



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 298
SANTA CLARITA, CA

- AAP Introductory Literature and Brochures available in print and on the web
- Adoption Agency List, available in print and on the web

All Resources available from:

William Carey Library:
1-800-MISSION

Need more details? See:

www.adopt-a-people.org
www.frontierventures.org

ON THE WEB

<https://Joshuaproject.net/pray/guides>
(free daily entries)

<https://Joshuaproject.net/resources/apps>
(listings of UPGs, profiles, daily prayer entries)

FRONTIER VENTURES
FRONTIER FELLOWSHIP
1605 E. ELIZABETH STREET
PASADENA, CA 91104-2721
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Global Prayer Digest

July-September 2020 • Frontier Ventures

39:7-9

Global Prayer Digest

www.globalprayerdigest.org

July-September 2020 Frontier Ventures • 39:7-9



The Fields Are White for Harvest in Dallas!

- 1—Choctaw People Left Behind in Dallas
- 8—Are Egyptians the Gourmets of the Arab World?
- 16-17—Meet Unreached Chinese At Their Restaurants!
- 24—Will Dallas Ever Be Home to the Hindu Nepalis?
- 28—They Are Twenty Percent Christian in India, 0 Percent in DFW



Dear Praying Friends,

Imagine yourself as a refugee or an immigrant in a new country.

Everything seems strange to you; the people, how you purchase groceries, everything. At first you feel unsure of yourself, and you know you need help from the local people. As the years go by, others from your culture join you. You begin to form organizations to preserve your culture and your past identity.

At what point do you think people are most open to spiritual changes? If you thought it was the earlier time, you are right. Time and again, believers have found that by reaching out to the unreached peoples in the West within a year of their arrival, they are most open to change. Once they become settled, they try to resurrect the old ways.

We are praying for the unreached peoples in Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW) Texas this month. Be especially vigilant to pray for recently arriving groups like the Rohingyas. We are especially grateful for a team of researchers in DFW who shared their information, helped us decide which groups to cover, and wrote the background piece and nine daily entries. There are many surprises in this issue, and you will be praying for people groups we have never covered before.

In Christ,

Keith Carey

Keith Carey, editor-in-chief, GPD

Keith.carey@frontierventures.org

Subscription information:

Free digital tools from Unreached of the Day:

<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday>

Printed copies:

<https://www.highlandtech.net/secure/missionfrontiers/subscribe.asp>

For comments on content call 626-398-2241 or email keith.carey@frontierventures.org

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Paula Fern

WRITERS

Patricia Depew

Karen Hightower

Wesley Kawato

Benjamin Klett

David Kugel

Christopher Lane

Ted Proffitt

Cory Raynham

Lydia Reynolds

Jean Smith

Allan Starling

Chun Mei Wilson

John Ytreus

DAILY BIBLE COMMENTARIES

Keith Carey

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Lois Carey

Laurie Rosema

GRAPHICS

Keith Carey

David Gutierrez

PRINTER

Yuli Color Reproduction Co., LTD.

(Taiwan)

WEB SITE

<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday>

ISSN 1045-9731

Contents of the *Global Prayer Digest* © 2020

Frontier Ventures

1605 East Elizabeth Street

Pasadena, CA 91104

Contents of this booklet may be reproduced if appropriate credit and subscription information are given.

Cover photo by iStockjat306.

PRAY FOR

A Disciple-Making Movement for Every People in Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW)



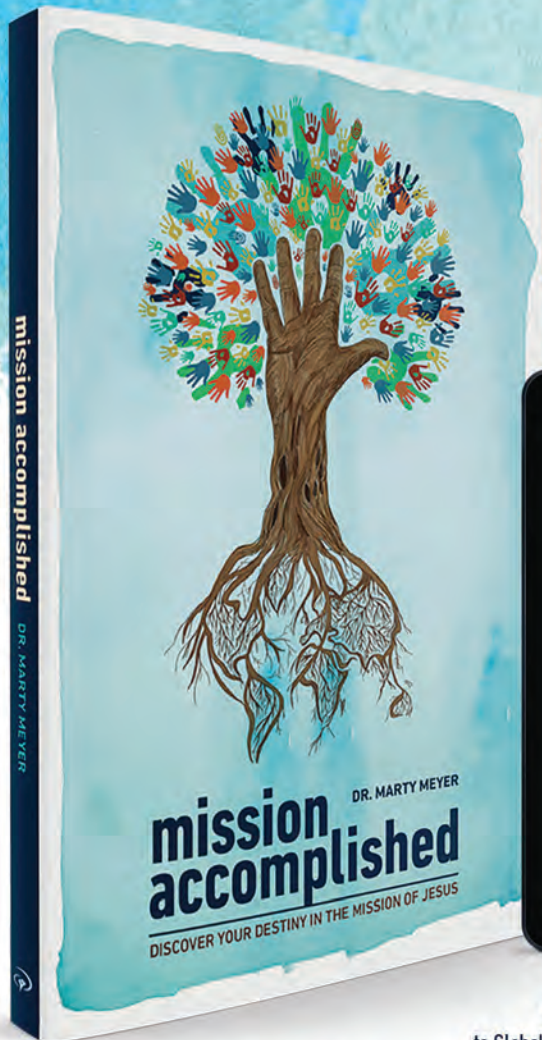
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED is Making an Impact!



Dr. Marty Meyer's book, Mission Accomplished will inspire you to discover your destiny by engaging in the mission of Jesus! From praying to going, you will embark on an exciting adventure that brings ultimate purpose and fulfillment to your life. Mission Accomplished is packed with vibrant stories of shattering darkness and advance of the Gospel while inviting the reader to join in the action.

CLAIM YOUR FREE COPY

by visiting missionaccomplishedbook.net - you will pay only a small fee for shipping.



Marty is providing the Kindle version of Mission Accomplished to Global Prayer Digest readers for only **97 cents!**

Visit www.MissionAccomplishedBook.net/Kindle to download your copy today.

FREE Prayer Resources!

PRAYER GUIDES!

Download and print your own free copies from Joshua Project's website

<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/guides>

Free daily email:

<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday/email>

You can also get the app by going to the App Store or the Google Play Store, and search for "Unreached of the Day"

Joshua Project has much more!

Research and daily prayer materials for UPGs.

<http://joshuaproject.net/>

Fellowship for Prayer Strategists

Excellent materials for those who are serious about prayer!

<https://prayerstrategists.net/about/prayer-guides/>

10-40 Window Reporter

Prayer for nations of the 10-40

Window using materials from current news sources.

<https://www.windowreporter.com/>

Devotional Ideas

How can you make the most of this prayer digest:

- Some people use it as a supplement to their regular devotional time.
- Others enjoy reading and praying around the dinner table with the entire family.
- We encourage you to gather monthly with friends who are involved in this prayer movement.

Every day at the top of the page you'll find the name of an unreached people group for which to pray.

