

International Prayer Connections

A Monthly Journal to Guide Intercession for Our World



MAY 2018

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01 Prayer as a Strategic Resource in Missions (Part 4)

By John D Robb, Chairman of IPC

Here is another segment on how important the role of Spirit-led prayer is to the seeing breakthroughs happen in all ministry and especially in the realm of missions to those still unreached by the Gospel of Christ:

1. Spiritual revivals wrought by prayer have powerfully impacted frontier missions.

It has been said that *"all the mighty spiritual revivals which constitute the mountain peaks of missionary annals had their roots in prayer."* Jonathan Goforth, missionary revivalist in the Far East at the beginning of this century, described the powerful revivals and awakenings that took place in Korea and China, which not only revived the church but brought tens of thousands from unreached peoples to Christ. It all began with small bands of believers deciding to pray together regularly for an outpouring of God's Spirit upon them and upon the unconverted. Goforth later discovered it was not only the missionaries who had been praying, but someone in his home country:

"When I came to England, I met a certain saint of God. We talked about the revival in China and she gave me certain dates when God specially pressed her to pray. I was almost startled on looking up these dates to find that they were the very dates when God was doing his mightiest work in Manchuria and China....I believe the day will come when the whole inward history of that revival will be unveiled and will show that it was not the one who speaks to you now, but some of God's saints hidden away with Him in prayer who did most to bring it about."

In Hawaii, the revival known as the "Great Awakening" (1837-43), began in the hearts of missionaries who were moved strongly to pray. At their annual meetings in 1835 and 1836 *"they were powerfully moved to pray and were so deeply impressed with the need of an outpouring of the Spirit that they prepared a strong appeal to the home churches, urging Christians everywhere to unite with them in prayer for a baptism on high."* There were soon signs of growing interest in spiritual things among non-Christians, and then in 1837, so sweeping a spiritual awakening occurred that the missionaries had to labor night and day to accommodate multitudes anxiously seeking the assurance of salvation. In one day over 1,700 converts were baptized and in six years, 27,000 were added to the church.

J. Edwin Orr, the late historian of revivals, observed that the 19th century spiritual awakenings *"revived all the existing missionary societies and enabled them to enter other fields... [and] practically every missionary invasion was launched by men revived or converted in the awakenings."* Of four great outpourings of the Holy Spirit in the 19th century, he wrote:

"The turn of the century awakenings sent off pioneer missionaries to the South Seas, to Latin America, Black Africa, India and China. There arose denominational missionary societies such as the Baptist Missionary Society, the American Board, and other national missions in Europe.... Then a second wave of revival reinforced the foreign missionary invasion of all the continents.... William Carey was followed by societies ready to



evangelize India. Robert Morrison opened a way for missionaries to settle in the treaty ports of China.... Missionaries pushed north from the Cape of Good Hope as David Livingstone explored the hinterlands of Africa."

Of most importance to this discussion, Orr traced the origin of the spiritual awakenings which launched new missionary enterprises to worldwide prayer meetings which intensified before they occurred. David Bryant concurs with Orr's analysis. He has detected a fivefold pattern in the outward movements of the gospel over the last 300 years:

- 1. A movement of united prayer begins.**
- 2. A renewed vision of Christ and His church emerges.**
- 3. The church is restored in unity and in its determination to obey the lordship of Christ.**
- 4. A revitalization of existing ministries and outreach occurs.**
- 5. This leads to an expansion of the gospel among those who have been untouched to that point.**

Bryant observes, *"God's primary strategy is to bring his people together in prayer... in order that they might seek him unitedly. They pursue in prayer a fresh revelation of the glory of God's son so as to penetrate all levels of society with the gospel and to launch new mission thrusts to the ends of the earth."* He has quoted J. Edwin Orr as saying, *"Whenever God is ready to do a new thing with his people he always sets them a-praying!"*

2. Intercessory prayer enables God's children to possess their inheritance, the peoples of the earth.

In Psalm 2:8 the Lord invites us as His children to *"Ask of me and I will make the nations your inheritance and the ends of the earth your possession."* The only thing we can take with us into eternity as our inheritance are other people. Our joy and crown, just as they were for Paul, will be others who come to Christ through our efforts. As this Psalm reveals, asking or praying opens the door to God's making the nations, or more specifically, the frontier peoples (those still without an indigenous movement of Jesus followers) our inheritance.

In the history of missions, great in-gatherings into the church of Christ appear to be linked to strong, persistent praying. John Hyde, missionary to northern India, became known as "the apostle of prayer" since God raised up scores of national workers in answer to his prayers. He made a covenant with God to pray for one person to accept Christ each day which resulted in 400 conversions the first year. The following year, he decided to trust God for two a day, with 800 coming to Christ that year. Finally, the next year, as his faith grew, he trusted God for four a day. Through much travail in prayer, four a day came to Christ through his work.

A woman missionary influenced by Hyde's prayer life resolved to devote the best hours of her time to prayer, making prayer primary and not secondary as before. God said to her, *"Call upon me and I will show thee great and mighty things. You have not called upon me and therefore you do not see these things in your work."* As she began to make prayer the priority in her ministry, enormous changes resulted with 15 baptized at first, and 125 adults coming to Christ during the first half of the following year. Later she wrote, *"Our Christians now number 600 in contrast with one-sixth of that number two years ago."*

Elsewhere in India, prayer has also proved to be key to great in-gatherings among unreached peoples. Missionaries working among the Telugu outcastes were discouraged to the point of almost abandoning the work because of the lack of response. However, the last night of 1853, a missionary couple and three Indian helpers spent the night in prayer for the Telugus on a hill overlooking the city of Ongole. When the first light of

day dawned, they all shared a sense of assurance that their prayers had prevailed. Gradually the opposition broke over the next few years, and a mighty outpouring of the spirit brought 8,000 Telugus to Christ in only a six-week period. In one day over 2,200 were baptized and this church became the largest in the world!

In 1902, two lady missionaries with the Khassia Hills Mission were challenged by the need to pray and Khassian Christians also began to pray for their unconverted fellows. In a few months over 8,000 were added to the church in that section of India.

