



**Thursday, January 1 - Pretoria, South Africa.** (pri-TOR-ee-uh) - As you remember a Baby who was born to be the Prince of Peace, please pray for a mother and baby in Pretoria. Missionary Daniel Scott met a white South African young man named Joseph in 2022. Joseph asked Daniel point-blank to disciple him. Throughout the next few years, as Joseph and his wife grew in their faith, they felt the Lord calling them to be missionaries to Japan! Funds were provided, and when their training was completed, they obediently boarded the plane for Japan with their three little girls. They spent 16 months as South African missionaries in Japan. The Lord then called them back to Pretoria and surprised them with an unexpected pregnancy. Their fourth baby girl, Talitha, was born in early October, but just weeks later was hospitalized with a high infection count. Having been supported by local churches, this couple had no extra funds for private medical care, so they had to take Baby Talitha to the government hospital. Joseph's wife is not allowed to stay with the baby, and the communication from the doctors is woefully lacking. Please pray: "Jesus, we ask You to heal Baby Talitha and to bring peace to Joseph and his wife."

**Friday, January 2 - Port Elizabeth, South Africa.** The Port Elizabeth Team writes: "Would you please pray for missionary Helmer Jensen and his local partner, Dean, who is the associate pastor of our local church here in Port Elizabeth, as they turn in their Spiritual Worker Applications? Pray for those applications to be approved so they can begin to share Jesus with the inmates here in the local prison. 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me' (Matthew 25:40 ESV)."

**Saturday, January 3 - Wassulu of Mali, Guinea, and Cote d'Ivoire.** (WAH-soo-loo) - For the foreseeable future, the Wassulu workers in Mali maintain their same goals of sharing the gospel and nurturing the indigenous Church. However, their objectives and methods must pivot due to the current situation in Mali, which is greatly limiting travel even for indigenous workers. This is due both to the extreme security issues and the lack of fuel for transportation. The workers have been discussing and preparing for this time that they hoped would never come, but God has allowed it to be so. Pray as workers continue to communicate, as much as possible, with scattered believers and co-workers throughout the region and country. Pray for the Lord's protection for Wassulu believers and leaders, as the persecution of Christians in Mali has greatly increased. May they be found faithful to God even in the most difficult of situations, and may how they respond to what the Lord allows bring others to Christ. Pray for the workers as they seek God's guidance in developing and executing alternative plans for encouraging, teaching, and nurturing believers as well as proclaiming the gospel.

**Sunday, January 4 - Maputo, Mozambique: Capital City and Province.** Please pray for the Digo and coastal families who will be receiving Christmas bags with supplies in them as an outreach ministry. In these bags, there will also be a copy of the Book of John. Pray that these families will be curious and read the Book of John and be introduced to Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, the Bread of Life, the Living Water, the Good Shepherd, and the Messiah who died and rose again, providing the only way to a relationship with God the Father. Pray that through the Word of God, which is "living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword" (Hebrews 4:12 NASB), they will be drawn to Jesus. Pray for a Christmas miracle: that these families will put their trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord!

**Monday, January 5 - Theological Education in Cape Town, South Africa.** A long journey completed. A sigh of relief. Joy irrepressible. The graduating students of Cape Town Baptist Seminary feel these emotions. Nine students will graduate on December 6 after four, five, or even nine years of following God's calling to serve Him in ministry. These dedicated servants of God have trained their head, heart, and hands. They shall spread the truth about Jesus to every nation. Those nations include the tribes of South Africa and people from across the African continent. With paper in one hand and a Bible in the other, the students excitedly prepare to work among people whom God loves. Pray for each student to live filled with the Holy Spirit, to walk like Jesus, and to seek the Father. Ask God to protect and lead them. Praise God for calling and preparing these students! "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20 ESV).

**Tuesday, January 6 - Peoples of Ghana.** The Ghana Team will be hosting their second volunteer team this month. It will be a small group that will explore future ways that their church members can minister in Accra. They will focus on sharing the hope of the gospel with Muslims, so join them in praying that the Lord will soften hearts and draw the lost to salvation in Christ. Please also pray for all the details involved in travel and other logistics to work out as smoothly as possible. And lastly, ask the Lord to keep the volunteers and the team members healthy.

