

# Welcome!

**W**elcome to another adventure in prayer that could change the world! Over the next 30 days, we will again travel through many nations and learn new things about people in the Muslim world. We will visit fascinating countries and cities and look at areas where there is much need. We will pray for Muslim children, refugees and leaders. We will also pray for local Christians and missionaries.

This prayer event takes place during the Islamic month of Ramadan. Muslims use a calendar which is linked to the moon and not the sun. Each month begins with the sighting of the new crescent moon in the early evening. This year Ramadan starts on July 20th and it will finish on August 18th. You can use this prayer booklet anytime but it was specifically made for the time of Ramadan.

## ? Did You Know

- Worldwide, there are about 500 million Muslim children under the age of 15.
- Around the world there are about 1.5 billion Muslims.
- Muslims can be found in almost every country, but mostly in North Africa, the Middle East and Asia (Indonesia has the most Muslims of any country).
- Muslims are normal people, just like you and me, and God loves each of them.



*Muslims are normal people, just like you and me, and God loves each one of us.*

## What is Islam?

Islam means submission to God. A Muslim is someone who follows the teaching of Islam. They worship one God, whom they call Allah, and believe that Muhammed is their prophet. (Muhammed was a man who lived from AD 570 - 632.) Muslims believe that God will judge each person by how many good things and how many bad things they have done. There are five things that they must do to be good Muslims, but even doing these does not mean they automatically go to heaven.

1. Recite the creed: "There is no God but Allah, and Muhammed is his prophet."
2. Pray five times a day at certain times.
3. Give to the poor.
4. Fast during the holy month of Ramadan.
5. Make the pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

## What is Ramadan?

Ramadan is a special month of prayer and fasting for Muslims. Muslims are not supposed to eat or drink from sunrise to sunset. We chose Ramadan for the 30 Days Prayer Focus because during that month many people who are normally not so devout will become much more serious about their faith. It is a month when Muslims hope that Allah will hear their prayers more than usual.

As we pray together with other Christians around the world during these 30 days, we hope that God will give us all a heart full of faith and love for Muslim people. Let's believe that God will indeed show Himself to Muslims during these days!



*Participants in "30 Days" should not criticise Muslims. We are told by God to love all men, women and children.*

# Why Pray for Muslims ?

## Most Muslims do not know very much about Jesus

- Muslims do not realise that Jesus has suffered on the cross to bring us back to God and that he was raised from the dead.
- They do not really realise that Jesus is the true King of all creation and that he is to be obeyed.

## All Muslims talk about an Arab man named Muhammed

- Muhammed lived 1,400 years ago.
- Muhammed believed he was a prophet.
- Muhammed said that all people should obey the creator God.
- Muhammed thought Jesus was only a prophet.

## Muhammed taught people to be Muslims

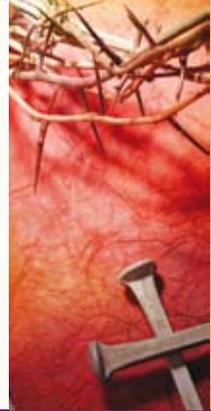
- Muslims generally believe that they can earn God's approval through religious activities (prayers, fasting, giving money).

## Muslims do not know:

- ... that Jesus has the ability to forgive sins.
- ... that Jesus has conquered death through his resurrection.
- ... that Jesus has power over evil spirits.

Muslims do not think they can know God.  
(They only think that they can know about Him.)

**We want them to discover God's forgiveness for sins.  
We want them to discover God's kingdom of light,  
peace, joy and goodness.**



We are  
praying so  
that Muslims  
can discover  
God's love  
through  
Jesus





# Single Mothers

Aisha's parents were very poor, and when she was eight years old her father sent her to work in the big house that was standing on the other side of their little town. Aisha had always known that the people there were very rich; now she worked there for long hours, cooking and cleaning. When she was a teenager the owner of the house forced her to have sex and she became pregnant. Aisha had no idea what to do. She was sent away -- she had no work and no place to go. Her family did not allow her to come back. She was a

shame to the family now, and they did not want to see her again. After she gave birth to the baby it got even worse. Where could she get food, and where could she sleep with the baby? Aisha considered leaving the baby somewhere and just going away, but she couldn't do it. What now?

There are many young women like Aisha in Morocco and only a few Christians have started to help them.



## Let's go!

*Today the whole family can pray for the different prayer points: the daughter (or the mother) can pray for the girls, the father (or the son) for the fathers. Make a circle as a family, hold hands, and one girl can stand in the middle while the others form a protective wall around her, just what the single mothers would need.*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that fathers in Morocco will start to love their daughters more and care about them more than the honour of the family.*
- *Pray that more people, Christians and others, will reach out to girls like Aisha and help them care for their children and to be accepted in society.*
- *Pray that the single mothers will hear about Jesus who loves them and cares for them.*

### ? Did You Know

- *A single mother is a woman who has a child but no husband.*
- *Many girls in Morocco have to start working in other peoples households when they are only seven years old.*

**? Did You Know**

- Alsace borders Germany and many people there speak German and French. (Check it out on a map.)
- Strasbourg and Mulhouse, another city, have the biggest Muslim population in Alsace. Strasbourg is the biggest and most important city in Alsace.

# Muslims in Alsace, France

Many Muslims that have come to live in France live in the Alsace, and there are about 120,000 in total. Over the years they have been building Islamic centres where they meet for prayer and other activities.

Many Christians live in Alsace as well, but not many reach out to the Muslims to share the Good News. Some do, however, and they have formed “Oasis groups” where they invite Muslims and share their testimonies with them. Through the Christians that share their testimonies, some of the Muslims have started to believe in Jesus, the Messiah.

*Get to know the Alsace better! Here are some things the Alsace is famous for:*

*Sauerkraut, Bread, Wine, Castles, (beautiful) Towns, Old Churches, Storks*

W	R	C	T	Z	H	S	B	D	O	N	P	S
A	S	A	U	E	R	K	R	A	U	T	C	V
I	O	S	D	N	C	R	T	E	G	K	L	B
O	G	T	H	I	J	O	K	M	L	V	X	S
F	G	L	E	V	A	T	O	W	N	S	R	U
B	R	E	A	D	O	S	J	S	A	E	T	Z
S	V	S	E	H	C	R	U	H	C	D	L	O

## Let's go!

*The Alsace is very well known for its good food. Eating together is always a sign of fellowship. The Muslims in Alsace need fellowship with Christians. Get something that you like to eat and then pray together, and afterwards share the food with each other.*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that Christians will have open doors to share with Muslims and that they will do it in a way that Muslims will understand.*
- *Pray for the young Muslims in Alsace and for those who reach out to them.*
- *Pray for the Turks who live in the area. Not many have heard the Good News yet.*

# Married to a Muslim

Bethany had fallen in love with a man who was a Muslim, but he had told her that being a Muslim was not important to him. They loved each other very much, got married and soon they were also parents of a little girl. But then Bethany's husband started to go to the mosque again, to pray, and to stick to Islamic rules and rituals that were difficult for Bethany. He no longer loved her the way he had before, and Bethany was afraid that soon he would force their daughter to pray with him. Bethany remembered how much Jesus loved her and started to pray to him again. She is praying that her husband would also get to know Jesus and his love for him.