Wesley Duewel of OMS International, known as a kind of guru on prayer for missions, once told me that the first 25 years of their mission's work in India was very slow. Only one church per year on the average came into being. Out of a period of intense heart searching by the team of missionaries, the decision was made to recruit 1,000 people in their homelands to pray 15 minutes a day for the work. Not long after, things began to move substantially. Over the next several years, the mission went from 25 churches with 2,000 believers, to 550 churches with more than 73,000 believers. Duewel believes the massive amount of prayer, harnessed and specifically focused on their efforts, turned the tide. One of his Indian coworkers exclaimed to him: *"All of us are seeing results beyond anything we could have imagined!"*

Jonathan Goforth, in writing about the Korean revival of 1907, said: *"[It was] intense, believing prayer that had so much to do with the revival which... brought 50,000 Koreans to Christ. We are convinced too that all movements of the Spirit in China which have come within our own experience may be traced to prayer." One missionary remarked to him, "Since the Lord did so much with our small amount of praying, what might He have done if we had prayed as we ought?"*

3. Effective mission strategies come from research immersed in prayer.

Joshua was one of the original "researchers" who spied out the land of promise in Numbers 13. Because he knew the facts about the land and its peoples so well, he was prepared to become the great military strategist that he later became during the conquest. However, in the book of Joshua, we see him continually seeking God for His guidance in the development of effective strategies. He did not lean on his own understanding but relied upon God's direction given through prayer.

The principle is still the same. I am becoming more and more convinced that coupling research findings concerning the people group we are trying to reach with ongoing persevering prayer is an unstoppable combination in the process of developing effective mission strategy. John Dawson's book *Taking Our Cities for God: How to Break Spiritual Strongholds* insightfully ties together ministry-related research and intercessory prayer.

4. Prayer is the supernatural way of multiplying and sending out Christian workers into frontier missions.

As in the days of Jesus, the harvest is still plentiful and the workers are few. The unevangelized world, still claims only a smidgen of the missions' force and the Church's material resources. We have talked about the issues of redeployment and mobilization for this unreached part of humanity. Jesus' answer in a similar situation faced in his time is still the answer today: *"Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field (Matthew 9:37-38)."* Jesus did not tell the disciples to go all out and round up as many Christian workers as possible or to raise a million dollars for mission. Instead he said that prayer to the One who owns the harvest was the priority. Because He can call, equip and send those workers who will be best able to reap

the harvest.

I am convinced that the mightiest missionaries to the Muslims are not even converted yet. But God is waiting upon the prayers of His people to turn Muslim zealots around as he did the Apostle Paul, so they become missionaries to their people. I am convinced that as prayer networks are formed, focusing on particular peoples, cities and countries, we will see God raise up armies of new workers to reap the harvest in the unevangelized world.

In 1880, when the China Inland Mission had only 100 workers, and then again in 1887, when additional workers were required, Hudson Taylor and his associates spent protracted time in prayer until they received the assurance of faith that the number required would be granted. Both times, after an appeal for 70 new missionaries in 1880, and 100 in 1887, the full number reached China within the specified time and with all their support supplied. A.T. Pierson is said to have exclaimed that, except for the prayers of praying mothers and fathers who prayed their children out to the mission field, there would have been no Student Volunteer Movement!

5. Prayer opens closed doors for occupation by a Christian presence.

The Apostle Paul urged the Christians of his generation to *"devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us too that God may open a door for our message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ"* (Col.4:2-4). Don McCurry of Ministries to Muslims International years ago gave me a striking illustration in this regard. When he visited the West African country of Guinea, Sekou Toure, a Marxist leader, had just kicked out all the missionaries except two, and was busy torturing political prisoners. The two remaining missionaries, McCurry and 12 national pastors met to intercede for the country.

First, they interceded with God for the removal of this Marxist tyrant who had closed the door to further mission efforts when most of the people groups still remained unoccupied by the church. Then they put up maps around the room in which they were meeting, and together laid their hands upon those areas of the country and groups that had no Christian presence. They prayed and agreed together for a breakthrough and the establishment of Christian ministries in them. Within a year, Sekou Toure was gone, replaced by a benign leader who opened the door to missions once again, and McCurry reported that every one of the people groups they prayed for had been occupied by a national or missionary effort!

When Jonathan Goforth planned to launch a new work in northern Honan Province in China, Hudson Taylor wrote to him with these words: *"Brother, if you are to win that province, you must go forward on your knees."* His advice still holds today.

In the past, we have seen God open up anti-Christian bastions in the Communist world. Can we not expect Him to do the same with Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and secular humanist ones if God's people will laser-focus their prayers on the large number of unreached people groups still held in captivity by these false belief systems?

For more information on how to do this and to choose particular unreached groups to adopt in prayer or to pray for one of them each day, please go to www.joshuaproject.net where you will find many excellent resources for missional prayer. The International Day of Prayer for the Unreached will be May 20th and there are additional resources through the article and link that follows.

John Robb, IPC Chairman

02 International Day of Prayer for the Unreached – 20th May

Focusing on the 2 billion needing to be reached by the Gospel.



The mission to reach those who don't know Jesus is best accomplished on our knees. When you join the International Day for the Unreached as an Advocate, you'll receive access to a broad variety of resources that will help you share the story — and the plight — of unreached peoples.

These exclusive resources include downloadable sermon guides, fact sheets, Facebook and Instagram posts, PLUS you'll receive prayer-focused emails with stories of encouragement and prayer requests from each of the ministries of the Alliance for the Unreached.

You'll learn specific ways to pray that Jesus be made known among all people. And you'll engage with each of the ministries sponsoring the International Day for the Unreached with ways to get involved.

[BECOME AN ADVOCATE](#)

Free Download: The Great Commission Action Guide

Download a great, free resource with practical tips on how to live more passionately when it comes to sharing Christ locally and globally.

[DOWNLOAD](#)

Sponsored By The Alliance for the Unreached



The Alliance for the Unreached is calling on churches, ministry organizations, Christian media and individual believers to be the voice of advocacy for people who have yet to hear the gospel.

Join us in taking a bold stand in calling all believers to reach the unreached with the good news of Jesus until every person has the opportunity to hear it.

[**https://dayfortheunreached.org/**](https://dayfortheunreached.org/)

03 Praying for Israel on its 70th Anniversary

“Blessed are you, O LORD our God, King of the Universe, who has granted us life and sustenance and brought us to arrive at this particular time!”

Last week Israel began celebration of her 70th birthday!

“Please pray for Israel as she turns 70—For grace for our nation to be restored in spirit during this 70th year ...that we will return to the God of our Fathers, to experience the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living (Hosea 6:1; Psalm 81:19; Psalm 27:13).