The Fields Are Ripe in America's "Ethnic Hypergrowth" City

iStockphoto



From 1950 through the 1970s the Dallas-Ft Worth (DFW) metropolitan area was known as the buckle of "the Bible belt" that stretched from Texas to Florida in the American south. Over seven and half million people live in the 13-county area locally called the Metroplex. 246 newcomers arrive every day and since 2016 DFW has led the nation year after year in population growth. It consistently ranks as a top resettlement hub for the US Refugee Resettlement Program. With all this influx English is not the primary language spoken in a quarter of Metroplex homes. Immigrant growth in all its forms is so significant the Brookings Institute described Dallas and Fort Worth as "ethnic hypergrowth" cities.

Bible Belt No More?

The association with the Bible Belt has faded from memory. Church attendance flattened in the 1970s and has not kept up with population growth. In 1990 Evangelical Protestants could claim 1.4 million participants. While that number grew to 1.8 million by 2015 during that same period the overall population almost doubled. While aging congregations struggle to maintain membership, secular society continues to grow

without a meaningful witness. Yet there is "religious" growth. DFW is home to the fourth largest Muslim community in America. Unused church buildings are being remodeled as Buddhist temples with traditional Buddha statues and meditation gardens.

Indeed, the Metroplex of the 21st century is increasingly more diverse, more secular, and more devoted to material success. The headquarter buildings of Texas Instruments, AT&T, Exxon-Mobil, American Airlines, and 21 other Fortune 500 companies gleam in the Texas summer sun. If the Metroplex was its own country its gross domestic product would be the 10th largest economy in the world. To sustain the momentum, they highlight job growth and an affordable cost of living to attract talent from around the world.

A Tradition of Spiritual Challenges, Cover-Ups, and Economic Growth

The Metroplex is young, and youth are prone to misbehave. Dallas taught the dentist Doc Holliday how to gamble, made Bonnie and Clyde outlaw heroes, rocketed Ray Charles to a legendary R & B performer, and celebrated the city's excess in a primetime soap opera of the same name. Ft. Worth was the cattle and meat packing town and home to Hell's Half Acre—a famous red-light district that attracted scores of Old West personalities until the 1920s. Also in the Roaring 20s one out of three eligible men in Dallas were members of the Ku Klux Klan. Then in 1924 the Citizens League Against the Klan rallied 5,000 to protest the racist organization's hold on local politics and the Klan lost its clout. After the Great Depression the league gave way to the unelected Dallas Citizens Council of business elites that would steer Dallas politics for decades. Their goal was not to improve the lives of citizens, but to keep out of negative newspaper headlines that might hamper business.

Dallas and Ft. Worth competed for the affection of the state and the nation. Dallas developed growing financial markets and Ft. Worth invested in world class museums and cultural attractions while boasting of being home to the world's largest seminary. Issues of racism were covered up and local city councils reformed policies just enough to give the appearance of social improvement and satisfy business leaders. The assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963 by Lee Harvey Oswald in downtown Dallas gave the city a proverbial black eye. Locals are quick to point out that the Marxist Oswald was not a hometown product, but a recent immigrant. The assassination spelled the end of the Dallas Citizens Council and spurred the Metroplex's slow evolution into a modern urban hub.

A Tradition of Ethnic Diversity

DFW has always been ethnically diverse. The cities of north Texas were established beginning in the 1840s, often at the site of Indian villages. Its earliest



White settlers were German and Swiss including refugees of a failed French utopian society. As part of a former Spanish colony, Mexicans were already a thread in the cultural fabric. Uptown Dallas, Deep Ellum, Little Egypt, and Joppa were all originally large freedman's towns of former slaves. The Jewish Temple Emanu-El was

founded in 1873. Demographers even recorded 46 Chinese in Dallas in 1886. In the 20th century diversity increased.

The Metroplex of the 21st century is home to over 350 groups with diverse language and cultural backgrounds. In step with the populace as a whole, immigrants are settling in the suburbs and spurring new growth away from central urban hubs. According to DFW International, immigration accounts for virtually all of the increase in public school enrollment. Students from India make up the largest body of international students at the four major local public universities. Likewise, many of these graduates stay. Twenty-five percent of the employees in Richardson's Telecommunications Corridor and the surrounding high-tech industry are from India. Many immigrants, like the 50,000 Igbo Nigerian-Americans, come here fluent in English and versed in Western church culture. Others, like many in the even larger Vietnamese diaspora, begin their experience learning English, working minimum wage jobs, and becoming acculturated by trial and error.

Many of these cultures have never heard a clear, culturally appropriate presentation of the gospel in their language. Immigrants from Buddhist and Hindu backgrounds ask some of the same questions as educated Westerners. Questions such as, "Does the spiritual play a role in high tech, materialist society?" "Should ancient cultural myths and religious traditions remain the basis for modern decision making?" The pastor in a church directly across the street from the Buddhist temple is uncomfortable reaching out to the monk. So too, the monk does not know how to approach this representative of a Western faith that seems so dominant. Yet all believers can bridge these cultural gaps by simply asking an immigrant what his or her religious tradition teaches about sickness, marriage or helping the poor—whatever issue is at hand.

Spiritual Potential

It's important to note that the Dallas-Ft Worth Metroplex is a global gateway city to which God has drawn people groups without access to the gospel. From here

they reach back into their home as ambassadors of Texas' entrepreneurial can-do spirit. Where Church Planting Movement (CPM) teams have reached refugees with the gospel, DFW's newest residents discuss Bible stories with family members back home via Skype and Facebook, and new congregations form. More than a dozen trained disciple-making movement (DMM) and CPM teams are in place in the region. The work is slow and the need for the Holy Spirit to act is ever evident.

Historically, immigrant communities revive cities. May Dallas-Ft Worth experience spiritual revival as Christ is praised in hundreds of languages and the glory of His presence is exhaled back across the globe! Revival starts with repentance. *Lord, as representatives of the sins of city founders, politicians, business leaders, and co-workers devoted to racism and self-aggrandizement – we repent. May the Lord grant DFW the spiritual capital and Holy Spirit endowed tenacity to transform this old Bible belt buckle into a hub for global evangelization.*

How You Can Pray

The people groups featured in this edition have been identified as some of the most unevangelized and strategic groups with a tangible presence in north Texas. As you explore each people group ask God to orchestrate divine encounters in which believers inquire about the life and faith of neighbors from Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

God is drawing the nations to DFW. Will His people embrace the call? Through these 31 days of intercession ask God to enrich the spiritual climate of the Metroplex in three vital ways: enable new workers to bless the unreached in our midst, equip persons of peace to reach their communities, and empower a multiplying movement of new churches that multiply new churches.

In praying Luke 10:2 for new workers ask God for translators, business people equipped to focus on ethnic markets, and gifted entrepreneurial servants who will catalyze simple teams to enter the harvest to put the gospel in the hands of the city's newest residents. The prayers of God's people around the globe will enable the church of DFW to commit to seeing that local unreached people groups will be reached.

Onward for His glory,

Thom Mackenzie

Thom serves among the international community for the sending agency, Beyond, and teaches global literatures at Dallas Baptist University

DAY 01

CHOCTAW PEOPLE IN DALLAS-FT. WORTH (DFW)

JOSH 1:9, NLT

This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Pray that the Native Americans in DFW will find hope, strength, and courage in Jesus Christ, their Savior.

iStockajr_images



In 1892 Captain Pratt called on Christian educators to “kill the Indian and save the man.”

