearly half of Mongolia's people live in the capital city. The Church is established and partners with local leaders in urban outreach. Pray for creative, new, media-friendly ways to communicate the love of Jesus to communities without the knowledge of Jesus.

**Myanmar** – Pray for Christians to creatively share the gospel so they can bridge the gap of understanding with those from different faith backgrounds. Pray for oral story methods as well as acceptable written forms to be used to reach those with limited reading comprehension.

### DEC 27 FRIDAY

**New Zealand** – Pray everyone has a safe, peaceful and joyful festive season. For those who are travelling, pray for journey mercies and a wonderful time with family and friends.

### DEC 28 SATURDAY

**Philippines** – Pray many view and respond to Hamir Achacoso's recently released evangelistic movie designed to reach people of a majority religion. Ask God to lead Hamir with wisdom and creativity in his film ministry. Pray a mobilization training video can be produced soon.

### DEC 29 SUNDAY

**Thailand** – SIM Thailand is seeking more people to bring the good news to the unreached majority of Thailand. Pray their videos and articles will be not only impactful but intriguing enough for people to share so the widest possible net can be cast.

**DEC 30 MONDAY**

**Vietnam** – Praise God for believers who are becoming chaplains through recently updated training, and sharing God's love with people in trauma and stress. Pray these newly trained chaplains will respond to hurting people, comfort them and introduce them to the Savior.

**DEC 31 TUESDAY**

**West Malaysia** – Praise God for the freedom to use social media to share about the gospel openly. Pray this door stays open and postings are wisely crafted to be respectful and a winsome presence so seekers can freely respond to God's love.

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**Thank you for praying.**

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

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In January 2020 the Faithful Witness in Forgotten Communities will appear here. Its purpose is to facilitate ministry in places where there is currently no gospel witness or where it has not been received. Less than 5 percent of worldwide mission resources are currently being used in regions where most people die without ever having one Christian friend. We are excited to add this new request and look forward to seeing God move in response to your prayers.

Praying for Missionaries: Thanksgiving and Christmas can present unique opportunities to share the gospel with those who do not know Jesus. Pray for fruitful opportunities to share God's good news, and for comfort for mission families who are separated from extended family.

Christmas Greetings! The *By Prayer* staff is thankful for your faithful prayers. We fervently ask God to bless you through this Christmas season and all through 2020.

*"Everyone will come to you because you answer prayer."* Psalm 65:2 CEV

*"We need never shout across the spaces to an absent God. He is nearer than our own soul, closer than our most secret thoughts."*  
A.W. Tozer in *The Pursuit of God*

*"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."* Romans 10:17 NIV