Shalom! We have moved into a very special year in our land. This spring, Israel will celebrate her 70th anniversary! On the 14th of May, 1948, a miracle occurred! The Hebrew people, who had for centuries been scattered throughout the world, were now, as foretold by their prophets, gathered back into their ancient land of promise. Their language had been restored. And on that afternoon in a hall in Tel Aviv, David Ben Gurion read in Hebrew the “Scroll of the Establishment of a State”—(“Declaration of Independence”), which included these words, “ [We do] HEREBY DECLARE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JEWISH STATE IN ERETZ-ISRAEL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE STATE OF ISRAEL.” That evening at midnight, after over 2500 years, a nation under the sovereignty of the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob once more came into being!

In the year 1948, May 14th fell on the 4th day of the 2nd month in the Hebrew calendar, the month of *Iiyar*. Since then, “Independence Day,” as with other festivals in Israel, has always been celebrated according to the Hebrew Calendar rather than the Gregorian. This means that this year the 4th of *Iiyar* falls on **April 19th**, which is when the primary celebrations will take place. But there will certainly be others as well on the 14th of May! ***In fact, there is a sense here that because it is the 70th anniversary, this entire year has something incredibly important about it!*** This anticipation is not only in Israel! This year Israel is expecting more tourists from the nations than ever before. Already, many hotels are finding themselves overbooked throughout the year!

Why is this 70th year so important? Why do so many people sense there to be something very significant about the number “70”? We certainly cannot explain all the reasons! But we would point out that the numbers “7” and “70” turn up at very significant times in the Hebrew Bible. Often, the number “7” in Scripture appears to signify “completion” or “fulfillment”. And 70? It is recorded in the Book of Genesis (46:27) that the number of sons of the house of Jacob (Israel) who came down to Egypt in the days of Joseph was seventy (Four-hundred years later, they would depart a mighty nation). In the early days after the Exodus, God met with “70 elders of the people” (Exodus 24:9). Is “70” a number related to beginnings and leadership which will expand? In the Book of Daniel (Chapter 9:24), there is a mysterious prophecy of “seventy weeks” for the Hebrew people and Jerusalem, which is related to “*finishing transgression, making an end of sin, making atonement and bringing in righteousness.*” In 605 BC, Daniel was among the captives of the southern kingdom of Judah when they were exiled to Babylon. ***70 years later, they were released from***

captivity and allowed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild their Temple. Might the completion of this first 70 years of modern Israel signal a time for release, of a new freedom in the area of worship?

The last paragraph of Israel's Declaration of Independence, signed 70 years ago this year, begins this way, ***"Placing our trust in the Rock of Israel, we affix our signatures to this proclamation..."*** This concept of Israel trusting in God as her *Rock* is very ancient. In the Book of Deuteronomy (Chapter 32), she was given a song in which over six times God is referred to as her "Rock"—her source of strength, anointing, salvation and protection. In many of the Psalms (18:2, 31, 47: 19:15) King David declares the LORD to be his Rock—his Deliverer, and Redeemer. As Israel wandered in the desert before entering Canaan, the LORD provided water for His people out of a rock (Exodus 17:6; Numbers 20:8). In the New Covenant Scriptures, RavSha'ul (Paul), a First Century Messianic Jewish teacher, reveals that the Children of Israel had actually been strengthened during their wanderings in the desert by a *spiritual rock* which followed them—and that rock was their Messiah! (I Corinthians 10:4).

This brings me to a wonderful thing which has occurred during these first seventy years of our nation. Many, many Jews in Israel are awakening to the identity of their Messiah. Today there are tens of thousands of Messianic Jews living in Israel (a Messianic Jew is one who has come to believe that *Yeshua*/Jesus is the Jewish Messiah and Saviour. Today, moving in the authority of their Messiah, Jews are rising into areas of influence within Israeli society—government, military, education, the arts. And in the schools, believing Israeli children are learning to pray for each other, and to share their faith with their schoolmates.

One thing more about "70"! In Hebrew there is a numbering system made up of Hebrew letters. The letter signifying "70" is ***ayin***. Besides the number 70, *ayin* is also the Hebrew word for "eye". As we move through this "*ayin*" year, may the "eyes" of many Israelis be opened to recognize and trust in their Messiah, *Yeshua*—the true Rock of Israel, mentioned in their Declaration of Independence seventy years ago this year!"

Martin and Norma Sarvis, Jerusalem

Let us join the Jewish people in rejoicing at their 70th anniversary of Israel and also pray for His peace to come to the very troubled Middle East region. God loves both the Jewish and Arab peoples. May they learn to love and accept one another through discovering their Messiah!

04 A Call to Prayer for the Korean Peninsula

As we go to print with this edition of IPC Connections, we are hearing encouraging news of a commitment by Kim Jong Un to close his nuclear test site in May. This was announced following meetings with the South Korean President Moon Jae-in. North Korea will be 'pursuing economic growth and peace.'

The leaders of North and South Korea committed themselves to the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and pledged to bring a formal end to the Korean War, 65 years after



hostilities ceased.

More here: <https://edition.cnn.com/2018/04/27/asia/korean-summit-intl/index.html>

God is answering our prayers for the two Koreas!

Join us in thanking God for this remarkable and encouraging breakthrough. Let's be in prayer for the details of the working out of the treaty (The Panmunjom Declaration) that they will be successfully negotiated and followed through with positive, confirmed actions.

Evangelicals for Peace has issued this continuing call to pray, that we have modified slightly for inclusion here.

"At 12pm on Fridays, wherever we are, we will all stop and pray for peace on the Korean Peninsula. Will you join us to pray for peace?"

We ask you to mobilize your communities and networks to join us in prayer. You will find attached a short overview of the history, current situation on the Korean peninsula along with prayer directives, all prepared by a brother on the Korean Peninsula.

We ask Christians everywhere to join us in prayer for:

- ♦ **Permanent peace** on the Korean Peninsula; the avoidance of military conflict; and the emergence of conditions on the Korean Peninsula that allow for flourishing relationships between each individual and 1) God; 2) others; 3) oneself; and 4) all of creation.
- ♦ **A just and peaceful resolution to current tensions, including wisdom** for our political, diplomatic and military leaders as they work across differences toward a goal of peace, security and freedom; **wisdom among leaders** from North Korea, South Korea and China that will allow God's people on the peninsula and in the US might live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness; and for **God's kingdom to come** on the Korean peninsula and His will be done there as it is in heaven
- ♦ **Mercy from God** over the Korean Peninsula
- ♦ **Blessing on the efforts of citizens** who seek to bridge the vast differences between North and South Korea and other nations, especially the USA.
- ♦ The **American church to demonstrate empathy** toward the people of the Korean Peninsula, praying in a spirit of friendship, noting the image of God in every human being.

