



Prayer Initiative STANDING IN THE GAP



together with



DAY 24

Adoration

*You are He; You are the first,
And You are also the last.* (Isaiah 48:12)

The God and Father of the Lord Jesus is blessed forever. (2 Corinthians 11:31)

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, upholding all things by His powerful word. After He cleansed our sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3-4)

Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship.

Confession

*The ways of a man are before the eyes of the Lord,
And He examines all his paths.* (Proverbs 5:21)

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

Since we live in the Spirit, may we also walk in the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)

May God fill us with the knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that we may walk worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work, and growing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power according to His glorious might, so that we may have great endurance and patience with joy. (Colossians 1:9-11)

Pause to add your own prayers for personal renewal.

Intercession Standing in the Gap

As the Father sent the Son into the world, He also has sent us into the world. And He has prayed for those who will believe in Him through our message. (John 17:18, 20)

***May we not enter the path of the wicked
Or walk in the way of evil men.*** (Proverbs 4:14)

Praying for the Persecuted Church in Colombia

OVERVIEW:

Many Christians in Colombia are taking great risks to share the gospel with those living in some of the most dangerous places for Christians on earth. Taking the gospel to these hostile areas often results in persecution from armed guerrillas and paramilitary forces. After voters rejected a peace agreement with the Marxist Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebels in 2016, the government approved an agreement with the insurgents without public approval in 2017. Because of the agreement, various paramilitary groups in rural areas in the north and west have grown more active and violent.

MAJOR RELIGIONS:

Most Colombians identify as Christian. The vast majority are Roman Catholic.

PERSECUTOR:

Marxist (atheistic Communist) guerrillas and paramilitary groups persecute Christians.

WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN COLUMBIA:

Pastors in Colombia's "red zones" (areas controlled by militant groups rather than the government) say the peace treaty with the Marxist guerrillas exists in name only. While the guerrillas may have taken off their uniforms, they continue to oppress Christians and remain involved in the drug trade. Christians are targeted because obedience to God's Word will not allow them to join the violent factions (guerrillas or paramilitary groups) in their areas. In order to worship or travel, Christians in red zones must have permission from whichever group is currently in charge. Worship, evangelism and travel are dangerous.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for the safe passage of "red zone" pastors traveling to attend training.
- Pray for the strength of those who minister in the "red zones."
- Pray that Christmas Care Packs will bless the children who receive them.
- Pray that "red zone" churches stand strong amid restrictions and threats.
- Pray for evangelists who travel into the jungle to share with the various armed criminal groups.

Praying for the Unreached people of Azeris in Azerbaijan

Population: 8,798,000

Largest Religion: (Islam 87.00%)

Evangelical: (0.22%)

WHAT ARE THEIR BELIEFS:

The Azerbaijanis are primarily Shi'ite Muslims, but there are a number of Sunni Muslims as well. Islam among the Azerbaijani is a reflection of the historical ties that exist between Azerbaijan and Iran. Until the twentieth century, most Azeri identified themselves as Muslims rather than Azerbaijani or Turks. They believe that being a "spiritual community of Islam" was much more important than being a nation.

In Azerbaijan, religious practices are less restrictive of women's activities than in most other Muslim countries. Most women have jobs outside the home, and a few have attained leadership positions. However, some evidence of the traditional, restrictive female role remains.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Ask the Lord to raise up strong local churches among the Azerbaijanis.

PRAYING FOR MISSIONS

- Local missions
- National missions
- The fulfillment of the Great Commission
- Special concerns

FAMILY AND MINISTRY

- Family needs
- Ministry
 - Sharing Christ with others
 - Helping others grow in Him
- Special concerns
- Special Needs of Others

Thanksgiving

*The Lord God will swallow up death forever,
And He will wipe away the tears from all faces;
He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth.
For the Lord has spoken.
And it will be said in that day,
"Behold, this is our God;
We have waited for Him, and He will save us.
This is the Lord;
We have trusted in Him.
Let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation."* (Isaiah 25:8-9)

The Holy City, new Jerusalem, will come down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. A loud voice from the throne will say, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God, and He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the first things have passed away." He who is seated on the throne will say, "Behold, I make all things new." (Revelation 21:2-5)

Pause to offer your own expressions of thanksgiving.

Closing Prayer

*You have sworn by Yourself;
The word has gone out of Your mouth in righteousness
And will not return.
Every knee will bow before You,
And every tongue will acknowledge You.* (Isaiah 45:23)

*You are worthy to take the scroll
And to open its seals,
Because You were slain,
And with Your blood You purchased men for God
From every tribe and language and people and nation.
You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
And they will reign on the earth.* (Revelation 5:9-10)