*In some Muslim cultures, women who are marrying have henna decorations to add to their beauty but also to give them good luck.*

## PRAYER POINTS:

- If you know people like Bethany, pray for them and for their partners who are Muslims.
- Pray that they receive love from God for their partners and that they understand that God loves their partners very much.
- Pray that they will not be afraid of the future and that they will find ways to raise their children together.



## Let's go!

People like Bethany feel very lonely in their marriage. Today you will all pray alone. Each can go to a different room or corner of a room to pray there. At the end, come together and read 1 Cor. 13:4-7.

## ? Did You Know

- Sometimes people think that Muslims and Christians believe the same things.
- The Bible says that Christians should not marry people who do not believe in Jesus.
- God loves all people.

# ? Did You Know

- Egypt: Population of 85 million and around half of them are under 25 years old.
- Half of all Egyptians cannot read or write.
- Many have no job or a very small salary.

## "Lift up your head, you are an Egyptian!"

In January 2011, the Egyptian people forced President Mubarak – who had been ruling the country for 30 years – to resign. Since the time of Jesus there have always been Christians in Egypt, and today there are about one million that live there. It is difficult to be a Christian in Egypt, even after the revolution. Many cannot find jobs and often they are not even allowed to repair their churches or build new ones. Because of that, some Christians become Muslims, and others leave Egypt and go to a country where they think life is easier. But more and more Christians realise that they are called to share the Good News with the Muslims in their country.

**Many of the Egyptians are young. God always used young people for his work. Find out the names of some of them:**

*He was very good with the slingshot and was a shepherd.*

*He and his friend refused to eat the good food from the king's table and decided to eat only veggies.*

*He had many dreams and made his family angry with them (but the dreams came from God).*

*She saw an angel who was speaking to her and said to him that she was the Lord's servant.*

## Let's go!

*We heard a lot about Egypt on television and in the newspapers. Take a newspaper and hold it together or stand around the television. Pray that we will soon hear good news from Egypt.*



### PRAYER POINTS:

- Give thanks for the satellite television that encourages Christians and pray that many will see it and hear about the Good News.
- Pray for the Christians in Egypt who have a hard time. Pray for courage for them to share the Good News with their Muslim neighbours.
- Pray that Christians in Egypt will be like Daniel and Joseph and get involved in politics and help in all the other areas where it's needed.

# The Ansari People of India

## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for more workers to reach out to the Ansari. Pray especially for Indians to reach out to their Muslim neighbours.*
- *Pray for justice, that the Ansaris will be paid enough for their work and that they will not be poor.*
- *Pray that the children, especially the girls, can go to school.*
- *Pray that they will understand that they don't need amulets or dead saints, but that Jesus will set them free from fear.*

Many of the Ansaris are textile workers and weavers. They make beautiful silk saris, which are long pieces of fabric that Indian women wear as a dress. Many weavers have to work 12 hours a day and still get very small salaries from Hindu traders who provide them with their supplies. Many children have to help earning money and learn weaving at a very early age, and because of this they cannot go to school. Especially among the girls, only a few know how to read and write. Some weavers get very sick because of the lack of fresh air in their workshops and because they are poor and don't have clean water or toilets.

The Ansaris practice "folk Islam," which means they wear amulets to keep away evil spirits or go to the tombs of dead Muslim saints. There are only a few people reaching out to the Ansari.

## Let's go!

*Do you own anything made of silk? Maybe your mother has a silk shawl. Take the shawl, or any other fabric that you have, cover your head with it and start praying. When you have finished you can pass the shawl on to the next person who will do the same. Do this until everybody has prayed for the Ansaris.*



## Did You Know

- *Islam has been in India for almost 1400 years and the Muslims ruled over India for 700 years.*
- *The Ansari are one of the largest unreached people groups.*
- *They live in Northern India and speak mostly Urdu.*

# ? Did You Know

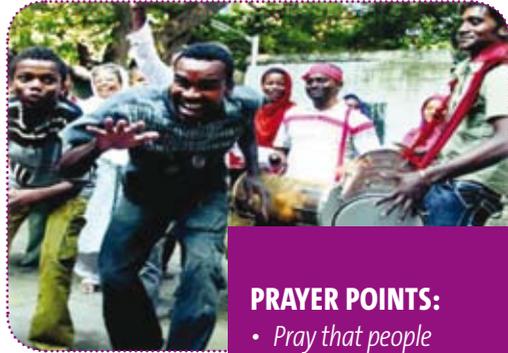
- The Siddis came from Africa many hundreds of years ago as slave soldiers for the Sultans (kings) in India. Today there are about 20,000 to 65,000 in India.
- The live mainly in Gujarat, a state in the West of India, bordering Pakistan.
- The Siddis have become Muslims because they have had to work for Muslim rulers.

## The Siddis of Gujarat in India

Imagine if you didn't know anything about the world outside the town where you live. Imagine if you could hardly read and write and that your parents were away all day working and you were only with the other children in the village. In the evening your parents would bring back a very small amount of money (about \$1.50) to feed your whole family. This is the reality for many Siddi children. They are very poor and many drop out of primary school and start working like their parents, who are daily labourers, which means that every morning they leave to work in someone's field, in the forest, or on some road. Sadly many fathers use the little money they have earned not to feed the children but for cheap alcohol to get drunk.