Will you now urge your communities and networks to join together on **Fridays at 12 pm, wherever you are, to pray for Peace on the Korean Peninsula?**

There is now a [Pray Fridays at 12](#) landing page on the call's website.



Let people know you prayed #forjustpeace.

<https://www.evangelicalsforpeace.org/pray-fridays-at-12>

05 Abortion: Prayer Call

Continued prayer needed for the United Nations and other globalist actors to overcome their destructive abortionist agenda



In a recent article, "The Truth About UNICEF". The author pointed out that UNICEF has evolved "from a life affirming, child saving and Nobel peace prize-winning foundation to a contraceptive-distributing, abortion-performing and sterilization-providing partner of some of the world's most notorious "family planning" organizations." <https://www.all.org/the-truth-about-unicef/>

The article documents this progression, tracing its roots from Darwinian social theory of survival of the fittest; a scarcity mindset fueling population control by decreasing world population drastically in order to "conserve resources". This decrease can happen naturally (disease, hunger, war) or be "helped along" by organizations promoting and funding contraception, abortion, sterilization, even genocide on a global scale.

The theory of social Darwinism has been accepted as scientific fact. It has been used by eugenicists as a rationale to both create "designer babies", and to eliminate "undesirables"- whether they be unwanted pre-born babies, the mentally or physically handicapped, people of the "wrong" color, nationality, race, gender, religion etc.

Darwin, and those following him, including Margaret Sanger (eugenicist founder of Planned Parenthood), were instrumental in fueling Hitler's destruction of millions. But the same eugenics, under the pervasive meme of "empowering women, saving the environment by drastically reducing human population in strategic areas, continues to kill, steal and destroy God's most precious treasure-human life- today, with seemingly endless funding and global reach via the mechanism of foundations, exempt from oversight or restraint. And some of the most powerful individuals/foundations are right here.

PRAYER POINTS:

- 1. EXPOSE: the lie behind population control that "there are not enough resources." Lord, You are not a god of finite resources, but the God of infinite supply. We break from this accepted ideology and look to You as our Source.**
- 2. EXPOSE: where we as the Church (in our individual lives and as the Body) are tied to Mammon (god of wealth, possessions), and are partnering with and depending on unrighteous, ungodly ways, systems, organizations or individuals in the name of funding Your kingdom work. UNTETHER: From the strong personalities and corporations. May there be no "partaking with them..but (may we) walk as children of light..." (Eph.5:5-13)**

3. **EXPOSE:** Racist, eugenicist thinking behind the facades of George Soros and Warren Buffett's many foundations seeking to advance this globalist agenda to radically reduce the population of the world and to bring it under the control of elitists like themselves.
4. **AWAKEN:** Your Church. May she be alert, take ownership, and seek the Lord together for unified direction and strategy from heaven. May She get a **PASSION** about counteracting this evil before it morphs and grows even larger.
5. **RAISE:** up armies of **LOCAL** intercessors, who are not afraid to raise their voices- to You, to the powers of darkness, and to their city and culture. Raise a company of people with a voice of spiritual authority who are able to forcefully articulate Your desires.
7. **SHIFT:** the foundations of the United Nations and other eugenicist, abortionist organizations, and their spiritual "foundations" to reflect Your foundations of righteousness and Justice.
8. **SHIFT:** the laws that protect their ability of globalist elites to amass fortunes via their tax-exempt status and lack of transparency and oversight. **CUT OFF:** their funding and cut ties between these foundations and the Church.
10. **REMOVE:** the spirit of blindness regarding the danger of increasing globalism and its accompanying totalitarianism over our nations.

(From a concerned prayer leader who has been researching and praying about the issue of globalism with others)

06 Thy Kingdom Come - 10th to 20th May 2018

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, is inviting Christians around the world to pray as one for people to know Jesus Christ.

Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.



During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who participates will deepen their friendship with Jesus, bring others to know Jesus or know him better, and come to know that every aspect of their life is the stuff of prayer.

It is anticipated that millions of Christians around the globe will be mobilised to pray for His kingdom to come in their localities and praying that people they know may come to know Jesus.

In 2017, 25% said it made their church feel closer to God as a group; more than 60% of individuals said they were motivated to pray more. 'It was so encouraging to see our church come together and pray more'. 'We

have villages who are not church goers asking us how to pray'. 'I introduced my 11 year old son to prayer walking, it was a very special day'.

Resources / Videos and a New Song are available at: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

07 Africa: MANI - Reaching the Unreached

DEPLOYING THE POWER OF PRAYER TOWARDS THE UNFINISHED TASK



MANI is the acronym for Africa's mission organization called the Movement of African National Initiatives. The body was birthed in the year 2000 after the expiration of AD 2000 and Beyond Movement. The expiration of the Movement and the winding down of its structure, created a vacuum in the mission space, which Christians from African nations decided to fill, by setting up a mission body called MANI. Therefore, MANI was the African response to the necessity of mobilizing the Church to reach the remaining unengaged and Unreached People Groups in Africa.

STATISTICS

Today, there are about 981 Unengaged and Unreached People Groups (UPGs) in Africa alone. According to Joshua Project, the statistics of the UPGs in Africa reads thus:

Population - 1,163,884,000

Number of countries - 58

Number of People Groups - 3,712

Population in Unreached People Groups - 329,848,000

People Groups Unreached - 981 (26.4%)

Most of the UPGs are in regions that are either hostile to the gospel or very difficult to access. This constitutes a great challenge to the Church in Africa. As long as the Unreached People Groups remain unevangelized, the Church cannot claim to have accomplished its task of evangelizing the continent, let alone the world. This

means that engaging and evangelizing the remaining Unreached People Groups is one major task before the entire Church in Africa.

AFRICA'S UNREACHED PEOPLES IN EUROPE

There is also the challenge of the Unreached Peoples of Africa in Diaspora.

