



# Prayer Initiative

## STANDING IN THE GAP



together with



### DAY 3

#### Adoration

*How great are Your works, O Lord!  
Your thoughts are very deep.  
The senseless man does not know;  
Fools do not understand  
That when the wicked spring up like grass  
And all the evildoers flourish,  
They will be destroyed forever.  
But You, O Lord, are exalted forever. (Psalm 92:5–8)*

*You are the Lord, that is Your name.  
You will not give Your glory to another,  
Or Your praise to idols. (Isaiah 42:8)*

***Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship.***

#### Confession

*We will endure discipline, for God is treating us as His children. For what child is not disciplined by his father? If we are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then we would be illegitimate children and not His true sons and daughters. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us, and we respected them; how much more should we be subjected to the Father of spirits and live? (Hebrews 12:7–9)*

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

***Christ must increase; we must decrease.*** (John 3:30)

***You are the true vine, and Your Father is the vinedresser. He cuts off every branch in You that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. May we abide in You, and You in us. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can we, unless we abide in You.*** (John 15:1–2, 4)

***Pause to add your own prayers for personal renewal.***

## Petition

***May we follow Abraham's example of willingness to offer all that we have to You, holding nothing back and trusting in Your character and in Your promises.*** (Genesis 22:2–12, 16)

### Growth in Wisdom

- Developing an eternal perspective
- Renewing our minds with truth
- Greater skill in each area of life
- Special concerns

## Intercession

***May we rejoice, become complete, be of good comfort, be of one mind, and live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with us.*** (2 Corinthians 13:11)

## Praying for the Persecuted Church in Nepal

### OVERVIEW:

According to Christian leaders in the country, the government of Nepal is taking a stronger stand against religious conversion. Despite the 2015 constitution guaranteeing religious freedom, Parliament passed a bill in 2017 criminalizing conversion to Christianity. In 2018, the prime minister and other government officials publicly said anyone found changing their religion will be expelled from the country. In addition, any charity organizations engaged in preaching will be shut down. Christian communities are small but outspoken.

### MAJOR RELIGIONS:

Nepalis are divided between Hinduism, Buddhism and animism.

## PERSECUTOR:

Families, communities, Marxist (atheistic Communist) groups and Hindu groups pressure Christians, who also experience some government interference.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN NEPAL:

There is a small, visible Christian community in Nepal, but they are now being pressured by a movement to create a pure Hindu nation. Marxist groups, another significant force within Nepal, also persecute Christians. Christians face harassment and beatings from local Hindus. Four Christians were arrested and convicted of witchcraft after praying for a mentally ill woman in 2016. However, their convictions and five-year prison sentences were later overturned, and they were released.

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for those who have lost their families because of their Christian faith.
- Pray that Nepali believers will continue to grow in faith despite increased pressure.
- Pray for those who have lost their jobs because of their Christian faith.
- Pray for unity among indigenous Christians.
- Pray for the protection of those distributing Bibles.
- Pray that Bibles will reach the most remote mountainous regions of Nepal.

*Praying for the Unreached people of*  
**Qureshi Shaikh in India**

**Population:** 8,060,000

**Christian:** 0.00%

## INTRODUCTION / HISTORY

According to tradition, the first people who embraced Islam because of the teachings of Mohammed were given the honorary title "shaikh." This title is given to devout Muslims not only in the Arab world, but also in South Asia. Though the Shaikhs have high status in Muslim communities, most are livestock herders.

## MINISTRY OBSTACLES

Honor and prestige for being loyal to a religious system makes one very reluctant to accept guidance from a Savior who seems to appeal to those outside one's community.

## OUTREACH IDEAS

It will take someone with excellent people skills, story-telling skills, and a solid theological background to reach out to the Qureshi Shaikhs.

## PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

There are no known followers of Christ in this Muslim community but pray that there soon will be. Someone from the Qureshi Shaikh community can influence South Asian Muslims to embrace the only Savior.

## PRAY FOR THE ENTIRE PEOPLE GROUP

- Pray for His kingdom to come and His will to be done among the Qureshi Shaikhs.
- Pray for a spiritual hunger that will drive the Qureshi Shaikhs to the arms of Jesus.
- Pray for workers who are filled with the fruit and the power of the Holy Spirit to go to the Qureshi Shaikhs.

## Family

- Family members who have loved ones incarcerated
- Wisdom for Families who have loved ones in addiction or living apart from Christ.
- Spiritual concerns
- Emotional and physical concerns
- Other concerns

## Thanksgiving

***We give thanks to You, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.*** (Revelation 11:17)

***There will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the new Jerusalem, and His servants will serve Him. They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no night there; they will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they shall reign for ever and ever.*** (Revelation 22:3-5)

***Pause to offer your own expressions of thanksgiving.***