The Siddis do not remember much about Africa, where they came from, but when they sing and dance they are reminded of it. *When the Siddis sing, there is a little Swahili in their songs, the language they used to speak in Africa. Here is a song in Swahili that you can sing together.*

Mungu yu mwema 3x Yu mwema kwangu (God is so good)



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that people will go and share the Good News with the Siddis. Very few Christians have gone to the Siddis.*
- *Pray that the Siddis will understand that God loves them very much and wants them to get to know his son Jesus.*
- *Pray for the fathers not to spend their money on alcohol but to love their families and care for them. Pray especially for the children who are left alone.*

## Let's go!

*Because the children are left alone, today only the children will pray for the Siddis. When you have finished praying, call the parents and as a sign that change will come to the Siddis when people pray for them, sing a song to God together to thank him for what he will do.*

# Nashville, Tennessee in the USA



Some years ago, a pastor realised that more and more Muslims were moving to Nashville, his city. But he realised that the Christians who lived near the new Muslim communities did not share the Good News with them. The pastor didn't know if the Christians were afraid or if they just didn't understand that the Muslims also needed to hear about Jesus. He decided he wanted to get to know his new neighbours and started to learn as much about them as he could. Soon he met other Christians who felt the same and they started to pray together for the Muslims in their city and for those around the world. There are still many Christians who are afraid of Muslims, but those who have started to reach out are seeing how more and more of them are curious to know about the God of the Bible and they are able to share with them. We will join them in their prayer today!

## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for the Christians in Nashville that they can have really good relationships with their neighbours and help them to understand life in a Western country. Pray also that they can share the love of God with them.*
- *Pray that many Muslims will get to know Jesus and follow him.*
- *Pray also for Muslims and Christians in your own city.*

## Let's go!

*Today you will search for people to join your prayer group. Everyone in the family can go and hide somewhere. The youngest can search and when he has found everyone, sit together and pray.*

### Game for pages 11 and 12 Fill in the blank letters:

1. *The religion of the Muslims*
2. *He speaks for God*
3. *Name of the Muslim God*
4. *The Muslim holy book*
5. *The most holy city*
6. *Name of Mary in the holy book*
7. *Only a prophet for the Muslims, much more for Christians*
8. *Another holy city*

*Text down: Founder of Islam  
(Answers at the end of booklet)*

## ? Did You Know

- *Nashville is called the Capital of Country Music, a special music style.*
- *Many Muslims have moved to Nashville, especially Kurds and people from Somalia.*
- *There are about 30,000 Muslims in Nashville.*

? Did You Know

- *Iraq has suffered three wars in the past 30 years.*
- *Many Iraqi men have died and there are about one million widows in Iraq.*
- *It is very hard for older widows to marry again.*

# Iraqi Widows

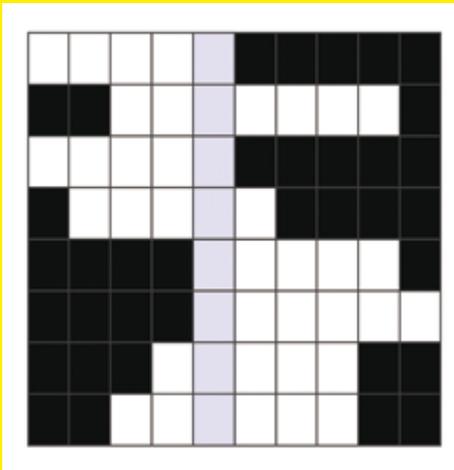
If a widow is still young and has only one or two children she might find a husband again. But if she is older or has many children, it becomes difficult. These women and their children are in trouble because they have lost their husbands and fathers.

In Iraq it is very difficult for women to find good jobs to earn enough money to feed their children and send them to school.

The government is really trying to help, but there are so many widows there is simply not enough money to help them all.



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *In the Bible we read that God cares for widows and orphans and he wants Christians to do the same. Pray that the widows and orphans will receive help.*
- *Pray that they will get to know God and know that he truly cares for them.*
- *Pray for the Iraqi government who are trying to help the widows but need wisdom and creativity to do so.*

## Let's go!

*Today the men in the family can pray for the women who have become widows and the women can pray for the government. While you pray, form a house with your bodies: the hands build the roof, and the smallest child can stand in the house.*

# Bahraini Arabs

**Let's go!**

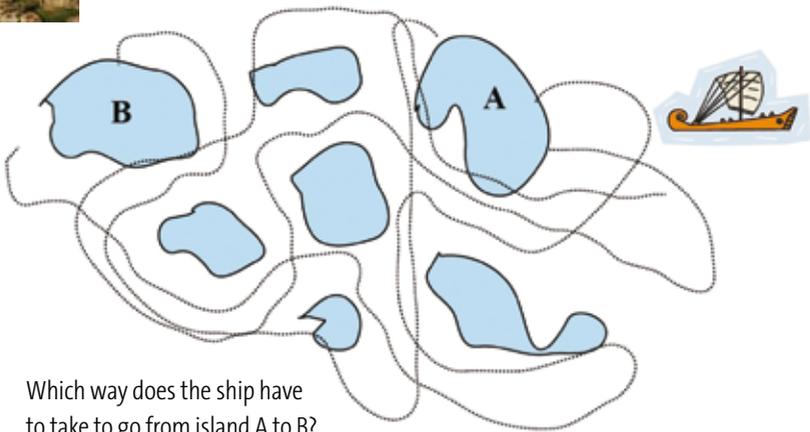
*Make a ship out of some chairs or use a bed sheet to sit on. Pray as you travel to Bahrain!*



Bahrain was a country that became rich because of oil, but the oil sources have since dried up and many are without a job.

Many people who live in Bahrain are from other non-Arabic countries. Because of this, Bahrainis have learned how people in other countries are living, and women in Bahrain have more freedom than those in many surrounding countries. Bahraini women can even work, and many have good jobs.

Christians who live in Bahrain can come together to worship and read the Bible and they sometimes have opportunities to answer questions about Jesus when asked by their friends.



Which way does the ship have to take to go from island A to B?

## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that many believers can have conversations with Bahrainis and share the Good News with them.*
- *Pray that Christians will find jobs and move to Bahrain to be witnesses there.*
- *Pray that Bahraini business people and other influential people will come to know God.*

## Did You Know?

- *Bahrain is a country in the Arabian Gulf and consists of 30 islands (check it out on a map).*
- *Only about 820,000 people live in Bahrain.*
- *The capital of Bahrain is called Manama.*

## ? Did You Know

- *The Rawther people were horse traders and came to India from Egypt many years ago.*
- *There are about one million Rawther people in India.*
- *They live mainly in two states, Tamil Nadu in the south and Rajasthan in the west of India.*

# The Rawther People in India

The Rawther people are well known because they are entrepreneurs and work in many different professions. They know that education is very important and they send both girls and boys to school to learn.

The Rawther people have not yet heard about the love of Jesus, so none of them are believers. In Tamil Nadu, where about 750,000 Rawther people live, there are many Christians who need to be encouraged to share the Good News with their Rawther neighbours.

