

Matthew 1:23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").



Great Commission Association

Connecting Churches for a Greater Harvest



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

December

Monthly Theme: <u>Advent</u>

But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

Weekly Themes:

Week 1 - Advent

Week 2 – Blessing Our Community

Week 3 – Christmas

Week 4 – Vision for the

New Year



Focus: Advent UPG: Uyghur Muslims

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa. 9:6

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Uyghur Muslims
	Dec 1: 1 Cor 9-11	Pray specifically for someone you know to come to repentance and see that without Christ they will surely perish.	Pray that the Uyghurs would rise up with identity restored, healed and bringing the Good News to the world.
	Dec 2: 1 Cor 12-14	Pray that your church family will pray regularly for every person in your community to be saved.	Pray for Uyghur government officials and those in positions of influence
	Dec 3: 1 Cor 15-16	Pray that Satan's blinders will be removed from the lost near you so they can see and understand the true gospel of Christ.	Pray for the families of Uyghurs in detention camps
	<u>Dec 4: 2 Cor 1-4</u>	Pray that the members of your church family will become just as bold in telling others that Jesus is indeed the Savior of the world.	Pray for God's plans for Xinjiang to come to pass and for the enemy's plans to be thwarted
	<u>Dec 5: 2 Cor 5-9</u>	Pray that people in your community will see that Jesus is still granting repentance and forgiveness.	Pray that people in Xinjiang would cry out to God in their time of trouble
	Dec 6: 2 Cor 10-13	Pray that your local church's members will submit to Christ's lordship, honoring Him on a daily basis.	Pray for Uyghurs in other parts of the world, such as Central Asia, Europe, and North America
	<u>Dec 7: Gal 1-3</u>	Let's praise God that because of Jesus, we are free from the clutches of eternal death.	Pray for the Uyghur Church, that Christian fellowships would be restored and strengthened



Learn about Your Uyghur Muslim Neighbors

Uyghurs are a Turkic Muslim people from Central Asia. Most reside in Xinjiang, a large autonomous province in the northwestern region of China. Around 100 years ago, many of the peoples who resided in the desert region's oases chose the name. The name 'Uyghur' is traditionally thought to mean unity or alliance to signify that they were one people. There are over 11 million Uyghur speakers in the Xinjiang area of China, though some sources say they number more than 20 million.

Nobody knows exactly how many Uyghur live in the USA, but most estimates are around 5,000. There are indications that this number continues to grow. The largest US concentration is in Washington DC, with other area concentrations in New York, Los Angeles, Houston, and the San Francisco Bay Area.



Focus: Blessing Our Community UPG: Nepalese

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for the Nepalese
	<u>Dec 8: Gal 4-6</u>	Please pause right now and thank God for the way Jesus has enabled you to experience koinonia fellowship with other believers.	Pray for a window of opportunity to share the Gospel among the Nepalese
	<u>Dec 9: Eph 1-3</u>	Pray that the members of your church family will be diligent to make certain about Christ's calling as a part of God's forever family	Pray against the many human rights abuses in Nepal
	<u>Dec 10: Eph 4-6</u>	Pray that the Christians you know will not become re-entangled in the defilements of this world.	Pray for the socio-economic needs of the Nepalese
	<u>Dec 11: Php 1-4</u>	Please pray that your church family will treasure God's Word and keep our Lord's commandments.	Pray for freedom of religion for the Nepalese
	Dec 12: Col 1-4	Pray that we will grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.	Pray for the Church in Nepal to flourish
	<u>Dec 13: 1 Thess 1-5</u>	Pray that Christians in your community will testify to the lost that God "loved us and sent His Son to be the sacrifice for our sins."	Pray for the next generation of Nepali Christians
	<u>Dec 14: 2 Thess 1-3</u>	Pray that those in your neighborhood who are afflicted by sin will be delivered by the Good News.	Pray for Christian ministries to the Nepalese



Learn about Your Nepalese Neighbors

People from Nepal are a fairly recent immigrant group to the United States, most having emigrated after 2000. Many came as political refugees, fleeing because of the political and economic difficulties caused Nepal's long Civil War. Others fled after an earthquake (magnitude of 8.1) shook the city of Kathmandu, killing almost 9,000 and leaving 3.5 million people homeless. An estimated 70,000 Nepalese speakers in the US are actually Nepalispeaking Bhutanese who fled Bhutan and were resettled in North America after 17 years in refugee camps in eastern Nepal. Additionally, tens of thousands of students leave Nepal each year for colleges and universities in the United States and the rest of the world.



