

...so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:5



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

March 2021

Vol. 1 - Iss. 3

Monthly Theme: *Unity*

Christian unity is that unique grace of the Holy Spirit which allows believers from all ethnicities, nationalities, personalities, and backgrounds to be of one heart, mind, and spirit in our love for Jesus Christ and in our commitment to the gospel. When believers live in unity, it reveals the life-changing power of the gospel to a watching world.

-Kingdom Missionary Society

Weekly Themes:

Week 10 – Unity

Week 11 – Anthem School

Week 12 – Teachers/
Students

Week 13 – Passion Week



Great Commission Association
Connecting Churches for a Greater Harvest



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 10: March 7-13, 2021

Focus: Unity
UPG: Nepalese

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. 1 Cor. 10:17

	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for the Napalese</u>
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 7: Deut 17-20	Pray for the humility to "regard one another as more important than ourselves," as Paul instructs	Pray for strength, endurance and supplies for the Nepalese rebuilding their homes
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 8: Deut 21-23	Pray for oneness of Spirit, the awareness that the same Holy Spirit indwells each believing brother and sister	Pray for comfort for Nepalese grieving lost loved ones and healing for hearts and homes
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 9: Deut 24-27	Pray that GCA churches will be "of the same mind," agreeing and cooperating with one another in Kingdom efforts	Pray for wisdom and guidance for Nepal's government officials as they assess needs and allocate resources
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 10: Deut 28-29	Pray that God will give each believer in your church a clear and common vision of how to live as "the light of the world, a city set on a hill"	Pray for community centers (i.e., hospitals, schools, churches) to be rebuilt in Nepal so ministry and education continue
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 11: Deut 30-31	Ask the Father for unity of purpose among GCA churches, that we will be focused on loving and obeying Jesus's commands.	Pray for protection from monsoon rains, landslides, and disease, especially for the impoverished and displaced in Nepal
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 12: Deut 32-34	Pray that God will teach us to dwell in Christ's love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.	Pray for an opportunity to earn a livelihood, especially for Nepalese who are injured or care for many dependents
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 13: Josh 1-4	Ask that the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, "for to this [we] were called as members of one body."	Pray for the government of Nepal as it works to implement a new constitution



Learn about Your Nepalese Neighbors

Nepal is a multi-ethnic nation of 125 ethnic groups and 123 languages. It has the largest percent of Hindus in the world at 81.3%, and is 9% Buddhist, 4.4% Islam and just 1.4% Christian. However, Nepalese have been quite receptive to the gospel in recent years. While people of Hindu background are the most prevalent in the Bay Area, there are significant Theravada Buddhist groups from Nepal here, too, especially in the North Bay region. The US Census groups together Nepali, Marathi, and other Indic languages, but of this language grouping, most (we have informally discovered) are from Nepal. In 2019 there were 13,498 people over 5 years old classified as such in Santa Clara County, 6,133 in Alameda County, and 6,428 in Contra Costa.



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 11: March 14-20, 2021

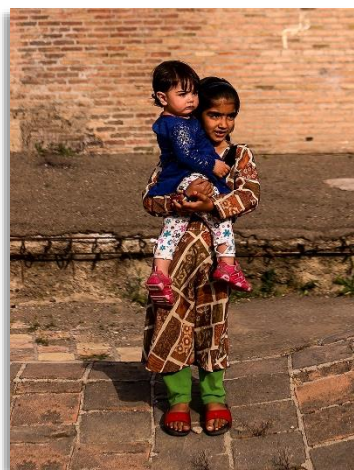
Focus: Anthem School

UPG: Afghans

*Then our sons in their youth will be like well-nurtured plants,
and our daughters will be like pillars carved to adorn a palace.*

Psalms 144:12

	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for Afghans</u>
✓ Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 14 Josh 5-8	Principal Robin Young	Pray for the Kyrgyz people to find hope in Christ.
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 15: Josh 9-11	Vice Principal Jonathan Ryan	Pray for the Baluch people group to find their home in Jesus
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 16: Josh 12-15	Office & Support Staff	Pray for God to open doors for the Shugni people group to be reached with the gospel
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 17: Josh 16-18	Staff Families	Pray for opportunities for the Wakhi people group to come to know Jesus
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 18: Josh 19-21	Pray that God will grant joy and strength to Anthem school staff	Pray for restoration and healing for the Afghan people
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 19: Josh 22-24	Ask wisdom for Anthem staff to walk in integrity in their dealings with students and each other.	Pray for the salvation of influential leaders in Afghanistan
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 20: Jud 1-2	Pray that the staff be united in love and friendship, helping and encouraging one another.	Pray for the protection of life in Afghanistan



Learn about Your Afghan Neighbors

Afghans are made up of a multitude of different people groups and tribes. The Kyrgyz have very little access to health care, markets, and schools. Due to harsh living conditions, they often turn to opium usage. The Baluch are tribal people who long for their own homeland. The Shugni and Wakhi are two small and remote people groups with little access to the gospel.