“According to an estimate by [The Migration Policy Institute](#), seven to eight million African irregular migrants now live and work in Europe. Jason Mandryk, from *Operation World*, indicated that in 2000 A.D. France had 6.4 million foreign-born immigrants (3.4% of all immigrants), mainly of North African and Black African origins; while Spain had 4.7 million of such (2.5% of all immigrants) of Latin America and North and West Africa origins.

Helen Trauner,¹ quoting Julien Conde and P. Diagne,² stated that “until the 1980s, four-fifths of sub-Saharan immigrants in France were originating from Senegal, Mauritania, and Mali, predominantly from the Senegal River Valley” (within the 10/40 Window, where there are significant numbers of UPGs and there is the dominant Islamic religious block) and that “more than ninety percent of Malian immigrants in France originate from the rural areas of the Kayes Region in the western part of Mali.”

She continued that the female immigrants who were her main focus of the research, like their male counterparts, originated “from the Senegal River Valley (Mali, Mauritania, Senegal) as well as from the Gulf of Guinea and from Equatorial Africa” (all of them locations of most of the African UPGs). These West African female immigrants in France provided their compatriots an African “imagined community where they meet, communicate in their mother tongue, and have access to an important infrastructure (e.g., to mosques, Islamic schools, markets, etc.).” According to Reuben Ezemadu, the Continental Co-ordinator of MANI, “This phenomenon made it possible for the African immigrants from the homogenous and closely-knit people groups of West Africa not to be assimilated by the French culture, thereby maintaining their *people group uniqueness*, even in such distant lands of Europe and despite many years of their sojourn there.”

THE PERSECUTION INDEX

Aside from the challenge of the UPGs both home and abroad, there is the issue of the persecuted Church in Africa. According to the Guardian, “Out of 50 countries listed by Open Doors, the six where most Christians were killed for directly faith-related reasons were in sub-Saharan Africa: Nigeria, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Cameroon.” The same source states that “More than 2 million people, many of them Christians, have been forced to leave their homes in northern Nigeria, where the Islamist terror group [Boko Haram](#) is waging a campaign. Open Doors also reported violence against Christian farmers by Hausa-Fulani tribesmen, conservatively estimating more than 1,500 religiously motivated killings. Both Boko Haram and Hausa-Fulani “are carrying out religious cleansing, aiming to eradicate Christianity”

DEPLOYING THE PRAYER RESOURCE

Great amount of resources (men, prayer, financial, technology, human capital development, Strategic planning and thinking, etc) are needed to complete the task of reaching the UPGs of Africa and those in the diaspora. But these resources, not matter how vital and many, would be ineffective without the deployment of the power of strategic prayer. Only the power of unceasing prayer can change the spiritual equation and scenario among African Unreached Peoples. Prayer is the most tested and most potent resource needed by the Church to effectively accomplish its task. It is the groundbreaker that paves the way for any meaningful missionary work to take place.

PRAYER AND MISSION GATHERING

It is against this backdrop of the UPGs and the growing persecution of the Church in Africa, that the Strategic Prayer Network of MANI is calling together prayer leaders, Intercessors, missionaries, and mission strategists to a four days consultation and time of prayer from the 6th to the 10th of November in Nairobi, Kenya, aimed at facilitating the unfinished task. The prayer that can move the work of missions forward in Africa must be unceasing, persistent and strategic.

AUSTEN UKACHI

CO-ORDINATOR, STRATEGIC PRAYER NETWORK, MANI

<http://maniafrica.com/mani-an-overview/>

08 Nigeria: Year of Prayer Launches 1st May 2018

We bring you Calvary greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) having considered the current state of the nation is organizing a ONE YEAR of PRAYER PROJECT.



YEAR OF PRAYER FOR
NIGERIA
Praying for Transformation

The Year of Prayer is scheduled to launch on May 1st 2018 until April 30th 2019.

It will involve all Pentecostal denominations, Para-Church Prayer Ministries, Women and Christian Youth Ministries and Fellowships under PFN and University Campus Fellowships across Nigeria.

We would like to invite our diasporas, international partners and supporters in prayer to join us.

A rolling monthly prayer guide has been prepared, and is available from our website here:

http://www.pray4nigeria.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=317&Itemid=290

Please help us to get the message out. We so value your joining in prayer and intercession with us at this crucial and challenging time for our nation.

We pray for restoration of the glory of the Lord, His Church and our land in line with Scriptures, (Joel 2:17).

May the Lord strengthen and give you grace.

Yours in Him

Pastor Austen Ukachi | Rev. (Mrs.) Mercy Ezekiel

For the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria

<http://www.pray4nigeria.org/> | <http://www.pfn.org.ng/>

09 Pray for Syria's Nightmare of Suffering to End

1) To Alleviate suffering of those affected by wars and religious persecution in the Bible lands.

2) Pray that the world will mobilize, and stand with the Christians of the region, to strengthen their presence, and help them remain firm.

3) Pray over displaced Syrians and for the CHURCH on the front lines of violence and refugees fleeing from violence. Pray for courage and boldness in preaching Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

4) For the safety and refreshment for the NGOs' leaders, as they log many miles and witness much trauma in their ministries.

5) People of 75 years age and younger, all they have experienced during their lives, in the Bible lands wars, wars, and wars.

6) Please pray for God-fearing negotiators to negotiate between countries in conflict, to avoid wars, unnecessary death, destruction, and displacement of innocent people.

Under Christ's care, and grace,

www.wamcares.org



10 Elections: Malaysia &TimurLeste

Two important national elections needing God's turnaround:

Please remember Malaysia (9 May) and TimurLeste (12 May) elections in your prayers.

TimurLeste needs a major breakthrough. It has such great opportunity to be a major blessing for the SE Asia region.

1. Pray that the Lord will grant a fair and just election.

2. For upright leaders whose hearts have the fear of God and care for the nation to form the government. That corrupted leaders will not be elected and will not surface again.

3. That Malaysia's 'Coat of Arms design' will not be supported by the two tigers which are called "rampant" tigers, but may the new design be the Lion of Judah!

4. Pray that the spirit of these tigers will be bound and destroyed by the Blood of the Lamb.



5. For peace in the nation without any violence after the results of the election are out.
6. That churches in these two countries continue to have freedom to preach the gospel and be His salt and light.

(From a concerned Malaysian prayer leader)

11 Study: 90K Christians Were Killed for Their Faith in 2016

90,000 Christians were murdered for their faith around the world this year (2016), according to a [study](#) from The Center for the Study of Global Christianity.