Twentieth century Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) policy adopted Pratt’s call to strip their “pagan” culture by prohibiting cultural dances and native languages, Americanizing children at boarding schools, and assimilating Indians in urban centers. The outcomes were disastrous.

The BIA Dallas Relocation Office moved Chito’s father (a Choctaw) the 127 miles from Oklahoma to Arlington, TX after his discharge from the Vietnam War. Chito became the target of Indian jokes at his new school, and he dropped out.

Every few years Chito organizes a small powwow. Most Native nations have lost too much of their customs to hold a tribal dance or ceremony on their own. Modern powwows practice a homogenous blend of practices from different tribes. There are enough Native American groups in DFW to support the local KNON radio show, Beyond Bows and Arrows. Most Choctaws and other Native Americans loosely observe a mix of tribal folk beliefs, and long for a redeemer who can help them “save face.”

Pray for the Choctaw to experience adoption as God’s children with the dignity to serve as Christ’s ambassadors and high priests to other Native Americans who struggle to find their place in the West.—DFW team

ALBANIAN TOSK PEOPLE IN DFW

Drita feels at home inspecting produce and folding cloth napkins at her family’s Italian restaurant in Carrollton, TX. Since her uncle’s health began to deteriorate, Drita has become more responsible for managing the business. Long hours ensure she has few social contacts outside her tight-knit family. Following the Muslim tradition to marry within the community, marriage would likely mean becoming part of another family’s restaurant because most of the family owned Italian restaurants in north Texas are operated by Albanians. Devotion to work and family cloud her ever drifting dreams.

Drita considers the United States to be a “Christian nation,” though she is not sure what that means. Instead of adapting to American culture she clings to her Albanian culture, her Tosk language, and her nominal Muslim beliefs. In Tosk her name means “light,” the defining element missing from her daily life.

Pray for the 2,200 Tosk Albanians like Drita who call North Texas home. As they work with their hands may the Holy Spirit work in their hearts and open their minds. Ask God to send believers in the restaurant industry to build spiritual relationships with working Tosk families. Pray that families welcome the Light of Jesus and share it throughout the industry.—TA

iStock/Pikatese



DAY 02

PS 90:17, NLT

And may the Lord our God show us His approval and make our efforts successful. Yes, make our efforts successful!

Pray that the Lord will establish the work of missionaries’ hands, as well as the immigrant groups trying their best to earn a living in a strange land.

ERITREANS IN DFW

JN 4:35, NLT

You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest.

Pray for believers in DFW to do just this, and act upon it!

iStockk_photos



drought, land destruction, lack of food production, and oppressive government, has resulted in the exodus of the most educated and skilled professionals. They are willing to make whatever sacrifices are required for the benefit of their posterity. This is the story of immigrants in America.

Eritreans in Dallas-Ft Worth (DFW) believe firmly that rearing their children is not primarily the responsibility of the parents but of their entire combined community. Consequently, they are adapting well to their new culture and country. They remain closely connected to one another. No matter where they are located in the United States their strong family ties tend to make their communities very strong. Eritrean-Americans are hard workers, contributing to economic prosperity. They have earned respect as the kind of immigrants every country could desire. For example, they have been honored by the Mayor of Dallas for organizing two national soccer tournaments.

Pray that God's blessings through Christ will help these Muslims become all that God wants them to be. Pray that spiritual barriers will be broken, and they will reach back to their homeland for Jesus.—KH

MUSLIM WOLOF PEOPLE IN DFW

Wolof people in Dallas are not all immigrants. Since many African slaves were from the same region, some African-Americans have Wolof blood. But today we will focus on those who are immigrants to Richardson, Texas from Senegal, West Africa.

In Dallas the Wolof are hard-working people employed by governments as teachers and many are business owners. Women often work as hairdressers, waitresses or study in universities.

Retaining their own Wolof language helps maintain unity among them. They are a people known for their beauty. Much African art is sourced from Wolof people.

Primarily Muslim, they continue to resist the gospel, despite the Christian influences in Dallas. Local churches have much potential to reach Wolof people, and to be instrumental in their understanding of what Jesus Christ has for them. These people for whom Christ laid down his life could be very instrumental in reaching loved ones in West Africa if they embraced the Savior. Who will tell them?

Pray that God's people will make long-lasting, intentional contact with Wolof people in DFW that will result in many disciples reaching their own people. Pray for the Holy Spirit to anoint Wolof families to raise up a generation of fruitful, multiplying witnesses of Christ's mercy and love.—KH



iStock/mazimgikael

PS 138:1, NLT

I give you thanks, O LORD, with all my heart; I will sing your praises before the gods.

Pray that the Wolof people will sing praises to the ONLY God, the one who gave them life and offers life to the full.

MUSLIM MOORS IN DFW

PS 138:2, NLT

I bow before your holy Temple as I worship. I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness; for your promises are backed by all the honor of your name.

Pray that the Muslim Moors will respond to God's unfailing love by giving Him all their devotion.

iStock/Lorenzo781



(Moors of predominantly Arab descent who speak Hassaniya Arabic) and Black Moors (Moors of predominantly African descent who speak African languages). The Black Moors have made their way to the US seeking sanctuary from slavery and oppression, often at the hands of the White Moors. They have brought their religion, their culture, and their fears with them. They are known for their refusal to interact with other ethnic groups in an attempt to preserve their traditional culture. This attitude has hindered their adjustment to life in the United States.

Moors are known to be almost entirely Sunni Muslim in their religion and culture. Black Moors, although Sunni Muslim, are not as committed. Efforts to reach Moors in DFW would need to include two separate outreaches.

Pray that prayer teams will be raised up to begin breaking up the spiritual soil through worship and intercession. Ask the Lord to raise up a strong disciple-making movement among Moorish people in DFW, reaching families first. Pray that available Bible resources in Hassaniya, the heart language of White Moors, will find their way to prepared hearts.—KH

MUSLIM MOROCCANS IN DFW

What makes the Moroccans so special among Arabic speaking peoples in DFW? The primary reason is the language. If you look at a map of the Arabic speaking world, it starts in the west with Morocco, and ends in the east in Iraq and Oman. As you might imagine, Arabic is different throughout, though most people understand Egyptian Arabic, since it is the language of Arabic language media. Moroccan Arabic includes elements of the Berber/Tamacheq and French languages. Some of their foods are different than other Arabs. Moroccans have good reason to have their own cultural association in the Dallas area. However, most live in Plano and Richardson, near other Arabic speaking communities.



iStock/barsik

We will be praying for Moroccans for the same reason that we will pray for Algerian, Egyptian, and Iraqi Arabs. These Muslims are highly unreached. Though Moroccans may have been in Texas long enough to be set in their old ways, they still need to hear that they need a savior.

Pray for spiritual hunger that will drive these Muslims to seek and find the Savior. Pray for cultural and spiritual welcomers among them to welcome Christ's ambassadors into their community. Pray for a Moroccan Arabic language disciple-making movement to flourish in Richardson and Plano.—KC

OS 138:3 NLT

As soon as I pray, you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength.