**Wednesday, January 7 - Last Frontier.** Please join us in praying for a small group of believers from an unreached people group (UPG) who are meeting in a worker's home for worship services every Sunday. The church plant praises God that they are growing and are now praying for a bigger place to meet to accommodate their needs. Please join them in this praise and prayer. In addition to weekly worship, the church also holds weekly Bible studies and fellowship times as well as evangelistic cooking classes to reach out to seekers in the UPG. Please pray for God's guidance and provision for the ideal place for this forming church and their evangelism outreaches.

**Thursday, January 8 - Swahili-Speaking Arabs of East Africa.** (swah-HEE-lee) - Amal grew up with an absentee father and abusive mother in a small, two-bedroom home in East Africa. She shared her bedroom with her large number of siblings, which taught her much about compromise, taking care of one another, and survival. As an adult, she found solace in exercising and has grown her skills as an exercise teacher, serving the community in which she grew up. Many women look up to her as a leader and important woman in the community. While remaining faithful to her Islamic roots, she has opened her mind to many ideas on spirituality and healing practices. She loves to read and devours any book that promises inner peace or ways to heal yourself naturally. At one point, she even joyfully accepted a copy of the Bible. Pray that Amal will seek truth in the Word of God and that she will find the true peace, healing, and purpose that she so devotedly chases. Pray that God will use her testimony to impact the many Swahili-speaking Arabs with whom she has influence.

**Friday, January 9 - Cape Town, South Africa.** (KAYP town) - Cape Town, South Africa, is quickly moving into summer since it's in the Southern Hemisphere. Missionaries are gearing up their ministry plans because the summertime school break occurs from the second week of December through the third week of January. Jason and Nicole Zaruba and their children will be starting an outreach ministry using sports in January 2026 alongside their church, Lakeview Community Church. Their goal is to reach unchurched children and their families with the gospel. The ministry will focus on people who live in the Steenberg, Retreat, and Lavender Hill communities. Gang warfare has caused death and fear there for months, and hundreds of people have died. Please pray for volunteers from the local church who will receive training. Ask the Father to help the ministry volunteers share the gospel clearly and each hearer to believe in Jesus. These people do not know if they will die today or tomorrow by a bullet or a knife. Seek God's protection and peace for the harvest laborers and those whom they serve. "Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes" (James 4:14 ESV).

**Saturday, January 10 - Peoples of Madagascar.** A university student serving on a volunteer team in southeast Madagascar writes: "Our team had no idea how God would use our year-long study of marriage and biblical womanhood to transform lives in Madagascar. Our first day of ministry, we taught a group of women about singleness, marriage, and parenting. We felt unqualified to teach these topics, but we knew that God's Word was sufficient. While teaching, I noticed that one of our Malagasy partners, Ruth, was paying close attention, folding the pages of her Bible on each passage we explained, especially 1 Peter 3. I wondered why since our teaching wasn't even aimed toward her. A few weeks later, Ruth shared how her marriage changed once she learned the teachings about submitting to her husband and serving him even when he didn't deserve it. She said that her husband had noticed a difference in her and their relationship had improved within just a few weeks. We're humbled that God would use us to bring His powerful Word to the people of Madagascar, even in situations where we didn't know who was listening. Praise Him for preparing us to teach such weighty topics and Ruth's heart to receive the truth of His Word!"

**Sunday, January 11 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples.** Some missionaries write: "Plans are being made to send African students on a mission trip to another part of the world in January 2026. This is a sizeable task. The goal of the trip is to gain experience living and sharing the gospel cross-culturally while helping our International Mission Board missionaries who are living in that region. Our prayer is that this trip will give our African brothers and sisters who are feeling called to cross-cultural missionary life some experience in that. It is also a way to train local churches in the biblical teaching of missions. Pray for us as we advertise, recruit, and vet those seeking to join the team. Ask God to assemble the team He wants to use in that place for the month. Pray, as well, that the trip will be the beginning of a unique way for African churches to send African missionaries to the ends of the earth." "And [Jesus] said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation'" (Mark 16:15 ESV).