Amy Kellogg reported on "Special Report" tonight that the CSGC puts the number of Christians martyred in the last decade at 900,000, which amounts to one being killed every six minutes.

She explained that their definition for a martyr is anyone who lost their life prematurely as a result of human hostility, while they were upholding Christianity.

"This makes Christians the most persecuted religious group in the world," Kellogg said.

She reported that of the Christians who lost their lives in 2016, 70 percent were killed in tribal fights in Africa.

The remaining 30 percent of Christians lost their lives in acts of terrorism, destruction of Christian villages and government persecution worldwide.

"The Center for the Study of Global Christianity says that highlighting the number of martyrs actually gives some dignity to those who have died, and it also keeps up the pressure on those who have the power to do something about the situation to actually act," Kellogg reported.

<http://insider.foxnews.com/2017/01/12/study-christianity-persecuted-around-world-90k-martyred-2016>

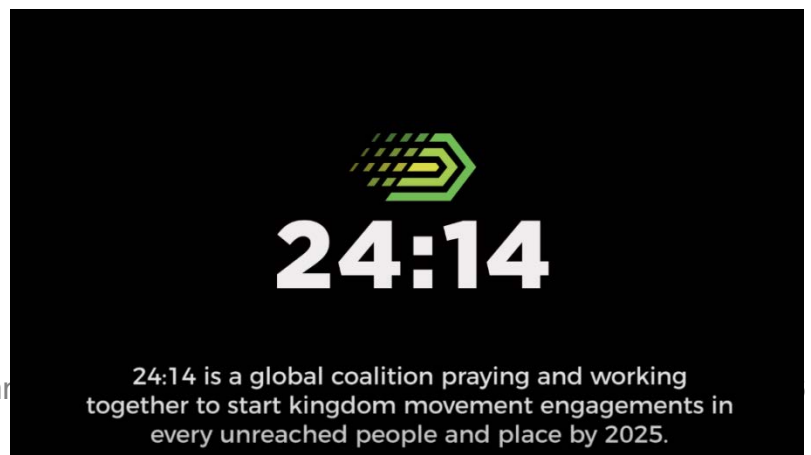
Please continue to uphold our brothers and sisters in Christ living in hostile areas of the world that the Lord will embolden and protect them as they bear witness to their Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and other neighbors and friends that may be resistant and retaliatory. May the blood of the martyrs indeed become the seed of the Church to sprout, blossom and grow even in the most inhospitable and challenging areas of the world!

12 24:14 Coalition 1 Partner/1 Day Initiative

24:14 Coalition: A network of organizations, networks and churches which are all committed to the 24:14 vision of praying and working together to start kingdom movement engagements in every unreached people group with urgency by 2025.

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To this end, we, the 24:14 Prayer Task Force are seeking to develop a 24/7 canopy of prayer that will pray into this vision of seeing every UP G engaged with a team focused on seeing a movement of multiplying churches and disciples. We would like to see 31 organizations, prayer networks from existing movements, networks and churches commit to cover in prayer one day per month every month.

To get more information or to join the 24:14 1Partner1Day Initiative then please email to prayer@2414now.net

Let us know the **day of the month** that you can commit to as an organization and **how many hours** in that day you are committing to pray and fast.

Please let us know **the name and email of the prayer coordinator** *Our thanks on behalf of the 24:14 Prayer Task Force. Resources to be offered:*

- ◆ A monthly prayer guide of informed prayer points that are specific, measurable, and Bible-based.
- ◆ Regular praise reports in order to encourage groups as they pray.
- ◆ Monthly or bi-monthly communication with a member of the 24:14 Prayer Task Force. This will be for the purpose of encouraging, informing, identifying gaps and challenges, etc.

More: 2414now.net

13 UK Trumpet Call: 9th June (Birmingham)

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE, BROAD ST, BIRMINGHAM, B1 2EA

Do you want to see God move in your community and in our nation?

A move of God is always preceded by prayer, unity and praise. We need to see change in our nations.

It is time to turn to Jesus. It is time for His Kingdom to Come, and His will to be done.

Join thousands of Christians as we pray, worship and make strong declarations for God's Kingdom to come in our families, churches and communities. It is time to pray for an unprecedented turning to God in our nation.

WHAT TO EXPECT:



This is the eleventh Trumpet Call we've held in Birmingham and YOU ARE INVITED!

The Trumpet Call will be a day where we will spend time in worship (led by local worship leaders) and prayer (led by the Prayer Connections England Network) as we stand together and declare that 'It's Time to Turn' for our nation.

MAIN SPEAKERS:

RT Kendall

RT Kendall is a renowned bible scholar and author of many books including 'Whatever happened to the Gospel?', 'The Presence of God', 'Worshipping God' and 'Prepare your heart for the Midnight Cry'. He was the Senior Pastor at Westminster Chapel, London until 2002 and now travels the world speaking and teaching. You can see him currently on TBN UK in his show 'Word and Spirit'.

Malcolm Duncan

Malcolm Duncan is the Senior minister at Dundonald Elim, N.Ireland, a broadcaster, passionate communicator, a writer and actively engaged in a number of areas of advocacy. He serves on the boards and advisory groups of a number of churches, charities and businesses and is very involved in a number of advocacy campaigns.

Tickets and more info: <http://www.worldprayer.org.uk/events-calendar/prayer-gatherings/trumpet-call-2018>

14 Australia Calls World to Pray & Fast for USA



30 April – 3 May 2018

For the sixth year in a row, Australia is calling the nations of the world to join with them to pray and fast for four days for the United States of America, from 30 April – 3 May 2018.

May 3 is America's National Day of Prayer. The theme is "Pray for America - UNITY" Ephesians 4:3.

<http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org>

April 30 is America's National Day of Repentance. <http://www.dayofrepentance1.org>

Promo YouTube Video:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4B5nFcDBMOA>

Facebook

Video:<https://www.facebook.com/CanberraDeclaration/videos/2081577435200931/UzpfSTM1MTc4OTk3NDg5NjY1MDoxNjg5NDAYMjExMTM1NDEz/>

Commissioner James Condon, a member of the National Day of Prayer & Fasting team, said, "God has done remarkable things in America since we began to pray and fast, but God can do greater things yet! We in Australia believe it is our turn to stand in the gap for the nation of America and pray for revival and transformation for the USA through prayer and fasting according to 2 Chronicles 7:14. Whilst America has a new administration, the need for a new National Awakening has never been more apparent.