Pray that the Moroccans in DFW will be given spiritual strength and encouragement as they offer themselves as living sacrifices to the Lord of lords.

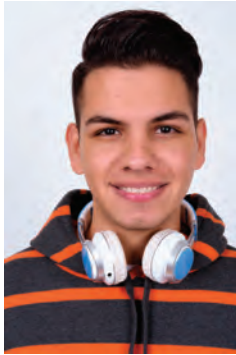
MUSLIM ALGERIAN ARABS IN DFW

PS 138:8, NLT

The LORD will work out His plans for my life—for your faithful love, O LORD, endures forever. Don't abandon me, for you made me.

Pray for the Lord to work out His perfect plan for the Algerian Arabs, and give them grateful hearts for His works.

iStockRanta Images



(This fictitious story illustrates truths about this people group.)

“Congratulations to Algerian student-athletes Amine, Badri, and Adel for receiving the US National Honors Society awards for excellent academic achievement! In addition to their exceptional academic

aptitudes they are great basketball players for our school.” The President of Spring Creek Academy, a leading private high school located in Plano, TX was presenting the awards. “Amine, I would like you to come up first and receive your award.” The handsome six foot nine Algerian went up to the stage. After receiving his award, he stated, “It is not just my sole effort that has made this possible. I would like to thank my parents, who went through so much when they left Algeria, so my siblings and I could be here in the US. I’m also very indebted to my teachers, coach, friends, and everyone who has given me support!”

There are an estimated 14,700 Algerians living in the United States with a small population residing in Dallas. The majority are nominal Sunni Muslims. They are usually hardworking, friendly people dedicated to their families.

Pray that believers will develop lasting friendships with the Algerians so they can earn the right to be heard when they tell them about the powerful blessings of Christ.—PD

MUSLIM EGYPTIAN ARABS IN DFW

(This fictitious story illustrates truths about this people group.)

Enjoying the ambiance and flavor of

Egyptian cuisine at a fine restaurant in Dallas, Dan complemented the Egyptian owner. “This is the best Egyptian food I have ever tasted! How long has your restaurant been open?” The owner replied, “It has been several years. I’m happy you like the food!”

Estimates of the number of Egyptian immigrants to the US are well over 800,000 with a fairly large number living in Texas, especially in the Dallas area. The majority of Egyptian Americans are Christians who belong to Coptic, Protestant and Catholic churches. These Christians sought asylum due to the high persecution they endured in a country where the population is over 90 percent Muslim. Egyptian Muslims form a minority in the US and usually isolate themselves from Christian Egyptians. Most of them are very dedicated to their Islamic beliefs. Many Egyptians in the US are professionals, especially in the areas of engineering and medicine. A number have succeeded in opening restaurants.

Pray that Egyptian believers will be willing to lovingly reach out to Egyptian Muslims. May the Egyptian Muslims come to feel Christ’s presence in their lives and desire to accept and follow Him.—PD



iStockPeter Müller

IS 19:21, NLT

The LORD will make Himself known to the Egyptians. Yes, they will know the LORD and will give their sacrifices and offerings to Him. They will make a vow to the LORD and will keep it.

Pray for this prophecy to come true in DFW this very decade!

IRAQI ARABS IN DFW

LEV 25:36, NLT

Do not charge interest or make a profit at his expense. Instead, show your fear of God by letting him live with you as your relative.

Pray for many in DFW to show their fear of God by reaching out with Christ's blessings to the Arab peoples in their midst.

iStockaj_images



As an Arabic translator for the US military, Nasim sacrificed his family and future during Iraq's sectarian violence. While military personnel sported bullet proof vests, he relied on street smarts for protection. Though granted priority status to immigrate to the US the welcome he received was not warm. He endured threats and social isolation for years. Many fellow translators never were approved. He was resettled in Ft Worth's Stop 6 community. Nasim managed to pick up odd jobs and found an apartment with other young refugees he could not trust. He was afraid his roommates would learn of his interest in this Messiah and turn in his family members to Islamic extremists in Iraq. When his sister calls on Skype from a Baghdad café, he attempts to hide the fact that even though he cannot see the signs of war outside, the conflict continues to trouble his soul.

Pray that Jesus would heal the 27,000 Iraqis in north Texas from the trauma of war and family separation. May fathers find boldness to observe the teachings of Jesus and share stories from the Bible with their network of family and friends. Ask the Father to send Arabic speaking believers to bless young Iraqi families with His truth.—TM

DRUZE IN DFW

(This fictitious story illustrates truths about this people group.)

All Hadriq knew is that he

wanted to date his classmate. What he didn't know is that, being a Druze, he was not allowed to date outside his faith. His search for more information about the Druze beliefs resulted in the instruction to read the Bible, the Qur'an, and Buddhist texts ... also to get a good education.

The Druze are a Lebanese ethnic/religious community whose history began with a man who claimed to be God. Most still live in the Middle East, though some are scattered throughout US cities such as DFW. Religiously, they exist as a strange sect of Islam, though they believe only in an "inner, esoteric meaning" to the Qur'an. The Druze allow no conversation either away from or toward their religion.

In the US, there is a movement of Westernization, especially among young people, who are having difficulties with Druze values and restrictions, and many are walking away from this secretive religion.

Pray for entire Druze families to embrace and follow the Christ. Pray that the Holy Spirit would penetrate their hearts leading many into a disciple-making movement.—BK



iStock/rzdeb

PS 118:5-6, NLT

In my distress I prayed to the LORD, and the LORD answered me and set me free. The LORD is for me, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?

Pray that the Druze in DFW will be set free from sin and fear.

KURMANJI SPEAKING KURDS IN DFW

ROM 10:15 NLT

And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

Pray for more "sent" believers to go to the Kurds in DFW and raise up Kurdish believers who will disciple others in Christ's ways.

iStockMichael Martin



Everyone wants a homeland they can call their own, a flag that they can salute, and a national anthem they can sing. Technically

the Kurds have none of these since their homeland has been dissected by Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Azerbaijan. Missionary work in these countries is almost impossible.

However, many Kurds have migrated to the West, where they have opportunities to hear the gospel and follow Christ. Most of the 20,000 Kurds now in the USA came as refugees between 1975 and 2014, and many settled in the DFW area. They brought with them their culture (dress, diet, and lifestyle), their language (Kurmanji), and their religion (Sunni Islam). The Kurdish National Congress represents Kurds in North America who want the younger generation to remember their language and culture. Kurdish families place a high priority on education. Kurdish women typically do not wear Islamic veils. Almost none of them in DFW have put their faith in Christ.

Pray that believers in DFW will make the effort to lovingly take the gospel to Kurds and teach them to disciple others. Pray that the Kurmanji-speaking Kurds in the US be touched by the gospel and moved to bring it to Kurdish people everywhere.—AHS

MUSLIM PASHTUNS IN DFW

As a teenager during Laylat al-Qadr, the most important night of Ramadan, Marof had

a vision of a pure white goat sacrificed for his clan. When the Soviets invaded, the hills where his grandfather's herd grazed were taken over, so he fled to Pakistan. Without a work permit, Marof began serving at a training center and learned English. However after 9/11, locals accused him of being Al Qaeda. To stop the harassment, he became a translator for the US military. In 2015 his family obtained a special visa to move to the US.

