

## PRAYER GUIDE

**JULY 2020** 

I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise.

—Psalm 18:3

WEDNESDAY (Centre for Public Dialogue) Canada—Today we mark Canada day, and in May we marked five years since the release of Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Let's pray with gratitude for the blessings of the nation of Canada and for expressions of truth and calls to justice and reconciliation. May we pray and work as citizens longing for a society and for public policies that move toward justice and shalom for all people.

THURSDAY (World Renew) Honduras—The Honduran government has begun designing a plan to open businesses and remove some restrictions despite the country's record-high increase of COVID-19 cases. Join us in praying for the safety and health of our partners in Honduras as they respond in their communities. Pray also for wisdom for government leaders to make good decisions in these difficult circumstances.

**FRIDAY** (Resonate Global Mission) *Quebec*—Pray for Christian Direction, Resonate's partner organization in Montréal, as the city starts to reopen after coronavirus closings. Pray for their church networks, social service partners, and other institutions as they work to serve their community.

SATURDAY (Communications) *United States*—Today is Independence Day; pray for people everywhere to find freedom in Christ, faith in his promises, and healing in his love, as we look to him for salvation. Pray for God's wisdom, love, and guidance for leaders at all levels of government and society, and ask the Spirit to move God's people to act in holy and healing ways.

**5 SUNDAY** (Disability Concerns) *Community*—We pray for our community as we see the impact of the pandemic on people with disabilities. The need to distance ourselves from one another can lead to overwhelming feelings of isolation, anxiety, and uncertainty. May God continue to remind us that he is always with us, even when the world can seem so broken in its current state. Pray also for guidance for our leaders at this time.

**MONDAY** (Calvin Theology Seminary) *New program*—Pray for the first cohort in our new Doctor of Ministry program, beginning this summer. We have a dozen students from a variety of backgrounds and denominations learning together to become more effective in ministry.

TUESDAY (Resonate) *Nicaragua*—Pray for the Nehemiah Center, a Resonate partner in Nicaragua, as they support churches and pastors amid the effects of COVID-19. The coronavirus has hit the country hard. There have been a lot of sick people, many lives lost, and many people struggling to provide for their families.

**WEDNESDAY** (World Renew) *Nigeria*—World Renew community development programs in Nigeria have made significant adjustments to practice social distancing. But

interstate lockdowns and restrictions have limited face-to-face monitoring and evaluation, and churches and businesses are struggling to make appropriate adjustments. We ask for prayer for God's leading as we continue to serve people in Nigeria.

**9 THURSDAY** (Back to God Ministries) *Burkina Faso*—Alima recently professed faith in Christ and has been listening to broadcasts from our French ministry team. Praise God for her growing faith and for the many thoughtful questions she has been asking. Pray also for strength as she faces opposition from her family because of her faith in Christ.

**10 FRIDAY** (Leadership Diversity) *Growth*—Pray for our ethnic leaders who are building relationships to develop young leaders, reaching to expand churches in new places, and dealing with the effects of ministering in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

SATURDAY (Resonate) Romania—Give thanks for connections formed by Resonate missionary Steve Michmerhuizen. He connected two ministries to help provide housing for a young man. "The power of networking helps small agencies gain wide access to many resources and make a greater impact in their ministry," said Steve. Pray for ministries as they work together to build God's kingdom.

**12** SUNDAY (Pastor Church Resources) Wisdom—Gathering for worship, something we often took for granted before the pandemic, continues to bring challenges for pastors and ministry leaders. Pray for wisdom for all who are making decisions about when and how to gather again. Pleasing everyone is impossible. May our congregations and leaders be filled with grace as they find their way back to ministering together in person again.

MONDAY (Resonate) California—Nick In't Hout serves as a mission network developer in California. Pray for him as he ministers with and connects ministry leaders throughout his neighborhood. Ask the Holy Spirit to build unity in his community.

**14** TUESDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Groundwork*—Pray for Mike, who listens to our *Groundwork* program and shared that he is suffering from drug addiction and anxiety. "I've tried detox and many treatment centers, but they have not worked for me," Mike shared. Pray for healing and comfort for Mike.

**15 WEDNESDAY** (Chaplaincy and Care) *Seafarers ministry*—Our Seafarer chaplains minister to the crews of merchant ships and cruise vessels. Often these crew members are from distressed areas of the world, live in cramped quarters, and work long hours. A kind word, making a phone call, or finding medical care can create an opportunity for discussion about

God's love and grace. Pray for the gospel-filled connections that these chaplains make each day.