## Let's go!

*Because the Rawther people value education, go and get your school books and a Bible. While you pray, put your hands on the books and the Bible and pray that the Rawther children will not only read school books but will start to read the Bible as well.*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that the Rawther people will be open to hear about Jesus and to accept his love for them.*
- *Pray for missionaries to go to the Rawther people and share the Good News with them.*
- *Pray that the Rawther people will become strong Christians and will become leaders in their own churches.*



*South India and Sri Lanka from the space shuttle. The Rawther live on the left coast facing the island of Sri Lanka.*

# Around the Taklamakan Desert in China



## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that the Han Chinese will start to share the Good News with their Muslim neighbours.*
- *Pray that the different people groups (written on your cards) will get to know Jesus.*
- *Pray that they will hear the Christian radio broadcast and that their hearts will be open to believe what they hear.*
- *Pray for the few Christians among the people groups to be bold and courageous and share the Good News with their friends and families.*

## Let's go!

*Make little cards. Write the name of one of the people groups on each card and spread them out on a table upside down. The oldest in your family can start, and then each will take a card and pray for the group written on the card. Continue to go around until you have prayed for all the groups.*

Many millions of Muslims belonging to different people groups live around the Taklamakan Desert. They have been living there for many, many years and consider it their homeland. They don't like it that many Han Chinese, the biggest people group in China, have moved to their homeland and there have been some problems because of it. Among the Han Chinese there are many Christians who meet in house churches. The Han Chinese and the local people groups (for example the Uyghurs) don't mix, and the Christians among the Han Chinese are not sharing the Good News with their neighbours. Today we will pray that this will change.

People groups:

Kazak, Qinghai Kazak, Kirgiz, Salar, Sarikoli Tajik, Tatar, Uyghur, Lop Nur Uyghur, Taklimakan Uyghur, Yutian Uyghur and Northern Uyghur.

## ? Did You Know

- *The Taklamakan Desert is in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (can you say all those difficult words?)*
- *Taklamakan in the language of the Uyghur means, "You can get in, but you can never get out!"*
- *There are only about 1,000 Christians among all the people groups around the Taklamakan.*

# ? Did You Know

- Sweden is a country in the north of Europe.
- Nearly 20% of the people living in Sweden have a foreign background.
- About 5%, or 450,000, are Muslims from many different countries.

## Swedish Muslims

Many Muslims who have never heard the Good News now live in Swedish cities, and only a few churches have started to reach out to them. But some Muslims have come to know Jesus and have started to follow him. One of them is Abdullah, and this is his story.

When I was 15 years old my father was killed in combat. A clan leader wanted to kill me as well. My mother arranged for me to escape to Sweden by selling our home. After one year in Sweden, I received a message that my mother and my younger brother and sisters had been killed. I was alone.

I tried to take my own life, but I did not succeed. I was depressed and I could not sleep at night. A friend of mine told me about Jesus. I also met a pastor and attended an Alpha course and prayer meetings. It felt so good. After a few months I accepted Jesus as my Messiah and got baptised. I have received a new family through my church.

**This is one of Abdullah's favourite verses from the Bible.**

**Can you read it?**

**Uduo unuout ulueut uyuouuur uhueaurut ubue uturuouubulueud, ubueuluiueuvue uiun uguoud, ubueuluiueuvue uaulusuo uiun umue. (John 14:1)**



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that the Christians in Sweden will start to share the Good News with Muslims and that the churches will be open to receive them.*
- *Pray that believers from Muslim backgrounds will have courage to share with other Muslims.*
- *Pray especially for the children and youth who have come to live in a very different place from where their parents grew up.*

## Let's go!

*One of you can be Abdullah, who needs a new family. The others can stand around him, representing the new family. The youngest in the family can start the prayer.*

# Muslims in Brazil



Salim comes from a country in the Middle East, from a very religious family. When he was a teenager he decided that he wanted to be part of a terrorist group to fight for the cause of Islam. He even trained to be a suicide bomber, somebody who kills himself while killing many other people with a bomb. Luckily this did not work out, and because of some problems, Salim was fleeing from his country and ended up in Brazil, where he became a very dangerous criminal. He was still reading the Qur'an and prayed daily, but his life had become really miserable. He had to hide from the police and he was really fed up! One day he prayed and said, "I don't know who you are up there, creator of heaven and earth but if you free me from this life I will follow you forever." A few days later a Christian came to him and told him that God loved him very much. Salim remembered his prayer and he started to follow Jesus. It is not easy for him because of the other Muslims, who often don't like it, but Salim wants all Muslims to know about Jesus and he encourages the Christians to go and share about our loving God.

## Let's go!

Take a world map or search on the internet (Google Earth) and check out where Brazil is and where the Middle Eastern countries are. As you can see, they are very far from each other. Make an airplane with chairs or sheets or anything you can think of and sit in your airplane, ready to travel from the Middle East to Brazil. Pray in the "airplane."



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that many more Muslims will get to know God just like Salim did.*
- *Pray that Muslims who have decided to follow Jesus will be encouraged and motivated to reach out to the Muslims living in Brazil and in other places.*

## ? Did You Know

- *Sao Paulo, a city in Brazil, is one of the biggest cities in the world.*
- *Brazil is far away from most Muslim countries, but many have still gone to live there.*
- *There are about 300,000 Muslims in Brazil, but some of them do not practice their faith.*

# ? Did You Know

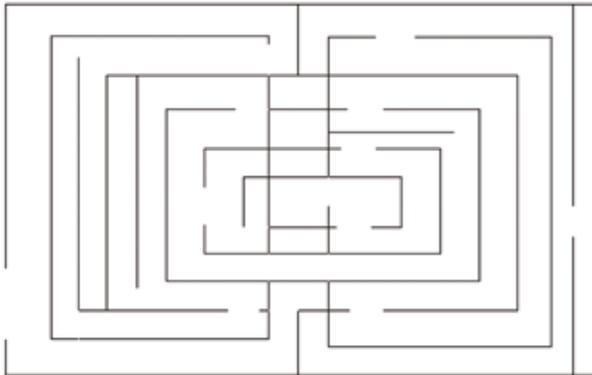
- *Libya has experienced many changes in the past year.*
- *Only the Islamic religion was allowed in Libya under Gaddafi.*
- *Now the country is more open and people are curious to learn new things.*

## Libya

Sharaf, a man from Libya was travelling with his friend through the country. They saw many towns and villages pass by as well as fields and olive groves as they drove along in the car. Sharaf and his friend talked about many different things, but then suddenly Sharaf started to ask about Jesus, about the Bible and wanted to know what Christians really believed. Sharaf was really curious to know and was very happy when he received a Bible from his friend.