Cooking on large charcoal grills at an Afghan Unity Dallas event in rural Mesquite, TX Marof saw goats in a field. That night, the decades old vision of a pure white goat returned. Though he shares the recurrent vision with Pashtun elders, they only see these dreams as a longing for home. Marof believes it means more, but he doesn't know what.

As Pashtun and other Muslims have spiritual dreams, pray that believers can help them see Christ as the ultimate scapegoat for our sins and begin to follow Him. Ask God to connect believers with Pashtun people of peace who will follow Jesus and make disciples among refugees from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and beyond.—TM



iStockMax_gipo

LEV 16:8-9, NLT

He is to cast sacred lots to determine which goat will be reserved as an offering to the LORD and which will carry the sins of the people to the wilderness of Azazel. Aaron will then present as a sin offering the goat chosen by lot for the LORD.

Pray for Pashtuns and other Muslims in DFW to take the opportunity to follow the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

SHI'ITE MUSLIM PERSIANS (IRANIANS) IN DFW

GAL 5:1, NLT

So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law.

Pray for the Persians in DFW to find spiritual freedom and acceptance in Christ.

iStockRanta Images



Iranian man

Persecuted in Iran for voicing his freedom of belief, Benyamin escaped to Turkey. After struggling to survive for two years, he felt blessed to be selected for asylum in the US. The diverse refugee community of east Dallas offered a new place to call home, yet failed to provide a community to belong. Unlike the generation of Persians who immigrated during the 1979 Iranian Revolution, Benyamin arrived with no degree or professional job experience. Through the DFW Persian Facebook community, Benyamin found a local Fire Festival as part of Nowruz or Iranian New Year. With over 1,000 Farsi speakers, he observed the pre-Islamic Zoroastrian custom of jumping over small bonfires. The joyous rite symbolizes burning away things of old to usher in a hopeful new year.

Whether in suburban comfort or an overcrowded low-income apartment, the 14,000 Persians of north Texas are joined together by the Farsi language, a Shi'ite Muslim faith that provides little certainty, and a longing to belong to a community.

May dissatisfaction with this world and the search to belong lead Persians to establish new Farsi speaking communities based on the Word of God and obedience to Christ. Pray that believers jump across the cultural divide to share the good news that enables all to find hope in God's kingdom.—MN

MUSLIM TURKS IN DFW

As a child, Hamit was sent to help his grandfather make his popular tulum cheese. For his 20th

birthday his father sent him to work at Anatolia Grocery with his cousin in Richardson, TX so he could attend college in the US. Hamit hoped to finish school in Turkey with his friends but was obliged to pursue the family dream of having a doctor in the family.

Hamit was taught to never criticize Islam though he sees religion more as a responsibility than a matter of faith. The Turkish customers at the market are college educated and talk more about their careers and Turkish President Erdoğan than Islam. They assure him that the future is in technology, not a medical degree. Eventually he will have to decide which direction to pursue.

The Turks in DFW are Sunni Muslims, and they come from a people who led the Ottoman Empire for hundreds of years. There is much pride in their history.

Pray for the 3,000 Turks in north Texas to discover the joys of worshipping God in spirit and in truth. Ask God to send believers into the Turkish community who will introduce them to stories from the Bible and help them to begin a disciple-making movement among Turkish speakers.—SN and TM



Turkish man

iStockMaxRiesgo

JOHN 4:24-26, NLT

"For God is Spirit, so those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When He comes, He will explain everything to us." Then Jesus told her, "I AM the Messiah!"

Pray for this truth to penetrate Turkish communities in the US as well as in Turkey.

HAKKA PEOPLE IN DFW

ACTS 15:11, NLT

We believe that we are all saved the same way, by the undeserved grace of the Lord Jesus.

Pray that many Hakkas in DFW will accept God's undeserved grace and share it with others.

ThamKC



Hakka food, anyone?

If you are hungry in Dallas, you could satisfy your palate with something deliciously exotic—stuffed tofu, yam abacus, pork belly with preserved mustard greens, and poon choy topped off with pounded tea. These are some of the traditional dishes of the Hakka people. One Hakka restaurant in Dallas receives rave reviews for its “flat noodle soup.” Hakka cuisine tends to be heavy and hearty, to sustain the people who used to labor hard on their farms.

The Hakka people hail from southern China and Taiwan. They are sometimes called the “Jews of Asia” because of their business acumen. The Hakka speak their own language, which itself has several dialects. Hakka is mutually unintelligible with Mandarin and Cantonese, the two other major Han Chinese languages in that region.

Most Hakka people are Buddhist. The largest written work in Hakka used to be the New Testament and Psalms, but in 2012 they completed the Hakka Bible known as Today's Taiwan Hakka Version. It can be supplemented with audio recordings.

Pray that followers of Jesus in Dallas will be intentional, wise, loving, and effective in sowing the Word of God among them. Pray that the Lord will open the hearts of the Hakka people to desire God's blessings through a movement of family-based discovery Bible studies.—CMW

HAN CHINESE IN DFW

According to a 2017 *Dallas Morning News* article, the city's “Seemingly overnight, north Texas' Chinese



iStockthesomegirl

dining landscape has exploded deliciously and extravagantly, to the point that regional Chinese cooking is now the most exciting thing happening on the Dallas gastronomic scene.” You can step into one of the myriad restaurants to indulge in simmering broth spiked with Sichuan pepper, skewers threaded with shrimp or sausage and fish balls or grilled meats and vegetables.

The first Chinese person to live in Dallas arrived in 1873 and opened a laundry. Today's Chinese may have lived there for generations or may be newly arrived. In any case, the Chinese as a community are well-established. One example of a community organization is the Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra. In its 14 years of existence, it has mushroomed from 35 to 110 students.

So whether they are waiters, restaurateurs, laundromat owners, or symphony musicians, the Chinese people have made their mark in DFW. There are over 20 Chinese churches in Dallas, but a large percentage of the Chinese do not follow the Lord.

May many in the Chinese community welcome and enjoy God's blessings. Pray for Chinese Christian leaders and their families to care for the unreached in DFW.—CMW

ACTS 15:8, NLT

God knows people's hearts, and He confirmed that He accepts Gentiles by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to pierce the hearts of many Chinese Buddhists in DFW this decade.

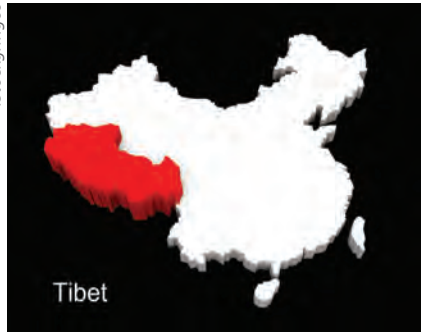
BUDDHIST TIBETANS IN DFW

1 COR 8:1, NLT

Now regarding your question about food that has been offered to idols. Yes, we know that “we all have knowledge” about this issue. But while knowledge makes us feel important, it is love that strengthens the church.