**Monday, January 12 - Global Health Strategies Network.** "Physical therapists (PTs) and occupational therapists (OTs) are such a blessing to their patients. Taking people with some disability, either permanent or temporary, and helping them to mitigate its impact on their lives is a powerful example of the Lord's care for us. We have need of PTs and OTs to serve in mid- or long-term roles alongside a team using health strategies to reach the lost. Pray that the Lord will call out His chosen ones to take this job and expand the impact of the gospel in a dark place."

**Tuesday, January 13 - Basotho of Lesotho and South Africa.** (BAH-soo-too) - New International Service Corps workers Walter and Mary Norvell, who are living and serving in the lowlands of Lesotho,

ask you to join them in prayer as they look for a home close to the National University of Lesotho in the city of Roma. They are currently in the process of learning the Sesotho language and are beginning to build relationships among the Basotho people. Learning the language will enable them to share the good news of Jesus Christ more effectively with the university students. Pray for God's guidance and direction as they search for the home that He has chosen for them. "And he said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest'" (Exodus 33:14 ESV).

**Wednesday, January 14 - God emboldens woman to leave Islam and follow him.** October 2024, you were asked to pray for Neila, a young woman who wanted to read God's Word and seek the truth but was afraid to leave Islam and follow Jesus. Thank you for praying that God would give her a faith that overcomes fear. Almost a year after you were asked to pray for her, Neila connected with believers. It was in their initial meeting that she responded to a call to repentance and trusted in Jesus as her Savior. Praise the Lord!

**Thursday, January 15 - Pedi of South Africa.** (PEH-dee) - The problem is not unique to Africa, but it is significant there. Honest, believing, sincere, and humble spiritual leaders are hard to find and harder to retain. Because of the patriarchal culture of many South African people groups and the power that secular leaders are given over people, many men and women seek positions of leadership in the church because they are greedy for power and prestige. Many church leaders are not shepherds who have a genuine concern for the sheep and are willing to lay down their lives so that Christ can be formed in them. Please pray: "Lord, we pray for two Pedi pastors, Peter and John. Lord, You know how hard these true pastors work as they travel to small church plants and encourage believers. Jesus, please protect them from greed. Do not let any seed of greed take root in their hearts. Protect them from a love of power or position. Please raise up godly, trustworthy men and women who can help them in their shepherding. Jesus, You gave Paul so many helpers: Timothy, Silas, Aquila, and Priscilla. Please provide fellow helpers, friends, encouragers, and partners in ministry for Pedi pastors Peter and John."

**Friday, January 16 - Theological Education in Liberia.** Pastors, missionaries, and Christian leaders come from all 15 counties of Liberia (and occasionally from surrounding countries) to be trained at the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary (LBTS) in Monrovia. LBTS offers undergraduate and graduate degrees on campus as well as certificate-level programs at extension centers throughout the country. The predominant religion in Liberia is Christianity, but cultural Christianity and syncretism are prevalent. Liberia has a tremendous need for pastors and church leaders who know, love, and teach the gospel. An International Mission Board missionary couple is assigned to the seminary to invest in the spiritual health of Liberian church leaders by teaching Bible classes, discipling students, and training local church leaders. LBTS is training up the next generation of Christian leaders for the good of the Liberian church and for the spread of the gospel across West Africa. Please pray for the training of Christian leaders in Liberia.

**Saturday, January 17 - Northern Coastal Peoples of Mozambique.** "I can't study the Bible anymore. My grandmother has asked me not to." Unfortunately, these are the words spoken by many who taste and see the hope they can have, but whose desire to learn more is choked by the fear of family disowning them. Florence lives in a neighborhood where every house around her is the home of extended family members. Her grandmother is the matron of the family, and all respect her. She has the power to keep you in, or kick you out. To lose family is to lose home, community, and identity. Please pray for Florence and so many others like her, asking that the hope of Christ will surpass any earthly treasure. Pray for the grandmothers and grandfathers, asking that they, too, will give their hearts to the Lord. Pray that entire households will come to know Him.

