

Praying for the Unreached in Southeast Asia

Week One:

Southeast Asia includes Cambodia, Laos, parts of Indonesia and Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Southeast Asia has more than 1.800 people groups and over 700 are still unreached with an effective gospel witness..

Cambodia has a population of around 17 million and the majority of people practice some type of Buddhism. A presence of spiritual darkness persists in Cambodia, with the many spirit shrines, the powerful grip of Buddhism which opposes the Truth and the widespread loss of morals. Many people suffer from terrible abuses from the drug and sex trades and are trapped in a cycle of oppressive poverty. Pray that God would break down the stronghold of Buddhism and people would find hope and peace in the gospel. Pray that the people would find peace and deliverance from the injustices they have and continue to face.

Verses to pray through: Romans 1:16-23; Isaiah 40:27-31

Week Two:

Myanmar (or Burma) is a country with a population of approximately 55 million people and the majority of the population practices Buddhism. Myanmar's military junta which held power from 1962-2011 and regained power in 2021 has been a ruthless power that upholds its authority through cruel violence. Through this governance certain minorities were targeted and have suffered greatly, having their villages destroyed, and many people suffered rape, torture and displacement due to this violent rule.

Pray for reconciliation and peace that can only come through Christ. Pray that God would do a mighty work through the underground church, where many Buddhists have converted to Christ. Pray that God would be raising up leaders in the Burmese church who will boldly and effectively lead to the glory of God.

"The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."--Psalm 34:15-18

Week Three:

Thailand has a population of almost 70 million and is another country where Buddhism has a strong presence and power over the people. Thailand has enjoyed relative stability but power struggles among the current monarch and activity from Muslims in the south continues to bring upheaval. Widespread corruption in business, politics, the military and police enables dishonest people to make themselves rich by oppressing others.

Thailand means “Land of the Free” because it remained free from Western colonization but the land remains captive to Buddhism, traditional culture, spirit worship and occult practices. Even after 400 years of missionary work Christians account for only about 1% of the population. Although few in number the Thai Christians have the bold goal to reach every one of Thailand’s 80,000 villages. Pray that God would equip and encourage them and that he would be preparing hearts to hear the truth.

Verses to pray through: Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 67:4-5

Week Four:

There is great reason for rejoicing in the growth of the Church in the Philippines, Singapore and Laos. While Laos still has a Buddhist majority the rapid growth of Christianity cannot be ignored. Praise God for the rapid growth of the Church, even under governmental restrictions and persecution.

The Church in Singapore has grown steadily since 1970. While there are many megachurches there has also been growth of multi-congregational churches across the denominational spectrum. Christians also have great influence through mission schools and campus ministries, where many of Singapore's educated people come to faith and are therefore able to have influence on society.

In the Philippines the Christian majority faces many challenges with continued government failings, widespread poverty and tropical storms and landslides that continue to wreak havoc on the nation. All three of these nations need prayer for strong biblical leadership that glorifies God and equips the saints for the work of the ministry. Pray that God would strengthen His Church in these countries and that they would be committed to the mission of serving their neighbors and seeking to set captives free.

Verses of to pray through: 2 Timothy 2:2; Ephesians 4:11-16