Commissioner Condon from Salvation Army continued, "We in Australia are grateful for the protection that America gave Australia and the nations of the free world during World War II. The Battle of the Coral Sea, fought by USA in 1942, was the turning point in the Second World War for Australia. America continues to be a blessing to the world. Even to this day the USA is the largest contributor of foreign aid among all the countries of the world. Thank God for America!"

President Reagan renewed the call for a National Day of Prayer in 1982 and said, "National prayer is deeply rooted in our American heritage... The first National Day of Prayer was proclaimed in 1775 by the Second Continental Congress. As thousands gathered in prayer in places of worship and encampments throughout the new land, the dispersed colonists found a new spirit of UNITY and resolve in this remarkable expression of public faith."

Sue Tinworth, a member of the National Day of Prayer and Fasting team, talking about the history of prayer in the USA said, "President Abraham Lincoln, on 30 April 1863 called for a Day of 'Humiliation, Prayer and Fasting' at a time of great national crisis by Governmental decree which said, "We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God... It behooves us then, to humble ourselves... to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness". Unfortunately, today America is again in a dangerous predicament because it has forgotten God. Sadly the situation in Australia is very similar. We in our nation have forgotten God and we are in danger of paying the price for our sin."

Ps Warwick Marsh, also from the National Day of Prayer and Fasting team said, “We are thankful for America’s strong Christian heritage, but this will not save America, only the blood of Christ can.

America and Australia need revival and reformation, as does the whole world. We all need more of God. We invite you and the nations of the world to join with us in four days of prayer and fasting for the USA.”

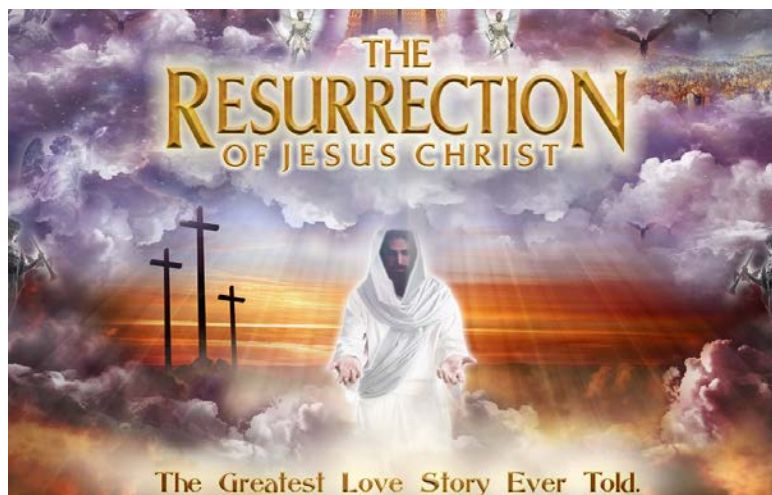
More:National Day of Prayer & Fasting. www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au

Facebook:<https://www.facebook.com/nationaldayofprayerandfasting>

15 Movie: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Greetings on behalf of The Resurrection of Jesus Christ film production team. We are excited to further spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the power of His resurrection.

God has commissioned us to produce an “A” list Hollywood film for global release. His instructions are clear. Produce a film, a Bible study, an anointed soundtrack, an interactive game, a technology platform and more, that will accomplish the following objectives:



- Develop an “A” level movie that captures the world’s imagination.
- Unite the global church through the production and release of the movie.
- Provide a “turnkey” evangelism opportunity world-wide.
- Depict the realities of heaven and hell.
- Spiritually influence the Hollywood movie making industry and redefine the distribution process via global multimedia outlets.

Current Status:

The project is on the verge of tremendous breakthrough. We are at a critical juncture right now. We are asking you to partner with us in fervent intercession. While God’s assignment is clear and His favor is evident, there has also been significant opposition both in the natural and in the supernatural realms.

TARGET PRAYER POINTS

- **Protection:** Ask God to provide His protection over every person and detail related to the project. We know we are clearly engaging in a spiritual battle. Satan will do all he can to stop this project from proceeding. Pray against power and principalities that may be holding back the project.
- **Divine Enablement:** Ask God to pour out His power over the team and the project. We need supernatural protection and spiritual authority to continue the work ahead. We are trusting the Lord to guide every decision and guide us through the leading of Holy Spirit.
- **Resources:** Ask God to provide every resource that is needed. We need interim financing to carry out the ongoing day to day work of the project. We need bridge funding to allow us to develop a multi-media platform and rally the global church around the project (target five million dollars). We need major funding for the production and distribution of the movie (target approximately 200 million).

Thank you!

Learn more by visiting our website <http://theresurrectionofjesuschrist.com/>

Thank you for participating in this Global Prayer and Evangelism Movement of Love.

David Wood / Ron & Valerie Coltman

16 Helpful Prayer Resources

Here are a few resources that you may find useful in your life and ministry...

1) "State of the World / The Task Remaining":

<https://youtu.be/WrHC7hXNoV8>



2) World Shapers Calendar: a valuable resource for helping children pray for our world- World Shapers Club Calendar is a monthly resource you can give to Sunday School teachers, children's pastors and parents for their children to use. Here is the May edition:

