



Equipping Servants: Disciples Making Disciples

James Update January 2023

Finally, brothers, pray for us that the Word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored! (2 Thessalonians 3:1—ESV).

Debbie and I value your prayers for our plans for ministry in Africa:

- Feb 26-Mar 11 Train church planters in Niger
- March 12-22 Train church planters in Lebanon
- April 12-15 Equipping Servants (ES) Training Kasempa, Zambia
- April 17-19 ESI Training Ndora, Zambia
- April 24-26 ESI Training Burundi
- April 27-May 4 ESI visit groups in Nairobi, Kenya that started in January

How to pray for missionaries

Paul asked the Colossian believers to pray for him, saying, “Pray for us that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ ... Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.” (Col 4:3-4) Here are practical ways you can pray for missionaries:

1. For our walk with God, daily seeking Christ in the fear of the Lord (John 15:5).
2. Hunger for God’s Word, that we will read and study the Bible every day to understand it, to see Jesus in it, to experience gospel transformation (Colossians 4:2-4).
3. To be filled with the Holy Spirit, walking in Biblical repentance, broken over specific sins, and living out the gospel in the challenges of daily life and relationships (Psalm 139:23-24).
4. To be a Biblical friend, experiencing humility and dependence upon God in strong and healthy marriages (Philippians 1:3-11).
5. For the salvation and growth of our children (3 John 4).
6. For team relationships with fellow missionaries, reflecting Christ in mutual discipleship as we serve together; avoiding unkind words and attitudes that would cause divisions (2 Cor 13:11).
7. To be faithful in our own prayer life, asking God to give us eyes to see people as Jesus sees them (Matthew 9:35-38).
8. For boldness in talking to people about Christ and clarity in what we say; for much fruit that remains, for many to trust in Jesus and experience gospel transformation (1 Timothy 2:1-4).
9. For God to build up local churches that have a passion to be true to God’s Word, disciples walking together in holiness and gospel unity. Pray that these local churches will be faithful to plant other local churches (1 Thessalonians 1:4-8).
10. For God to raise up faithful and effective local pastors, church leaders, and missionaries to further the work of the gospel (2 Timothy 2:2).
11. For God to guide every decision in Biblical wisdom (Colossians 1:9).
12. For physical and emotional stamina in the face of discouragement, health, travel and safety concerns; the difficulty of living far from children and family. Pray for joy in hardship, kindness toward opposition, patience and perseverance in distress (Ephesians 6:10-18).
13. For cross-cultural and language learning, understanding and adaptation; to be loving and effective to the people God has called us to reach (Colossians 4:5-6).
14. For God’s Word to spread (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

Our Purpose

Help local church pastors and leaders to study the Bible, to be true to Christ experiencing gospel transformation

Pray ...

- For Kep and Debbie in February and March training church planters in Niger and Lebanon. Pray that each student will commit to study the Bible every day to see Jesus, and experience gospel transformation in their life
- For the pastors & church leaders planning to attend the ESI Training in Zambia & Burundi in April to have a deep and real encounter with Jesus & His gospel as they prepare
- For the 2200 ESI participants in 16 countries, that each will grow in God’s Word and in grace living as committed disciples of Jesus
- For pastors and church leaders everywhere to honor Christ by being true to His Scriptures (John 8:31,32)
- For our church in La Paz, Bolivia to continue faithful to the gospel, and to see much fruit that remains

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