There are many people like Sharaf in Libya who are eager to learn about many new things, including the Christian faith. Right now it is possible to share the Good News about Jesus freely in Libya but nobody knows how the political situation will develop.

***Many people in Libya would like to read a Bible, help Sharaf to find one:***



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for the government of Libya, pray that they will make decisions that give the people peace and freedom.*
- *Pray that it will stay possible to bring Bibles freely to Libya*
- *Pray that many workers will go to Libya to share about Jesus with the people there who are now so open and curious to learn new things.*

## Let's go!

*What Libyans need most of all are good rulers to rule the country. Where are they? Stand on a chair so you can see better while praying for them. Then the next person can stand on the chair and pray.*

# Turkmenistan



Maral was really worried. Her husband had not received his salary for several months. Their son was about to start school, but the school officials said they would only accept him if they paid a large sum of money. But where would they get this money from?

Maral told everything to her neighbour Aygul, who told her that she would pray to Jesus. She was sure that he could help and that he knew about their struggles. Maral was really amazed; she had never heard anyone speak about Jesus. Wasn't that forbidden in Turkmenistan? Maral knew that in Turkmenistan they were not free to speak whatever they wanted. Some things were not allowed, and Bibles were forbidden.

There are now a few churches in Turkmenistan, and some Muslims have started to believe in Jesus.

## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for the people in Turkmenistan who already share the Good News with the Turkmens and pray for more to come.*
- *Pray that many Turkmens will hear the Good News and start to follow Jesus.*
- *Pray for the New Testament to be completed in the Turkmen language and for people to be able to get it and read it.*



## Let's go!

*Imagine if you had no Bible and you could not meet. Collect all your Bibles, make a stack, and while you pray for the Turkmens, put your hands on the stack and rejoice with them that they will soon have their own Bible.*

## ? Did You Know

- *Turkmenistan is located in Central Asia and borders Iran.*
- *There are many big buildings and parks in the cities, because the country has a lot of money from oil.*
- *80% of the country is desert and until 80 years ago only nomads with their cattle and camels lived there.*

# ? Did You Know

- 90% of Syrians are Muslims, and only 10% are Christians.

## Syria

Naima says that she has always been a Muslim and has known that she needs to pray five times a day. But Naima did not understand the prayers, and often felt sad and very far away from God. When she was 17, a friend invited her to go to the mosque where a teacher explained to them how she could come closer to God through prayer.

Like Naima, many people in Syria have turned back to their religion but many are not finding the peace they seek. Most Christians in Syria are not sharing about Jesus with the Muslims because they are afraid or sometimes because they don't believe Muslims could be interested. Since March 2011, a protest movement has started to bring democracy to Syria, and many have been killed because the government is fighting hard against them.

*A man in the Bible was travelling to a city, which today is the capital of Syria. He wanted to kill the Christians, but Jesus came to him and gave him a new name. Do you know who he was, his new name and the name of city?*

S							
P							
D							S



## Let's go!

*It is very unsafe in Syria and many people feel like hiding. Hide under the table as a family today as you pray for the people in Syria.*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that they will continue to search for real peace, which only Jesus can give.*
- *Pray that the Christians in Syria will trust only in God and not in the government.*
- *Pray that the Christians will start to share about Jesus with the Muslims and not be afraid.*
- *Pray that the war will stop and that a just government will come to Syria.*

# The Manya in Guinea

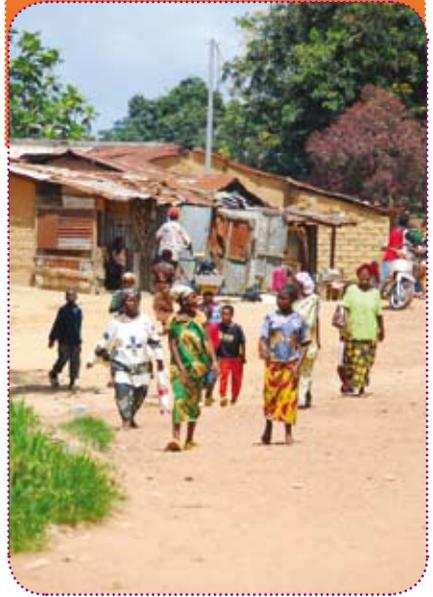
Khalid lives in Macenta, a city in Guinea, and he belongs to a group called the Manya. There are about 50,000 Manya in his city. When Khalid was a boy his parents performed the Muslim prayers and fasted during Ramadan, but never really explained Islam to Khalid. When he was eight years old his father left to live with another wife and Khalid had to leave school and start working in the fields. He started to worship idols too. One day a woman came to his village and told him the Good News about Jesus, the Messiah.

Khalid understood the message and accepted Jesus as his saviour. Now Khalid shares the Good News with other Manya, but he is really sad that so few decide to believe in Jesus.

There are only a few believers among the Manya, and the Toma people, who live nearby and who know Jesus, are too shy to share with the Manya.

## Let's go!

*As a family read John 3:16, Ephesians 6:4 and 2 Timothy 1:7 for the Manya and the Toma people. The one who can find the verses first can read them and start praying.*



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray that the Manya will have better family relationships and that fathers will not leave the family or take many wives.*
- *Ask God to take away the shyness of the Toma people and to make them courageous enough to reach out to the Manya.*
- *Pray that the Manya will all learn to read and write, and pray for a Bible in their language.*

### ? Did You Know

- *Guinea is a country on the coast of West Africa with Conakry as the capital.*
- *It has around 10 million people who belong to 40 different ethnic groups.*
- *Guinea has a lot of mineral resources, but it is one of the poorest countries in the world.*

# ? Did You Know

- Mozambique is a country in East Africa.
- Portuguese is the official language of Mozambique.
- Muslims make up about 20% of the population in Mozambique.

## The Makua Naharas of Mozambique

The Naharas are very poor and often don't have enough food. They also don't really speak Portuguese, and most of them cannot read or write. They proudly say that they are Muslims, but they really mix Islam with old beliefs and so they are often afraid. A Nahara might tell you something like, "My grandfather died some years ago, but really he is still with us and if we do something he does not like he will get very angry with us. Because he liked cigarettes we will always offer him some."

There are a few small churches among the Naharas, but the Naharas don't like to go there; they say it is only for people who came to live with them and don't understand them.