<https://esthernet.net/world-shapers-club-may-2018-prayer-calendar/>

May 2018						
ENI World Shapers Club						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1	Ask God to give dreams and visions to non-believers so they will come to faith in Him.	Pray for the many young people who consider themselves Atheists.	Thank God for the Nigerian girls & one boy returned home from captivity by Boko Haram.	Pray for everyone with the same name as you. Pray for the U.S. Let the Children Pray Workshop tomorrow!	Pray for 15-year old, Lyla still held captive by Boko Haram because she refused to deny faith in Jesus.	Pray for 15-year old, Lyla still held captive by Boko Haram because she refused to deny faith in Jesus.
Pray for everyone who has lost his or her job and needs a new one.	Pray for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem. Thank God Jerusalem is being recognized as the capital of Israel.	Pray for people who can't hear and some who can't speak. Some can do neither!	Ask God to turn the ugliness of this world into things of His beauty. How many can you think of?	Pray for the millions of working children in India, Pakistan and other nations.	Pray that children will be kind and reach out to those they feel are "different."	Pray for prison and military chaplains around the world. Christian chaplains are being harassed.
Pray for/bless all mothers and grandmothers & foster & spiritual mothers. Happy Mother's Day!	Thank God/pray about the US Embassy being opened in Jerusalem today! Pray there will be no violence.	Pray for children & families in war torn Ghouta and Douma, Syria. Their needs are great.	Pray that children will use their talents to glorify God. Ask God to show you and others what gifts He has given you.	Pray for students in Venezuela who cannot attend school because of hunger.	Pray for Christian students being physically & mentally abused in some schools.	Pray for the new World Shapers in Pakistan! Bless them. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide their prayers.
Ask God to encourage Pastors, their spouses and families. Pray for all your church leaders.	Pray that children of all ages will obey the commandment to honor their mothers and fathers.	Pray for safety of all believers world wide as they go to/from church and other meetings.	Pray for Christians in Nigeria. Their villages are being burned down and some are being killed.	Pray for all the same age as you.	Ask the Holy Spirit what to pray.	Pray for children/teens to not take drugs, not drink, to keep pure and make wise choices.
Pray for Good Shepherd Chapel - a church led by students in Uganda.	Pray that Godly men and women would be elected/chosen to lead your nation.	Pray that Godly men and women would be elected/chosen to lead your nation.	Pray for more World Shapers to "Catch the Vision!"	Praise and thank God for answered prayers!	"I will pray for the children of the world today!"	

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IPC Connections -

ENI
<http://esthernet.net/shapers>
 "I will pray for the children of the world today!"

It is catching on around the world and we commend it to you. If you would like to sign up to receive it each month, please contact Mary Tome at mary@esthernet.net

3) Building a Personal Intercessory Team for you and your ministry

PIT Crew Handbook

What is a PIT Crew? (Personal Intercessory Team) - It is a team of intercessors that are providing prayer on your behalf on a regular committed basis.

PITCREW

Hand Book

[DOWNLOAD THE PIT CREW HANDBOOK](#)

4) Igniting your prayer life through the School of Prayer - at <http://www.ignitingprayeraction.org> - valuable and useful teaching from a great prayer leader and mobilizer, Colin Millar.



17 IPC Calendar

Americas National Day of Repentance

<http://www.dayofrepentance1.org>

Nigeria: Year of Prayer – Launches 1st May 2018

<http://www.pray4nigeria.org/>

Pray & Fast for the USA - 30 April – 3 May 2018

www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au

Americas National Day of Prayer – 3 May 2018

<http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org>

Elections in Malaysia – 9th May 2018

Elections in TimorLeste - 12th May 2018

Thy Kingdom Come - 10th to 20th May 2018

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>



Israel's 70th Anniversary – 14th May (Date of UN Signing)

[CBN Latest](#)

International Day of Prayer for the Unreached - May 20th 2018

<https://dayfortheunreached.org/>

Trumpet Call – Birmingham, UK Sat 9 June 2018

<http://www.worldprayer.org.uk>

North America Prayer Summit – Toronto 12-13 August 2018

New Year's Day SUNRISE PRAYER RELAY 1 Jan 2019

<http://www.sunriseprayerrelay.org/>

United Prayer Rising Events:

UPRISING North America, Toronto - August 8-11 2018

UPRISING South Africa, Johannesburg – October 4-6, 2018

UPRISING Sao Paulo, Brazil - October 10-13, 2018

UPRISING Global: Jakarta, Indonesia - January 23-26, 2019 (WYPA)

18 The IPC Website

The IPC website is part of a hub that aims to equip and inform the Church worldwide. We run it as a service to our partner organisations and ministries to help them to publicise their prayer alerts, news, events and resources. We would invite you to get involved.



www.ipcprayer.org

If you have:

1. News / Events: news of international prayer-related interest such as upcoming initiatives and conferences
2. Regional Prayer Requests: strategic prayer requests and alerts for your nation or region
3. Resources: teaching articles, media or testimonies

... we can, in most cases add them to the website. Please send copy along with images and hyperlinks to any existing online content that we can point people to for further information.

Articles for inclusion should be submitted to the IPC administrator at office@ipcprayer.org.

19 About International Prayer Connect (IPC)

OUR VISION:

www.ipcprayer.org

IPC Connections - May 2018



INTERNATIONAL²³
**PRAYER
CONNECT**

"Compelled by God to seek Christ's glory worldwide for the blessing, healing, and transforming of the nations, International Prayer Connect exists as a coalition of prayer networkers and mobilizers working together to motivate, develop and equip national movements and local churches to fill all nations with prayer for the fulfillment of the Great Commandment and the completion of the Great Commission."

HOW WE OPERATE:

The IPC is not an organization as such. We are a fellowship of people involved in mobilizing prayer throughout the world. We function as an international "network of networks", connecting international, regional, and national prayer ministries and networks. We also arrange or support special prayer initiatives that bring prayer leaders together from time to time to pray for matters of regional and global concern to the Body of Christ. Regional prayer summits have been arranged or supported by the IPC in most regions of the world as well as international prayer initiatives for the United Nations, Hollywood, and other issues.

The IPC is led by an international leadership team, now called the International Prayer Council, is composed of twenty leaders who coordinate regional prayer networks or international prayer initiatives of various kinds. We seek to be catalysts and connectors within the global prayer movement towards the fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:14- that "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

We do not have an official membership but connect with individuals and networks through IPC Connections, a periodical newsletter distributed via e-mail to give prayer information to interested people. Please share this newsletter with prayer coordinators, prayer network leaders, and others who have an interest in the global prayer movement so that they can be informed about different prayer initiatives, existing prayer networks, and how to participate in them

20 Donations

PayPal is an online banking service that can receive donations from over 30 currencies worldwide through automatic draft and credit cards. It is safe and secure.



International Prayer Connect is a non-profit ministry funded through the Transformation Prayer Foundation and relies on individual donations to keep the work going. If you are willing to provide support, please click below.



Thank you for your sacrificial gift to IPC!

[Click Here to Donate](#)

21 Contacting the IPC Office

IPC Office Email: office@ipcprayer.org

IPC Connect Comms Team: editor@ipcprayer.org

IPC Website (free resources and information for all ages): www.ipcprayer.org

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/ipcprayer>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ipcprayer>

NOTE: Constant Contact is our mass e-mail service. If you have unsubscribed from the newsletter through Constant Contact, you will not be sent other information you might be expecting from IPC. To get back on specific database mailing lists, you will need to sign up again at www.ipcprayer.org.

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