**16** THURSDAY (Resonate) Campus ministry—Pray for our partner campus ministries as they make plans for the fall semester. The COVID-19 pandemic will affect students, faculty, and staff on university campuses throughout Canada and the United States. Ask God for wisdom and guidance on how to continue ministry.

17 FRIDAY (World Renew) Navajo Nation—The Navajo Nation has more cases of COVID-19 per capita than any state in the U.S. Over a third of the population lacks access to clean running water, among other necessities. World Renew Disaster Response Services is working to provide life-sustaining supplies to people who need them most. Please pray for this community.

**18** SATURDAY (The King's University) Changes—Pray for wisdom and guidance for The King's University as it navigates various challenges associated with offering a new hybrid in-person/online model this year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ask God to bless the work of our professors, staff, and students this term, and pray that his will may be done in every action the university undertakes.

**19** SUNDAY (Resonate) West Africa—A believer in West Africa asks for prayer for the strengthening of faith for all believers in the region, especially those who live alone and in places where ethnic tensions and violence abound. Pray that they may grow in relationship with the Holy Spirit and that God will provide comfort, encouragement, wisdom, and protection.

MONDAY (Diaconal Ministries Canada) Stewardship—During these difficult times when congregations aren't gathering in their usual spaces and usual ways, please pray for your deacons as they strive to equip and encourage your congregation to love God and others and care for creation through the wise stewardship of all of God's gifts (1 Pet. 4:10).

TUESDAY (World Renew) *India*—Many people in impoverished regions of countries such as India do not have ready access to clean water, soap, enough food, and advanced health care. As a result, they have a higher risk of catching and spreading the virus. As World Renew and its partners are hard at work to prevent and reduce the transmission of COVID-19, please ask for God's protection for the world's most vulnerable people.

WEDNESDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Indonesia*—Setia, a radio listener in Indonesia, asks for prayer as she and her family endure the effects of COVID-19. Pray for her physical health. Setia's high blood pressure and work situation make her especially vulnerable to contracting the virus.

THURSDAY (Safe Church) Safety—Please join us in prayer for people who are vulnerable in our communities. We think of children who are living in abusive family situations right now, unable to escape their current situation. We think of partners who are living in abusive relationships that are not able to leave. Distancing within communities to flatten the curve can have major consequences for persons living in volatile situations.

**PRIDAY** (Resonate) *British Columbia*—Pray for people who are part of discipleship groups with Resonate missionaries Ray and Angie De Lange in British Columbia. More

people have joined since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. "Our people are yearning for relational connection as well as spiritual comfort and guidance," said Angie.

SATURDAY (Back to God Ministries) Japan—Pray for people in Japan like Suri, who face many external pressures against visiting a church in a land where less than 2 percent of the population profess faith in Christ. "On Sundays, after a long, stressful week, it's hard to find the motivation to go to church," Suri shared recently. "Work and day-to-day life make it hard."

**26** SUNDAY (World Renew) Zambia—In many places around the world, hospitals and health facilities are not equipped with the resources to treat and prevent the spread of COVID-19. World Renew is helping to fill this gap in countries like Zambia by equipping frontline healthcare workers with personal protective equipment and educating communities in prevention techniques. Please pray for these hospitals and their communities.

MONDAY (Global Coffee Break) Needs and plans— Pray for our global partners who are still facing hardships due to the pandemic. Pray for wisdom and discernment as we find ways to resource our partners for their discipleship and evangelism needs. Pray for upcoming plans for conferences and the release of new studies.

28 TUESDAY (Back to God Ministries) Hong Kong—Our Chinese ministry partners with a radio ministry in Hong Kong to produce an audio format of the Today devotions in Cantonese. Pray for this Cantonese-speaking audience and for our continued opportunity to reach them as we all navigate substantial changes in this part of the world.

**WEDNESDAY** (Resonate) *Michigan*—Give thanks for the way Campus Edge Fellowship, a Resonate partner ministry at Michigan State University, is supporting students during the coronavirus pandemic. "Campus Edge has been giving me hope and a faith-centered perspective that has been essential for coping... Campus Edge has kept me going," said one student. Praise God!

THURSDAY (GEMS Girls' Clubs) Conference—Today and tomorrow, July 30-31, 2020, women will gather online for the first-ever GEMS Virtual Conference! Attendees will worship our unshakable God and learn more about the challenges of girls today. Please pray for strong attendance and no technical challenges, asking that each participant will leave strengthened and equipped to mentor girls well.

**31** FRIDAY (Communications) *Inspire 2021*—A little over a year from now, we hope to gather from congregations all around the continent at Inspire 2021 in Chicago. Please pray for event organizers, who are planning the event in the midst of much uncertainty caused by COVID-19. Pray for wisdom and God's leading in all decisions around this event.

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