Afghanistan is 80% Sunni Muslim, 19% Shia Muslim, and just 1% anything else. The main difference between the Sunni and Shia is that Sunni Muslims rely on the Sunnah, a record of the teachings and sayings of Muhammad, while the Shiites rely more heavily on the teachings and edicts of their religious leaders, who they believe represent God (“Allah”) on earth.



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 12: March 21-27, 2021

Focus: Teachers / Students UPG: Hindi-speaking Hindus

The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher. Luke 6:40

✓	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Hindus
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 21: Jud 3-5	Ask that God help our teachers to embody the fruit of the Spirit	Ask that Hindu eyes will see the glory and life of God and desire to search out the Creator of the universe
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 22: Jud 6-7	Pray for students to be diligent in their studies and grow in wisdom, spirit, and health.	Pray that God will reveal Himself to millions of Hindus seeking the truth
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 23: Jud 8-9	Pray that God will draw more families so that more children can be ministered to	Pray for Hindus to realize the confusion and contradiction of their doctrines and teachings
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 24: Jud 10-12	Pray for the students and families to have a deep hunger for God	Continue to cry out to God for a hunger and thirst after Him to come into Hindu hearts
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 25: Jud 13-15	Ask that God open up opportunities for the teachers to share the Gospel with the students and families	Pray that Hindus will come to know the one and only God who created and loves us
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 26: Jud 16-18	Pray that the families' students be responsive to the Gospel and become disciples of Christ	Ask God to use Hindu community life to spread the good news so they become a community of faith in Jesus
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 27: Jud 19-21	Pray that the staff have compassion, firmness, and wisdom in dealing with hurting students and families	Pray for GCA churches to adopt Hindi-speaking Hindus and pray for them



Learn about Your Hindi-speaking Hindu Neighbors

Hinduism embraces many religious ideas. For this reason, it's sometimes referred to as a "way of life" or a "family of religions," as opposed to a single, organized religion.

Most forms of Hinduism are henotheistic, which means they worship a single deity, known as "Brahman," but still recognize other gods and goddesses. Followers believe there are multiple paths to reaching their god.

Hindus believe in the doctrines of *samsara* (the continuous cycle of life, death, and reincarnation) and *karma* (the universal law of cause and effect).

Hindus revere all living creatures and consider the cow a sacred animal. Food is an important part of life for Hindus. Most don't eat beef or pork, and many are vegetarians.



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 13: March 28-April 3, 2021

Focus: Passion Week

UPG: Punjabi-speaking Sikhs

...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

✓	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for Sikhs</u>
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 28: Ruth	Hosanna! Let's praise God like the Palm Sunday crowds and honor Jesus, our Prince of Peace	Pray God would heal the land and people of the Indian subcontinent from the scars of persecution
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 29: 1Sam 1-3	Let's invite Jesus to overturn the money tables and anything else that distracts us from Him in our lives	Pray that Sikhs will be drawn to Jesus, who bore their suffering on the cross as if it were His own
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 30: 1Sam 4-8	Today let's ask God to increase our faith and boldness in Him, so that we are not afraid to ask Him to move the mountains in our lives	Pray that Sikhs let go of the pains of their past and know the comfort and reconciliation that only God brings
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 31: 1Sam 9-12	Pray for a servant's heart, like Jesus showed when He washed His disciples' feet	Pray that Sikh-background-believers would have a burden to reach their family and friends with the gospel.
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	Apr 1: 1Sam 13-14	Pray for the ability to trust God's plan in the midst of pain and to be able to say sincerely, "Your will be done"	Pray that as Sikhs experience God's redemption and forgiveness, they are able to forgive others
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	Apr 2: 1Sam 15-17	Today let's ask God for the grace to pick up our cross daily and follow Jesus, wherever He leads	Sikhs have become a respected people with great influence. Pray that they use their influence to spread the Gospel
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	Apr 3: 1Sam 18-20	Thank Jesus for His perfect sacrifice on our behalf. Thank Him that there is now "no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."	Pray that GCA churches adopt the Sikhs and pray for them



Learn about Your Punjabi-speaking Sikh Neighbors

Sikhism is a monotheistic religion which originated from India's Punjab region in the late 1400's. Sikhs refer to their God as "Allah," like Muslims do. There are about 25 million Sikhs worldwide.

The core beliefs of Sikhism include: faith and meditation on the name of the one creator; divine unity and equality of all humankind; engaging in *seva* ('selfless service'); striving for justice for the benefit and prosperity of all; and honest conduct and livelihood while living a householder's life. Following this standard, Sikhism rejects claims that any particular religious tradition has a monopoly on Absolute Truth. This makes them open to having religious conversations with believers of other faiths, yet slow to accept Jesus as THE way, truth, and life.