Some Muslims who now believe in Jesus have come to the Naharas to tell them about their faith and some Naharas have become "Jesus Followers."



**What kind of language is this? Try to read it. It is something that the Naharas need.**

***Uoy, Dorl, era eht thgil that speak em efas. I ma ton diarfa fo enoyna. Uoy tcetorp em, dna l evah on sreat. Ps. 27:1***



### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that the leaders of the Naharas will get to know Jesus and will follow him.
- Pray for the new believers among the Naharas, that they will grow, get to know God's word better, and follow him in their daily life.
- Pray for those believers who travel to share about Jesus with others. They have to take dangerous ways through the bush.

## Let's go!

Can you build a little obstacle course in your living room? Take chairs, the table, or other furniture that you have to climb over or under it. You are one of the believers sharing the Good News with others. Pray during the obstacle course.

## Let's go!

*Go to the smallest room in your house. Imagine it is the Territories, and pray there. Then spread out, leave the family, and pray alone for the new believers who have been kicked out of their families. Then come together and form a circle as you pray for more Christians.*

# The Palestinians

it is not easy for Palestinians to leave the Territories easily. Many are poor or unemployed and angry. Because of that, the young people are ready to listen to Islamist groups who may tell them that it is okay to use violence or terrorism.

But there are also Palestinians who have met Jesus. Some have seen him in their dreams and want to follow him now. This is very difficult for them though, because their families do not like it and will kick them out for it. They often become very poor and need help from their “new family,” the Christians. If they can receive help from their new family, they can learn more about God's word and be strengthened in the midst of their difficulties.



### PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for the Palestinians who have come to know Jesus. Pray that they will know the great love and care of God and that they will find a new family.*
- *Pray for protection for the new believers and that they will continue to have good contacts with Muslims.*
- *Pray that the young people will not listen to the Islamists and that there will be peace instead of violence.*
- *Ask God to send more Christians to the Palestinian Territories.*

### ? Did You Know

- *The Palestinian Territories are on the right and left side of Israel, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.*
- *Many people who live in the Territories used to live in Israel and became refugees.*
- *Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, is in the Territories but hardly any Christians live there now.*

# ? Did You Know

- There are about one million Arabic-speaking Druze in the Middle East.
- The Druze are considered Muslims, but they really have their own religion.
- The Druze have their own holy book, the Book of Wisdom, which is a secret book.

## The Druze in the Middle East



About 1,000 years ago the Druze separated from the Muslims and became a different group. Nobody can become Druze, not even by marrying one. The Druze encourage children to receive revelations about other people but without knowing or consulting Jesus. However, the Bible teaches us that only the Holy Spirit can give loving revelations. Any other source of spiritual knowledge can be dangerous.

Rachid is from a Druze family, but he never learned much about his religion. When he went to study medicine in an eastern European country, he met a Christian who told him about Jesus. Rachid decided to follow Jesus. For a time, Rachid's wife Sarah was following Islamic teachings and they experienced some difficult times together, but when Sarah saw how Rachid changed, she too decided to follow Jesus.

### Let's go!

Go get your Bibles and read the story of the Samaritan woman in John 4:1-30. The Samaritans had some teachings similar to the Jews, and the Druze are a little like Muslims. Hold your Bibles and pray that like the Samaritan woman, the Druze would also come to understand who Jesus is.

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that people would realise that the "speaking out" is wrong and that they will speak out against it, even if that is difficult.
- Pray that many Druze will start to read the Bible and find Jesus.
- Pray for people like Rachid and Sarah, that they can be good witnesses and share the Good News with their friends and family.

# Macedonian Muslims

Zeba is 18 years old and she has a dream. Her family are very poor and have always struggled—even to have enough to eat. But Zeba dreams of learning English, getting a job with a foreign company and helping her family to have a good life.

Reality for Zeba, however, is hard. Her Dad, like many Tajik men, is away working in Moscow, and Zeba misses him terribly. What's more, Zeba's parents have told her it is time for her to get married. She is afraid that if that happens nothing will ever change. They will all remain poor. Zeba wonders whether there is really nothing she can do. Is there really no hope?

Many young Tajiks are like Zeba, looking for something better in life. Should they leave home to look for work in Russia, or can they find hope somewhere else?

## PRAYER POINTS:

- Read Isaiah 52:10 and pray that it will come true for the people in Macedonia.
- Many who are Muslims are not really following their religion. Pray that they will have revelations of who God is and will start to follow him.
- Pray that the Christians will reach out to the Muslims in peace and share the Good News with them.

*Macedonia is one of several small new countries. Unscramble the names of the countries around Macedonia:*

REEEGC

ARIGLUBA

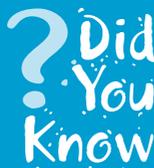
BERSAI

VOOSKO

BAALANI

## Let's go!

*Muslims and Christians need to become friends in Macedonia. Some of the family can stand on one side of the room, and some on the other side. Every time one of you prays, you can take a step towards each other and at the end you can give each other a hug or shake hands.*



- Macedonia is a small country in east Europe.
- The country is only 21 years old and has two million inhabitants.
- The capital of Macedonia is Skopje.



# ? Did You Know

- Indonesia consists of thousands of islands.
- There are 300 different people groups who speak 700 different languages.
- Jakarta is the capital of Indonesia and is on the island of Java.

## Jakarta, Indonesia

Over 26 million people live in and around Jakarta, and that's where the government is seated as well. There are big contrasts to be seen when walking through Jakarta. There are shiny new shopping malls where you can buy anything you want, but next to them there are slums where you see people living along the railway tracks, and stinky canals filled with dirty water.

One more contrast that can be seen is the Islamic groups that often threaten and discriminate against the Christians. But there are also many churches and Bible Colleges that train Christians for mission work.



### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray for the government of Jakarta and the Governor Fauzi Bowo. Pray for wisdom for how to manage such a big and diverse city.
- Pray for the organisations in Jakarta who help the poor by providing for their practical needs but also by sharing the Good News.
- Pray for the Betawi Muslims, the original inhabitants of Jakarta. There are only 100 known believers among them.
- Pray for the Christians in Jakarta, that they will reach out to the Muslims around them.



## Let's go!

Get some building blocks, maybe some legos, and write JESUS on a piece paper. Build a city on this paper while you pray. Pray that Jesus will become the foundation for Jakarta (1 Corinthians 3:11).