Focus: The Christmas Message UPG: Afghani Muslims

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.... Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests. Luke 2:11, 13

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Afghani Muslims
	Dec 15: 1 Tim 1-6	Pray that there will be many in your city who rejoice greatly in the Lord as He clothes them with garments of salvation and righteousness.	Pray for those (Afghans) being persecuted
	<u>Dec 16: 2 Tim 1-4</u>	Pray for those around you walking in fear. "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?	Pray for reconciliation among the Afghans
	Dec 17: Titus-Phm	No matter the circumstances or challenges, pray that everyone will have the resolve of Habakkuk,	Pray for Afghan believers to seek unity
	<u>Dec 18: Heb 1-6</u>	Pray for your church's pastors and elders, asking God to make them eager to preach the gospel.	Pray for the Pashtun people to be reached for Christ. Pray for a complete Bible in print and audio.
	<u>Dec 19: Heb 7-10</u>	Pray that God will send the type of revival where all people will come to know the Savior, Jesus Christ.	Pray that God uses the Jesus film and Bible (both in Dari) to draw the Tajik people to Himself
	Dec 20: Heb 11-13	Thank God today for sending a Savior to rescue us from our sins.	Pray for the Hazara people group to believe the good news
	<u>Dec 21: James 1-5</u>	As people hear the gospel, pray that they will experience the kind of sorrow that produces repentance without regret, leading to salvation.	Pray for doors to open for the Qizilbash people group to be reached with the gospel



Learn about Your Afghan Neighbors

Afghanistan is a land of various people groups, such as Pashtun, Tajik, Qizilbash, and Hazara. Each group has its own language. Almost two-thirds of Afghanis living in the United States are ethnic Tajiks. Pashtuns are another large subgroup, representing both the Pakistani and the Afghan communities. Dari and Pashto are the 2 official national languages. Many Afghans speak more than one language.

The Pashtuns are the largest ethnic group in Afghanistan, yet there are very few Pashtun believers. The Tajik are the second largest and have emerging Christian leadership. The Hazaras make up the third largest ethnic group and are targets of persecution from the Pashtuns and the Taliban. Gospel access to the Qizilbash is limited.



Focus: Vision for the New Year UPG: Hindi-Speaking Hindus

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him." Lamentations 3:22-23

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Hindus
	Dec 22: 1 Pet 1-5	Pray that everyone will recognize the glory Jesus bears as Savior of the world.	Ask that Hindus would come across the truth of Jesus Christ through internet, Christian witness and other ways.
	Dec 23: 2 Pet 1-3	Pray that Christians will live with an increasing spiritual sensitivity and the expectation of meeting Jesus soon.	Pray for Hindus to see that we were created to be transformed into Christ's image, not to be God Himself.
	Dec 24: 1 John 1-5	Pray that people in your city will not put off or delay getting right with God (2 Corinthians 6:2).	Ask for Hindus to have a revelation of the greatness of God and that He alone is to be worshipped!
	Dec 25: 2 John - Jude	As people celebrate globally today, pray that Christ will not be seen just as an infant in a manger, but as "a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.".	Pray that God will awaken in the hearts of Hindus the understanding of right and wrong (Romans 2:15).
	<u>Dec 26: Rev 1-3</u>	Let's thank Christ Jesus again for being such a wonderful, gracious, giving Savior!	Ask that compassion will touch Hindus in all their ways and that they search for God's deeper love and compassion.
	<u>Dec 27: Rev 4-8</u>	Pray that we will wait and watch eagerly for the return of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.	Ask for encounters with the love of the Father and the Lord Jesus to lead Hindus to choose Life.
	Dec 28: Rev 9-12	Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for His faithfulness for this year and thank Him in-advance for His grace and mercy for the year ahead!	Pray that Hindus will have a revelation of the love of God and the free gift of Life forevermore.



Learn about Your Hindi-speaking Hindu Neighbors

Hindi is the majority language spoken among Asian Indians. The counties of Alameda and Santa Clara top the list for Hindi speakers in the U.S., with 80,000+ combined. Many of the Asian Indians living in the Bay Area are specialized high-tech workers here on an H1B visa. Three quarters of all of HB visa workers are from India. Of all of the cities in the US where companies request H1B workers, three Santa Clara cities are in the top ten: Sunnyvale is #4 with 12,472 requests for 2020, San Jose is #8 with 11,662 requests, and Mountain View is #10 with 9,625 requests. San Francisco is second highest in the US with 19,769 requests, but while many work there, most Indians do not live in San Francisco. These specialized workers are employed at Google, Infosys, PayPal, eBay, Wal-Mart, LinkedIn, and hundreds of other familiar companies, including perhaps, where you or members of your church work.



Focus: All Things New UPG: Punjabi-speaking Sikhs

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:5

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for the Sikhs
	Dec 29: Rev 13-16	Ask God to help you see the world with new eyes - Jesus's eyes	Pray that God stirs up a great hunger for Himself within the Sikh community
	<u>Dec 30: Rev 17-19</u>	Thank God that His mercies are new every morning!	Pray that those who cannot read be exposed to the Gospel in other ways
	Dec 31: Rev 20-22	"Come, Lord Jesus!" Pray that Jesus's presence within you draws others to His love and salvation	Pray that God calls more workers into the harvest field of the Sikh community