Pray for the Lord to raise up holy children among the Tibetans in DFW who have His wisdom, and above all, love that will draw others to the Throne of Grace.

iStockingos



Tibet: The homeland

(This story illustrates truths about this people group.)

The young man bowed to the statue of Buddha at

the Buddhist temple in Dallas. He was of Tibetan origin, but he had never seen his homeland. Perhaps Buddha would open the door for him to see Tibet. He bowed in prayer but heard nothing in his heart. Days earlier he had said the same prayer to Chenrezig, the patron saint of Tibet’s shamanistic bon religion. The young man walked out of the temple. He realized he would have to wait for his answer.

Today there are 4,800 Tibetans living in the Dallas area. That includes young people who have never seen Tibet. The first Tibetans moved to their current homeland in the 600s AD. Shortly after that King Narmpi Gampo unified the various Tibetan tribes. During the 1800s Tibet came under British rule. After the British left, Tibet was independent for a few years, but that independence ended in 1949 when China invaded Tibet. Many Tibetans sought asylum in other countries, especially India, though some came to the US. Tibetans remain Buddhists. There are few, if any, Tibetan followers of Christ in DFW.

Ask God to open the hearts of this people group to Christ’s message of salvation and raise up many to be part of a disciple-making movement.—WK

BUDDHIST LAOTIANS IN DFW

(This story illustrates truths about this people group.)

The old Laotian war veteran woke up

screaming again. He kept remembering the gruesome battles he had fought against the communists. With thousands of others, he fled to the US when the communists took over Laos in 1975, and he had nightmares ever since. Counselors hadn’t been able to help him. Prayers to Buddha and his ancestors also didn’t help. He sat on his bed wondering what to do. He thought about whether other people were also still having nightmares.

There are 3,300 Laotians living in the Dallas area today. The majority are Buddhists, 65 percent. Most of the rest worship their ancestors and nature spirits. There are few, if any, followers of Jesus Christ among the Lao. Buddhism is the cultural glue that holds them together, and they see it as their way to keep their cultural identity.

Pray for God to raise up Christian counselors to help heal the emotional wounds of Laotians who suffered before arriving in the US. This will open the door for them to present Jesus Christ as the comforter who can heal all emotional wounds. May this people group come to see that Jesus Christ offers them abundant, eternal life. Pray for a disciple-making movement among Buddhist background believers this decade.—WK



Laotian man

iStockandabart

DEUT 13:4, NLT

Serve only the LORD your God and fear Him alone. Obey His commands, listen to His voice, and cling to Him.

Pray that the Laotians and other Buddhist peoples will learn to fear only the Lord and be freed from past traumas.

BUDDHIST THAI PEOPLE IN DFW

JOHN 1:12-13, NLT

But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

Pray for Thai Buddhists to enter into this promise of God and embrace Christ's ways.

iStock/ajaynothing



Sedta pulls his “old school” Guzzi Bobber motor-cycle into the shop behind Imagine Autosports

and begins installing backup cameras and alarms. Sedta is proud that he works in a garage and breaks stereotypes of Asians. When he goes home for his mother's kanom krok coconut pancakes, Sedta is reminded that his father arrived in DFW in 1980 with no job, no experience, and without English speaking skills. By 1982 he had started a building service company with 300 current employees working across the Metroplex of DFW. Sedta is geared to work with his hands, yet knows that soon he must honor the family and go to college like his brother.

No matter where they live, the Thai firmly believe that to be Thai is to be a Buddhist. Sedta's family endorse that cultural value and actively support the Thai Community Center of north Texas affiliated with the Buddhist Center of Dallas.

Pray that the 9,000 Thai in north Texas find their identity as children of the Most-High God. Pray that teams of two faithfully befriend Thai people and begin Discovery Bible Studies. May believers be granted meeting space by Thai business owners to develop a new generation of leaders who multiply disciple makers.—TM

BUDDHIST VIETNAMESE IN DFW

With over 90,000 people, the DFW Vietnamese community is the 4th largest

in the country. Vietnamese led Buddhist temples bless families across the DFW Metroplex from Ft Worth, through Arlington and Grand Prairie into Garland and north Plano. Because of an abundance of Vietnamese markets, restaurants, and bookstores, diaspora Vietnamese no longer depend on the temple to maintain their culture.

As a single mother Nhung raises two children by working at a Vietnamese nail salon. Over the summer Nhung, who goes by Velvet, used her savings to take her kids back home for the first time. For now, the kids only seem to remember that their stay did not include video games or air conditioning. They were happy to return to DFW and begin the school year. Velvet does not have to emphasize school; Vietnamese young people are taught the value of education for financial success.

Beyond material gain, pray that families find purpose in serving and worshipping the One True God. Ask God to give believers new indigenous worship songs in Vietnamese. Intercede for a new generation of believers sold out to Jesus who will transform their local community and shape an emergent Vietnamese church into a cross cultural missionary force.—DFW team



iStock/DragonImages

2 COR 5:17, NLT

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Pray that the Vietnamese will be freed from religious traditions and a reliance on luck charms. May they experience the essential hope of Christ and the inspiration to obey His teachings.

MUSLIM ROHINGYAS IN DFW

JER 17:14, NLT

O LORD, if you heal me, I will be truly healed; if you save me, I will be truly saved. My praises are for you alone!

Pray Jeremiah 17:14 on behalf of Rohingya refugees who have escaped trauma and face a daunting future in the US. May they experience the healing of Isa Al-Masih the true liberator and the faithfulness of sowing seeds. Pray for waves of Muslims to explore the Word of God and be taught by God (Jn 6:45).

iStock/Suva Kanti Das



Rohingya refugees long before arriving in DFW

Rohingya Muslims have lived in the Arakan Mountains of Myanmar since the 15th century. During British colonial days it became a district of India. The British allowed workers from India and Bangladesh into the Arakan Mountains. Claiming they were illegal Bengali immigrants who could not speak any official Burmese language, in 1982 the Myanmar government denied Rohingyas citizenship and the right to education, crippling the local economy. In 2012 a group of Rohingya rebels attacked the police. Since then 120,000 and then 750,000 more Rohingyas have fled Myanmar as the army has razed more than 60 villages.

Mohammad's family escaped the ethnic cleansing of Rohingyas in Myanmar by fleeing to Malaysia. Seeking a better life for Mohammad, his father wrote letters and faxed asylum requests to the US government every day for 18 months for his son. Finally, in 2014 at age 16, Mohammad moved to Plano, TX. He graduated from high school and now attends a local university. The Islamic Center of North America teaches ESL and life skills to 260 Rohingya families in DFW.

Pray for more workers. Pray for spiritual and economic prosperity for Rohingyas who are starting anew in DFW. Pray for their families to be enriched by a relationship with Jesus Christ.—TM

MUSLIM INDONESIANS IN DFW

Many people are surprised to learn that Indonesia is the largest primarily Muslim nation by population in the world. Thousands of Muslim Indonesians have moved to the USA, many settling in the Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW) area. Many of these new American Muslims represent people groups who have had very little contact with Evangelical believers. Surveys have shown that Muslims who come to Western countries are more open to the gospel than they would be in their homeland.

