



Prayer Initiative STANDING IN THE GAP



together with



DAY 17

Adoration

*As I looked, thrones were set in place,
And the Ancient of Days (God) took His seat.
His clothing was as white as snow,
And the hair of His head was like pure wool.
His throne was ablaze with flames,
And its wheels were a burning fire.
A river of fire was flowing
And coming out from before Him.
A thousand thousands attended Him;
Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him.
The court was seated,
And the books were opened. (Daniel 7:9-10)*

O Lord, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, You alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. (2 Kings 19:15)

Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship.

Confession

*"Even now," declares the Lord,
"Return to Me with all your heart,
With fasting and weeping and mourning.
So rend your heart and not your garments."*

***Return to the Lord your God,
For He is gracious and compassionate,
Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness,
And He relents [His sentence of] evil [when His people genuinely repent].*** (Joel 2:12–13)

Ask the Spirit to search your heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Acknowledge these to the Lord and thank Him for His forgiveness.

Renewal

***May we preserve sound wisdom and discretion,
Not letting them out of our sight;
They will be life to our souls.*** (Proverbs 3:21–22)

May we not let Your word depart from our mouths, but meditate on it day and night, so that we may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then we will make our ways prosperous, and we will act wisely. (Joshua 1:8)

Pause to add your own prayers for personal renewal.

Petition

By God's grace we want to live to the end in faith, knowing that we will not receive the [tangible fulfilment of God's] promises on earth, but seeing them and welcoming them from a distance, we confess that we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth. Instead, we long for a better country, a heavenly one. In this way, God will not be ashamed to be called our God, for He has prepared a city for us. Like Moses, may we esteem reproach for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of this world, because we are looking to the reward. (Hebrews 11:13, 16, 26)

Personal Concerns

- Spiritual warfare
- Resisting being friends with the world, the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life.
- Growth in character
- Physical health and strength for God's glory
- Special concerns

Standing in the Gap - Intercession

I searched for a man among them who would repair the wall and stand in the gap before me on behalf of the land so that I might not destroy it, but I found no one. (Ezekiel 22:30)

Praying for the Persecuted Christian in Libya

OVERVIEW:

Libya remains in chaos following the outbreak of revolution and overthrow of its dictator in 2011. Today, three opposing governments vie for control. The conflicts have severely damaged the country's infrastructure and have made gospel work in the country extremely difficult. A dozen missionaries have lost their lives over the last century, and evangelical work in the country is ruthlessly opposed. Christians are a small minority in Libya (less than 3 percent of the population), but their number continues to grow despite persecution and a volatile political environment.

MAJOR RELIGIONS:

Nearly all Libyans are Sunni Muslims.

PERSECUTOR:

Extremist groups, including the Muslim Brotherhood and the self-proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS), operate throughout the country. Friends and family also severely persecute converts.

WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN LIBYA:

Life is difficult in Libya, and the difficulties are compounded for Christian converts from Islam. There are few believers in Libya, and it is extremely difficult for them to practice their faith openly. Christians are rejected by their Muslim family and friends. They are beaten, fired from jobs and sometimes killed. It is unknown whether any Christians are imprisoned in Libya, but it is considered likely.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray that secret believers will have fellowship with the Lord and with other Christians.
- Pray for the safety of Christians working to share the gospel.
- Pray for peace in Libya.
- Pray that Libyans who have left their country will hear the gospel.
- Pray for those whose only opportunity for fellowship is online churches.
- Pray that many will be reached by Christian broadcasts and internet evangelism.

Praying For The Unreached People of Wolof in Senegal

Population: 6,183,000

Christian: 0.01%

The Wolof are a large ethnic group with a population of several million. Most are located in the West African countries of Senegal and The Gambia.

What Are Their Lives Like?

Traditionally the Wolof were divided into three classes: the freeborn, those born into slavery, and the artisans. The freeborn class ranged from high-ranking noblemen to common peasant farmers. The slave class was made up of the Wolof whose parents were slaves. They were born into slavery and continued to serve their parent's masters. Finally, the artisans were considered a low class in Wolof society. This group included blacksmiths, leather workers, and musicians. Intermarriage among the three classes was a very rare occurrence.

While many of the Wolof have settled in cities and work as merchants, teachers, or government officials, most of them still live in rural areas and work as peasant farmers.

A typical Wolof village consists of several hundred people living in compounds that are grouped around a central village square. The compounds contain houses made of mud or reeds. Fences are built just inside the compound entrances to block the view of strangers. Public events, such as dancing and wrestling, take place in the village square. A platform used for public meetings is usually located in the center of the square, and a mosque is located on the square's east side.

What Are Their Beliefs?

Virtually all of the Wolof claim to be Muslims.. Wolof believe in bad and good spirits, as well as witches. They think that all of these live in their villages. Bad spirits live in tall trees or grassy areas. The Wolof wear amulets to protect them from the bad spirits. A marabout, or spiritual leader with supernatural powers, is contacted when making important decisions.

What Are Their Needs?

The Wolof have been closed to Christianity for many years. Today, most of the Wolof groups have a number of Christian resources available to them, and missions agencies have focused on each of the groups. Sadly, however, very few of them have become Christians. There is a great need for laborers who are sensitive to the Muslim culture to work among the Wolof and to share Christ's love.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for the small number of Wolof believers to have the courage to share the love of Christ with their own people and be strong through persecution.
- Pray for the translation of the Wolof Old Testament.
- Pray for effectiveness of the Jesus film, radio, and other evangelistic tools among the Wolof.
- Pray that the Wolof living in the United States would come to know God and return as strong leaders to their people.
- Ask God to raise up prayer teams to break up the soil through worship and intercession.
- Ask God to grant wisdom and favor to missions agencies focusing on the Wolof.
- Pray that their traditional Muslim culture will soften, creating open doors for the Gospel to be preached among them.
- Ask the Lord to give the Wolof believers opportunities to share the love of Christ with their own people.
- Ask the Lord to raise up strong local churches among the Wolof.

Misc. Prayer Requests

- Those in authority
- Current events and concerns.

Thanksgiving

*The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord;
He is their stronghold in time of trouble.
The Lord helps them and delivers them;
He delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
Because they take refuge in Him.* (Psalm 37:39–40)

Pause to offer your own expressions of thanksgiving.