# Boko Haram in Nigeria

Boko Haram

بوكو الحرام

## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for courage and wisdom for the government of Nigeria and the Christians, especially when they have to deal with the Boko Haram.*
- *Pray for the families who have lost loved ones due to Boko Haram attacks. Pray that God will heal and comfort them.*
- *Pray that the Boko Haram and the people who want to join them will have revelations of Jesus and will start to follow him.*

Pastor Ousseini is a Fulani pastor in Jos, Nigeria. He too used to be a Muslim, but 20 years ago he got to know Jesus and started to follow him. Many of his former friends are involved with the Boko Haram.

One day Pastor Ousseini and some members of his church were sitting in a bus, driving home from a meeting. Suddenly the Boko Haram attacked them, shooting at them with guns. Every time the Christians heard shooting they shouted the name of Jesus and they were able to drive to safety and to a nearby hospital. No one was badly wounded and all of them were able to return home the same evening. There have been many times like this where Pastor Ousseini has experienced Jesus as his true protector.

There are several Muslim people groups in Nigeria. Today we will pray for them. Here a few of the tribes names: Hausa (19.9 million), Yoruba (8.35 million), Yerwa Kanuri, (4 million), Sokoto Fulani (2.2 million), Haabe Fulani (2.2 million), and Bororo Fulani (1.95 million).

## Let's go!

*In the same way an umbrella protects you from rain, Jesus protects you from danger. Today when you pray, stand under an umbrella to signify this protection. Pass the umbrella on to the person who is praying.*

## ? Did You Know

- *Nigeria is a country in Africa with about 155 million people.*
- *About half the inhabitants of Nigeria have a Muslim background.*
- *The Boko Haram are an Islamist group who fight against the police and the Christians and have already killed many.*

# ? Did You Know

- The Rashaida are a Bedouin group in north eastern Sudan.
- They are originally from Saudi Arabia and fled from there 150 years ago.
- They are pure Arabs and say that they are related to Muhammed's family.

## The Rashaida of Sudan

Can you smell the coffee beans roasting over the fire for the morning coffee? Mothers are rolling up the sides of their tents to let in the light. The boys are out with their fathers looking after their herds of camels and sheep and the girls run barefoot for half a kilometre to visit their cousins. This is how life is in a Rashaida camp.

Many Rashaida are businessmen and they are not poor, but they have chosen to live simple lives and to continue to move around with their tents. They own 4x4 Toyota vehicles and even 12 year old boys know how to drive them. They use the vehicles to smuggle goods across the borders. They don't need lights on their cars because they follow the stars while they drive, and some can even tell where they are just by the smell of the sand.

The Rashaida don't mix with others and only in Eritrea are there a few Rashaida believers.

## Let's go!

Today the girls and the boys in the family will pray. The girls can take off their shoes and socks and walk barefoot. The boys can draw and cut out some sheep and camels. Make one for everybody and put them in your pocket after the prayer to remind you to pray throughout the day.

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray for willing people to reach out to the Rashaida.
- Ask God to remove everything that hinders the Rashaida from hearing the Good News.
- Pray that they will see Jesus as a real treasure and that they will decide to follow him.





# The Night of Power

## Let's go!

*Because this night is special, do something special as well. Prepare a little feast: something to drink, a few snacks, then invite your parents. While enjoying the feast you can talk about the Muslims you know; make a list of their names. At the end of the feast, pray together for the people. Before going to bed pray that many will have dreams and visions.*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that many Muslims will have dreams and visions about Jesus during the Night of Power.
- Pray that those who have such dreams will meet Christians who can explain the dreams to them and teach them about Jesus.
- Pray for the Muslims you know from your neighbourhood or from school.

Fatima is very excited. Her husband Salim has invited his teacher's family for dinner, to break the daily fasting together. Fatima has become good friends with Sarah, the wife of the teacher. Sarah has told Fatima about Jesus the Messiah and has prayed for Fatima, which she had really liked. She had felt a lot of peace during the prayer. She hopes that Sarah would pray for her again.

But Fatima is also excited because she is looking forward to staying up and praying the whole night. Fatima and her husband have three daughters, and her mother-in-law is not happy about that and has even told her son Salim to get another wife and to have a son with her. Fatima is glad that Salim does not listen to his mother, but she still worries and hopes that this night her prayer will be answered.

*Today we will pray that the following will happen.*

*See the number key at the end of this booklet.*

**25,15,21,18 – 25,15,21,14,7 – 13,5,14 – 19,8,1,12,12 – 19,5,5–**

**22,9,19,9,15,14 – 1,14,4 – 25,15,21,18 – 15,12,4 – 13,5,14 –**

**19,8,1,12,12 – 4,18,5,1,13 – 4,16,5,1,13,19**

## ? Did You Know

- Muslims believe that if they pray during this night, their prayers are especially well received.
- Some Muslims believe that if they pray hard during this night it will be a compensation for the daily prayers they have not prayed.
- Muhammed received his first revelation of the Quran during this night.

## ? Did You Know

- There are many ministries around the world that share the Good News with Muslims.
- Many are ministering through media, like the internet or television, and through this many Muslims hear about Jesus.
- All of the ministries have financial needs.

# Give, and it will be given to you (Luke 6:38).

When Paul was ministering to people he sometimes worked as a tent maker, and sometimes the churches he had started gave him money. Like Paul, some missionaries among Muslims today work, especially in countries where it is difficult to gain entry. Some receive good salaries but some don't, and they need help from people back home.

In Philippians 4:10-19 Paul writes about the people who helped him, and he says that those who give towards God's ministry will be blessed and rewarded.



## Let's go!

*As a family, discuss together how and where you could help a missionary or a ministry that reaches out to Muslims. Do you know anyone? Could you put your money together for a one-time gift? Or could you give regularly to help the ministry to the Muslims?*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that many people will see the needs and will be generous and help. The Bible says that God love a generous giver. Read also 2 Corinthians 9:11 and 1 Timothy 6:18.

# The Izhar ul-Haqq



The Izhar ul-Haqq is a book written about 150 years ago which tells Muslims that the Bible is full of errors and wrong teachings and only the Qur'an is perfect and without mistakes. Many Muslims believe this and use it against

Christians, especially Christians who come from Muslim backgrounds. Even people who appear on television are using the book, so many people who watch those channels hear about it and believe what they say. Until today, nobody has written an answer to the Izhar ul-Haqq that would explain to Muslims that what it says about the Bible is false. But some Christians are now working on a project that will not only tell Muslims that the Izhar ul-Haqq is wrong, but will also encourage them to read the Bible for themselves and find out what it actually says.