The Indonesian Muslims who come to the USA need agencies and people who will sponsor them and help them with basic needs like housing and learning English. Believers in the Dallas area can befriend Indonesian Muslims by offering to teach them English and new job skills. Evangelicals can help Indonesian children make the transition to US schools while avoiding the American cultural and spiritual pitfalls.

Pray the Lord moves believers in DFW to make friends with newly arrived Indonesian Muslims. Pray that Indonesian Muslim leaders and whole families be disciplined in the ways of Christ. Pray for an unstoppable disciple-making movement among the Indonesian Muslims who live in the USA. Pray that new Muslim background believers would have a spiritual burden for their families and friends in Indonesia.—DK



iStock/airdane

REV 21:5A, NLT

And the One (God) sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!"

Pray that God in His great mercy and grace brings many Indonesian Muslims in DFW to a saving knowledge of Himself and makes them new people in Christ.

MALAY PEOPLE IN DFW

ROM 3:19, NLT

Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God.

Pray the Malay Muslims living in Texas would understand that their good works cannot get them to God and that they can only be saved by God's grace through Jesus Christ.

iStockChainarong Prasertthai



A Malay Muslim woman

Why would people decide to leave beautiful tropical Southeast Asian countries like Malaysia and Brunei and move to

Dallas? The answers to that question may vary, but most are looking for better economic opportunities and an improved life for their children. Thousands of Malay Muslims have immigrated to the USA particularly to the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Malaysia was a British colony until 1957, so most educated Malaysians speak English. Still the move to the USA must be a huge culture shock for those Malays who choose to leave Malaysia. These Malays need Americans to assist them in adjusting to their new life. For example, their children must make the transition to American schools.

Malays are among the least open Muslim people in the world, and very few have found the Savior. Ironically, their ancestors were Hindu, and their form of Islam includes Hindu elements as well as the use of magic.

Pray that churches and believers in DFW reach out and befriend the Malays with practical and spiritual help. Pray for spiritual openness to Jesus Christ that will not be hindered by the belief in religious institutions rather than the person, Jesus Christ. Pray for a movement to Christ that will enrich the Malay Muslim community.—DK

HINDU NEPALIS IN DFW

(The following fictional account is intended to illustrate the challenges facing this people group.)

“Why do you look so sad, Apa?” The young man and his grandfather were standing in line at a soup kitchen in Dallas waiting to receive a meal. The old man replied, “Before you were born, we all lived in Bhutan. Did you know that we were forced to live in camps in Nepal when we were expelled from Bhutan? Now this.” He waved his hand at the soup kitchen. “It’s better than the camps,” his grandson commented. The old man retorted, “We still suffer.”

The “Bhutanese” in Dallas are ethnic Nepalīs who were driven out of Bhutan and forced to survive in temporary camps in eastern Nepal. Forbidden from returning to Bhutan and not allowed to settle permanently in Nepal, they found themselves homeless. Coming to the US relieved them of the persecution, but for many, it did not relieve the stress and pain of rejection. Most of those in Dallas lack education and live in poverty. They have an alarmingly high rate of suicide. Meeting their physical and emotional needs could be the first step in addressing their spiritual needs.

Pray for churches, missions groups, and humanitarian agencies to preach and demonstrate God’s love to the Bhutanese.—CL



Notice the locations of Bhutan and Nepal

iStockTuangtong

EPH 4:32, NLT

Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Pray that the Nepalīs residing in DFW will be empowered by the Holy Spirit to forgive their persecutors and become examples of how He can give peace to those who allow His transforming power into their hearts.

HINDU PATELS IN DFW

JN 6:45, NLT

As it is written in the Scriptures, "They will all be taught by God." Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from Him comes to me.

Pray that many leaders from the Patel community will be taught by God and flee to the loving arms of Jesus Christ.

iStockMangoStar_ Studio



Have you ever stopped at a motel and found South Asian people working there? If so, you have

probably met a Patel from Gujarat. Gujarati is the language of Gujarat, a state in western India. Patels are one of the communities under the Gujarati umbrella. Commonly Patels own family-based grocery stores and more frequently, motels.

For the first couple of decades they were here, Gujarati Patels were isolated from American society. Many did not have good English skills at that time, and they were dealing with travelers, not people who were living in the immediate community. They also lived on the motel's premises, usually in a room behind the front office, and they worked very long hours. Such a situation gave them a limited social and spiritual life.

Since that time, Patels have become more integrated with the greater community. Their children usually attend public schools where they have regular contact with other ethnic groups. But they like to maintain their own culture, and Gujaratis have their own cultural association known as the DFW Gujarati Samaj. Who is reaching out to these Hindus? Very few people. There are opportunities to do so. What is stopping us?

Pray for believers to find a way to befriend these hard-working Hindu entrepreneurs and show them the way to the cross.—KC

MARATHI SPEAKING PEOPLE IN DFW

(This fictitious story illustrates truths about this people group.)

Having finished with a heavy patient load, the Marathi oncologist was running late to his

Marathi association meeting. As he waited at the stoplight, his gaze fell upon one of Dallas' many churches, and he wondered about what Christians believed. The light turned green and his attention returned to getting to his meeting on time.

Marathi speakers originate from western India's state of Maharashtra. In the 1600s and 1700s, they led the great Maratha Empire. Today there are about 2,600 Marathi living in DFW. People with such an ancient culture try to keep their heritage intact, and they typically view Christianity as an outside influence. The Marathi have associations throughout America where they can speak their own language, practice Hinduism and celebrate their own festivals. Members are typically from professional backgrounds. As much as 99 percent of Marathis are Hindu, and those in the DFW area have their own Hindu temple. Fortunately, however, living in Texas gives them the opportunity to hear about the blessings of Christ.

Pray that believers in the US will feel God's heart for the Marathi and commit to loving them into God's Kingdom. Pray that a movement will be started amongst the Marathi in India because of how Jesus touches Marathi hearts in DFW.—LR



iStockDinesh Hukmani

ROM 10:9, NLT

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Pray for many Marathi speakers in DFW to believe in their hearts in the God who gives life abundantly.

TELUGU PEOPLE IN DFW

JOHN 8:12, NLT

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, “I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.”

Pray for Telugu speakers to embrace and serve the One who is the light of the world.

iStockm-imagephotography.



Smitha and Aroshi, two Telugu women in DFW, cannot agree on the symbolism

at the end of the Telugu language movie at the mid-cities Cinemark. In fact, they only understood the movie’s plot by reading the English subtitles. They came to the US as graduate students from Hyderabad and met while working as blockchain analysts for an Irving company supporting Amazon. When asked about Telugu culture, Aroshi said, “You’ll have to ask my grandfather. Most Indians college grads only know Hindi and English, not their ethnic language or traditional culture.” Smitha added, “Of course, those in their thirties and above are strict vegetarians. When hanging out with Americans we eat BBQ chicken and turkey tacos.” The ladies imagine themselves as fully Westernized. While co-workers applaud their commitment to practice traditional yoga, they remain disinterested in Hindu foods and customs. As a result, most of their free time is spent with other Telugu professionals.