**Sunday, January 18 - Pretoria, South Africa.** (pri-TOR-ee-uh) - "Although our family is currently in the United States on stateside assignment," writes missionary Sky Scott, "and the yellow leaves here at the missionary house are falling as quickly as the temperatures, my mind and heart are preoccupied with thoughts of South Africa, where summer in the Southern Hemisphere is in full bloom and the rains have begun! In my mind's eye, I can see my neighbors and friends planting their seeds. The ground is soft and welcoming of seeds that will bring food and seeds that will bring beauty. And I think of people's hearts. There are many in Pretoria with hard, unwelcoming hearts. Please join me in praying Ephesians 4:17-18 (ESV): 'Holy Spirit, may You insist in the lives of Pretorian believers that they no longer live as the lost do, in the futility of their thinking. Jesus, we ask for more light for those who do believe and for "first light" for those who "are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart." Be the Softener of Heart Soil, Lord Jesus. Be the Bringer of Knowledge that leads to salvation and life in God!'"

**Monday, January 19 - Last Frontier.** Please pray for a prayer group of 10 local churches who are praying for an unreached people group (UPG) that is not far away but a challenge to meet. Join us in praising God for how He is at work. God brought the churches together and burdened them with the spiritual and physical needs of the people group. They are united in their vision. Please pray God will mobilize and guide this prayer group in reaching this UPG with the gospel.

**Tuesday, January 20 - Port Elizabeth, South Africa.** Please join missionaries Helmer and Shannon Jensen in praying for three young men who were baptized on November 2 as they begin their journey with Jesus Christ. "For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith" (1 John 5:4 ESV).

**Wednesday, January 21 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples.** Thank you for praying for the numerous countries in West Africa that have had coup d'etats in recent years. Unfortunately, things continue to deteriorate in Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali. Continue to pray for believers in these countries to be bold witnesses. Petition for provision for everyone in these countries, ask that they will be able to continue to have access to food and medical care. Ask the Lord to use these difficult times to soften the hearts of millions of lost people to the gospel.

**Thursday, January 22 - Theological Education in Cape Town, South Africa.** The Cape Town Baptist Seminary school year ended for the students with the last final exam on November 13. New potential and beginnings poke their heads above the ground like new plants seeking the sun. People have nourished these students over the years, and now they're seeking to answer God's calling upon their lives. December and January are months for seminary faculty to interview potential new students wishing to receive training. Prayers arise over each applicant by the faculty, seeking God's will. Every applicant is feeling excited, eager, and anxious and might wonder, "Did I hear correctly? Did God truly call me?" Please join the faculty, applicants, and their churches as they seek to admit God-called men and women as students to the seminary. Pray that each person will continually seek God's will. Praise God because He has called more workers into His harvest field! Ask God to help the faculty and staff to train the head, heart, and hands of each student. Thank God for these new workers. "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest" (John 4:35 ESV).

**Friday, January 23 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples.** "And so the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.' . . . And the shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them" (Luke 2:10-11, 20 NASB). Thank the Lord God for this good news of great joy! Thank Him for giving you the opportunity to hear and believe in the Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Thank Him for all those

across East Africa who have heard the good news and believed in the Savior. Glorify and praise God for all you have heard and seen in your life regarding the Savior. Amen!

**Saturday, January 24 - Windhoek, Namibia.** (VIN-took) - Please pray for Windhoek, asking that God will pour out His Holy Spirit over the city. Ask Him to breathe His life into Windhoek so that His presence fills every home, school, church, and street. Where hearts have grown cold, may His love burn again. Where there is weariness, may He bring renewal. Where sin has held people captive, may He release them into His freedom. Pray that believers across Windhoek will unite as one body, with the single purpose of sharing Jesus with those who need to know Him. God has promised in Acts 2:17 (CSB): "I will pour out my Spirit on all people." Will you ask Him to do exactly that in Windhoek? May He purify hearts, fill mouths with praise, and make lives vessels of His presence. Please pray that Windhoek will become a city known for hope, a place where the name of Jesus is loved and made known to all.