## PRAYER POINTS:

- *Pray for the people who are working on the project. They need to know Islam well, but they also need God's wisdom in their writing so that Muslims will really be able to see and understand.*
- *Once the project is finished, the new material will need to be distributed. Pray for good ways to bring the material to the right people who will read it and understand.*

## Let's go!

*If you have any candles, gather one big one and a few smaller ones. Light the big one as a sign of God's light, which is Jesus. Both the writers of the project as well as the readers will need this light for understanding. After every prayer you can light one of the little candles. These represent the people who have gained new understanding.*

? Did You Know

- *The Izhar ul-Haqq is a book that speaks badly about the Bible.*
- *The book was written many years ago in Arabic.*

## ? Did You Know

- The Rohingya are originally from Bangladesh close to Myanmar, but many have become refugees and now live in other countries.
- There are about two million Rohingyas.
- The countries they live in are Myanmar, Malaysia, China, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Sweden, the USA and Thailand.

# The Rohingya

For various reasons the Rohingya have had a difficult life in Myanmar. Many of them have become refugees. This is not an easy experience for them. Rohingya children who live in Malaysia are not allowed to go to school because it is not certain they can stay in Malaysia because of the rules concerning refugees. However, if they don't learn to read and write it will be a problem for their future. Some people have started schools for the children, but many don't have enough money or good teachers.

Some people have started to translate the Bible for the Rohingya, but because they are living in different countries they do not all use the same script. Some use the Arabic



script, some the Roman script (which is what you are using right now when reading about the Rohingya), and some use the Bengali script, which is used in Bangladesh. That means that the Bible has to be written in three different scripts. There is an English-Rohingya dictionary on the internet that has some funny words in it. "Badur" means "bat" in the Rohingya language, but in the dictionary it says, "night flying bird by echo method."

## Let's go!

*Aren't you glad you can read and write? Take some paper and draw a school on it, cut it out and write your prayers on it. Hang the school somewhere where you can see it during the day and continue to pray.*

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Only 21 Bible stories are translated into the Rohingya language. Pray for more stories to be translated. Pray also that the translators will have wisdom to know which stories to translate.
- Pray that the stories can be printed and distributed soon.
- Pray for the Rohingya that they will be able to hear the Good News and understand that God loves and accepts them.
- Pray for missionaries to go to the Rohingya.

*This is something the Rohingya need to hear. Can you read it?  
"I have loved you with an everlasting love." Jeremiah 31:3*

# Large gatherings in South Asia

This is the last day of Ramadan and the Muslims will gather for the celebration of Eid ul-Fitr. They will meet friends and gather for prayer led by some of their leaders. Muslims think that if they come together in great numbers, it is a sign of how superior Islam is to other religions, and that Islam is growing. It is true that Islam is a big religion.

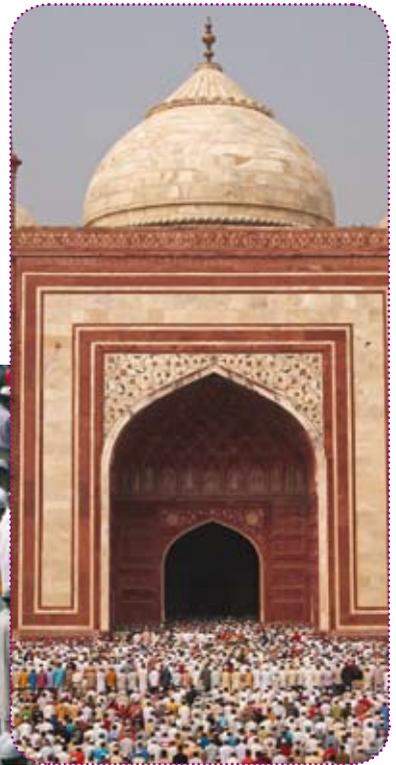
Yet Jesus tells all men not to be impressed with big numbers. He said that his kingdom is like a mustard seed, a very small seed, and also that if two or three come together in his name, he will be there with them. Life and healing come through Jesus and his death on the cross and his resurrection. God chose a way to establish his kingdom which was totally unexpected.

## Let's go!

Get some rice or lentils or some stones and make a big pile. It represents the many people gathered today. Every time somebody prays you can separate a few, believing that people will start to follow Jesus, even if it is only in small groups.

### PRAYER POINT:

- *Pray that Muslim families in your cities and towns will meet true believers during this three day feast who will share the Good News with them.*
- *Pray that during the prayer time at the large gatherings Muslims will have revelations of Jesus who has died for us and is alive today.*



## ? Did You Know

- *More than two million people can pray at one time at the Haram Mosque in Mecca.*
- *There are many mosques throughout Asia where thousands can gather. Some examples are in Agra, next to the Taj Mahal, and in Delhi, Lahore, and Islamabad in Pakistan.*

## Day 2 and Day 26:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

## Day 3:

W	R	C	T	Z	H	S	B	D	O	N	P	S
I	S	A	U	E	R	K	R	A	U	T	C	V
N	O	S	D	N	C	R	T	E	G	K	L	B
E	G	T	H	I	J	O	K	M	L	V	X	S
F	G	L	E	V	A	T	O	W	N	S	R	U
B	R	E	A	D	O	S	J	S	A	E	T	Z
S	V	S	E	H	C	R	U	H	C	D	L	O

## Day 19

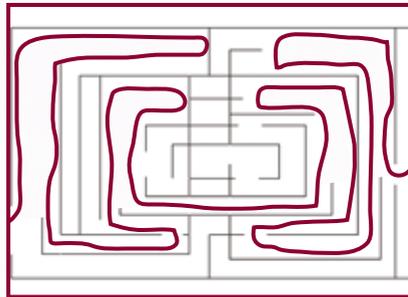
*Ps 27.1 You, LORD, are the light that keeps me safe. I am not afraid of anyone. You protect me, and I have no fears.*

## Day 22:

REEEGC = GREECE  
 ARIGLUBA = BULGARIA  
 BERSAI = SERBIA  
 VOOSKO = KOSOVO  
 BAALANI = ALBANIA

I	S	L	A	M								
		P	R	O	P	H	E	T				
A	L	L	A	H								
	Q	U	R	A	N							
					M	E	C	C	A			
					M	I	R	I	A	M		
			J	E	S	U	S					
	M	M	E	D	I	N	A					

## Day 15:



## Day 17 (Acts 9):

S	A	U	L				
P	A	U	L				
D	A	M	A	S	C	U	S

## Day 26:

*Your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Acts 2.17*

## Day 29

*I have loved you with everlasting love. Jeremiah 31.3*