Pray for Christ followers to befriend the 3,200 Telugu professionals and to bring the light of Christ into their community. Ask God to raise up disciples among the Telugu to catalyze multiplying groups of disciples who reach their community and spread into other Hindu ethnic groups in DFW.—TM

MALAYALI SPEAKERS IN DFW

“Dallas is a haven for Malayalis,” declared an online post. “There are plenty of Malayali stores (not just Indian stores), and even Malayali take-out places, where you can get fish curry and beef fry!”

Many thousands of Malayali people live in the US. They typically come from Kerala, a south Indian state whose population is almost entirely Malayali. The Malayali presence in the Dallas-Ft. Worth region (DFW) is part of a fast-growing DFW Asian Indian diaspora. A *Dallas Morning News* article indicated that the South Asian population has boomed due to many medical and high-tech jobs, a lower cost of living, and good schools.

DFW features Malayali/Kerala cultural associations, including the Kerala Association of Dallas (KAD). KAD sponsors picnics, sports, children’s activities, Christmas and New Year gatherings, and the annual Onam celebration—the Hindu Harvest festival for Malayali people worldwide. Though 20 percent of Malayalis are Christian, only a small percentage of forward (prestigious) caste Hindus, especially those in DFW, have decided to follow Christ. Almost all Malayalis in DFW are forward caste members.

Ask that local churches lift up ongoing prayer for their Malayali neighbors. Pray for believers to befriend DFW’s Malayalis. Pray that Malayalam Bible resources lead them to disciple-making efforts.—CR



iStockSujay_Govindaraj

ACTS 2:5, NLT

At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to soften Malayali hearts and use believers to plant gospel seeds, leading to a movement to Christ among DFW’s Malayali people.

GEN 49:25, NLT

May the God of your father help you; may the Almighty bless you with the blessings of the heavens above, and blessings of the watery depths below, and blessings of the breasts and womb.

Pray for these blessings to reach the Bangladeshis in DFW.

iStockAppography



MUSLIM BANGLADESHIS IN DFW

Does your calendar have International Mother Language Day, February 21? Mine doesn't, either. Yet it is celebrated in

Texas by Bangladeshis. In 2018 they celebrated at Dallas-Fort Worth Family Church in Irving, Texas. The day coincides with Bangladesh's Independence Day (Victory Day) from Pakistan, after a grueling civil war in 1971. Because of that war, many Bangladeshis immigrated to the US, some of whom settled in the greater DFW Area. As a result, the Bangladeshis founded the Bangladeshi Association of North Texas (BANT), to preserve their ancestral language and culture. Some, like college students, feel out of place with BANT.

Once here, they quickly settled down to earning a good living, although some fall below the poverty line. Some established a chain of stores called Indo-Pac, which sells Asian products. Others started restaurants and eyebrow threading businesses.

Pray that cultural celebrations will be used by believers to show Bangladeshis ways that God wants to bless them through Jesus Christ. Pray that South Asian believers will pray for and seek to share the gospel with Bangladeshi Muslims, making use of available resources in the Bangla language. Pray that campus organizations like InterVarsity and Cru will reach Bangladeshi Muslims on college campuses.—TP

MUSLIM PUNJABIS IN DFW

Yesterday we prayed for the Bangladeshis, a people group that faced tragedies and complications after India's independence. Today we will pray for the Punjabis, a group that is even more complicated despite their common Punjabi language!

We usually think of the Sikh Punjabis, who are very well-known in the US. But there are also millions of Hindu and Muslim Punjabis. The latter came from Pakistan, not India. Despite language differences, there are numerous marriages between Muslim Bangladeshis and Muslim Punjabis in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. In Dallas-Ft. Worth, these Muslim Punjabis have the North Texas Punjabi Entertainment—DFW, which intends to bring the community together through their culture. They have their own DJs for music, and restaurants and tea shops as gathering places. Beyond that they have educational and cultural associations, and even a chamber of commerce! Though Punjabi is their mother tongue, English is their trade language. Korean-American churches in Denton and Dallas are reaching out to these Punjabi Muslims with the blessings of Jesus Christ.

Pray that many churches, Korean, Anglo, Hispanic, Punjabi, African-American, and others will take the blessings of Christ to the Punjabi Muslims, resulting in their finding peace and hope in the Savior. Pray that DFW prayer groups focus on this people group.—TP

iStockPavle Bugarski



ACTS 10:35, NLT

In every nation He accepts those who fear Him and do what is right.

Pray for the Lord to seek and find such people among the Punjabis in DFW and use them to disciple others.

MUSLIM URDU SPEAKERS IN DFW

MATT 28:18-20, NLT

Jesus came and told His disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Pray for your church to be a part of this Great Commission, and to not settle for anything less.



Jesus commanded His disciples to reach out to all the nations of the world, baptize them, and teach

them to obey Him. He promised He would be with them always (Matt 28:18-20). Among these nations are the Sunni Muslim Urdu-speakers who are the high achievers in Pakistan and northern India. They are among the professionals in all fields who have emigrated to North America. Many have found their way to the DFW area where they enroll in colleges and universities, becoming medical and business professionals. Urdu-speaking women pursue teaching positions, and in the medical profession they maintain their family honor by working only with female students and clients.

Living in North America poses challenges for these Muslims. Their children cannot find a place to pray five times a day in public schools, and physical education classes are co-ed, often requiring girls to dress in ways they deem immodest. Many Urdu speakers consider the moral values of Westerners to be faulty. They need to see true faith in Christ lived out.

Pray for God to raise up His chosen ambassadors to Urdu speakers in DFW. Pray that the Urdu-speaking Pakistanis living in North America would see, hear, and experience Christ's gospel.—JY

How to get FREE daily prayer materials!

- **Get the FREE email version!**
<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday/email>
- **Download the FREE abbreviated calendar of prayer entries**
<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday/calendar>

Big Changes in subscriptions!

Starting in January, 2021, *GPD* will no longer be a separate publication! If you want to re-subscribe to get the shortened *GPD* printed text within our sister publication, please send a \$24/year donation to: PO Box 91297 Long Beach CA 90809-1297. Checks payable to "Mission Frontiers."

If you want the free digital options, *GPD* is also joining forces with Joshua Project to continue producing daily prayer materials for unreached people groups. You will be able to download your own printed copies of our combined efforts or get daily emails.

Go to: <https://joshuaproject.net/resources/prayer>

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone (_____) _____

Credit Card #: _____ CVV Code: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

☐ Check enclosed, payable to "Mission Frontiers" \$24.00 year within the USA

☐ Credit card

- Include payment in U.S. funds drawn on U.S. banks.
- We'll try to get it to you soon but allow 6-8 weeks for your subscription to begin.
- For information or address changes call 1-888-881-5861 (1-714-226-9782 outside the US, including Canada) or email us at globalprayerdigest@pfsmag.com. (For address changes, if you get voice mail, be sure to leave your old zip code and new address with your full name and phone number so we can keep your printed subscription coming.)