**Sunday, January 25 - Maputo, Mozambique: Capital City and Province.** (mah-POO-too) - "Antonio, the pastor of one of our Baptist churches here in Mozambique, was in a motorcycle accident a couple of weeks ago and broke his leg just below the knee," writes the Southern Mozambique Team. "He was taken to the central hospital here, and has still not had surgery. He is in the biggest public hospital in the country. Surgeries are done one day per week. There are hundreds of people waiting to be operated on. Antonio receives no care from nurses outside of the hours in which his family is allowed to be there to care for him. His bed is in an open room that houses 30 other men lying in their own beds, many of whom have much more severe injuries than his own. This pastor will likely receive care from a private clinic since his family has the means to pay. Other patients will lie with broken bones for months. Pray for those who have no one to care for them. Pray for the forgotten of this country, asking that even if they are forgotten here, their Father in heaven will remember them."

**Monday, January 26 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples.** Workers write: "Join us in giving thanks to God for the results of a recent trip in which some of our Christian leaders who are members of an unreached people group went to a neighboring country in the north for a special occasion that resulted in about 200 new believers and over 70 baptisms! Also thank Him for the opportunity to spread the gospel among this people group in another country and for the distribution of Bible-content videos on cell phone memory cards in their language. Please pray for these new believers to hold fast to the truth of the gospel."

**Tuesday, January 27 - Theological Education in Malawi.** The Malawi Team writes: "Please join us in praying for an upcoming three-day training for home missionaries in Malawi with a focus on discipleship within the core missionary task. Pray that these home missionaries will be equipped to faithfully make disciples who make disciples, especially as they learn how to contextualize discipleship efforts among the many tribes of Malawi. Ask the Lord to grant wisdom and clarity to those teaching and training and to bless the sessions on orality methods so that God's Word may be effectively shared and understood in every culture and language. Please also lift up all who will be traveling, both trainers and participants, asking for safety, strength, and 'divine appointments' along the way. Pray that this time together will result in lasting fruit for the Kingdom and that Christ will be glorified as His Church grows in obedience to the Great Commission. 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' (Matthew 28:19 ESV)."

**Wednesday, January 28 - Global Health Strategies Network.** Healthcare and pre-healthcare students are planning their upcoming summer travel. Going on a mission trip can have a powerful impact on students, setting them up for a lifetime of service either as repeated short-term travelers or even as mid- or long-term cross-cultural workers. Pray that the students currently looking for missions opportunities for summer 2026 will be able to find the right one for them that the Lord will use to best impact their lives for Him.

**Thursday, January 29 - Johannesburg, South Africa.** (joh-HAHN-is-burg) - "In Johannesburg, the prosperity gospel pays the bills," a local pastor commented. He explained the problem, saying that sometimes even well-trained seminary graduates resort to preaching the prosperity gospel once they are on staff at a church. Preaching the truth can result in hardships of various kinds, but preaching the prosperity gospel can result in increased popularity and success. Please pray against this temptation. Pray that the graduates of Johannesburg Bible College will "take up the whole armor of God, that [they] may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm" (Ephesians 6:13 ESV).

**Friday, January 30 - Basotho of Lesotho and South Africa.** (BAH-soo-too) - Jake and Ginger Goss, missionaries in the lowlands of Lesotho, have a burden for the village of Sosa. The people of this village are continuing to have a strong desire to meet together and learn more about the Bible and Jesus. Please pray with them for the Lord to raise up a believer/leader in this village to gather those with an interest and to study the Bible and pray together. "So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:18 CSB).

**Saturday, January 31- International Mission Board.** This is the impact of your partnership. Behind every one of those 68,828 baptisms is a story of grace. Behind every one of those 37,820 trained leaders is a community that will now have a shepherd. Thank you. Thank you for caring about the lost. Thank you for supporting the 3,577 missionaries who are serving right now, often in difficult and dangerous places, to make these moments possible.