

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Great Commission Association

Connecting Churches for a Greater Harvest



Greatí**ssám**m Prayer Inítíatíve July Vol. 2 - Iss. 7

Monthly Theme: <u>Operation</u> <u>Great</u> <u>Commission</u>

The words of the Great Commission were not only given to the original eleven disciples. Nor were they exclusively for pastors, evangelists, and missionaries. They are for every follower of Jesus Christ. If we are His disciples, then we are commanded to go and make disciples of others. It doesn't necessarily mean we need to cross the sea. But certainly, a good start would be crossing the street to talk to a neighbor.



Week 27 – Operation Great Commission

- Week 28 Local Missions
- Week 29 Int'l Missions

Week 30 – GCA Central Region



July 1-7

Focus: Operation Great Commission UPG: Hindi-Speaking Hindus

"...Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you..." Matthew 28:18-20

\checkmark	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Hindus
	<u>Jul 1: Ps 90-95</u>	Pray that our churches fulfill the call to: Go - Disciple - Baptize - Together	Ask that Hindu eyes will see the glory and life of God and desire to search out the Creator of the universe
	<u>Jul 2: Ps 96-102</u>	Pray for the next generation to respond to Jesus' call to go out and make disciples in their cities, states, and around the world.	Pray that God will reveal Himself to millions of Hindus seeking the truth
	<u>Jul 3: Ps 103-105</u>	Ask God to provide mentors who lead, believe, and are excited to teach those responding to the call.	Pray for Hindus to realize the confusion and contradiction of their doctrines and teachings
	<u>Jul 4: Ps 106-107</u>	Ask God to equip the new leaders for difficulty and hard times to grow their endurance, character, and hope.	Continue to cry out to God for a hunger and thirst after Him to come into Hindu hearts
	<u>Jul 5: Ps 108-114</u>	Pray for the passion to grow and for protection against anything that might stop us from pursuing God's call on our life.	Pray that Hindus will come to know the one and only God who created and loves us
	<u>Jul 6: Ps 115-118</u>	Pray that we would not allow suffering to discourage us from God's calling.	Ask God to use Hindu community life to spread the good news so they become a community of faith in Jesus
	<u>Jul 7: Ps 119-: 1-88</u>	Pray that God sends more laborers to His harvest	Pray for GCA churches to adopt Hindi-speaking Hindus and pray for them



Learn about Your 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.



July 8-14

Focus: Local Missions UPG: Punjabi-Speaking Sikhs

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:37-38

Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Sikhs
Jul 8: Ps 119:89-176	Pray for our young adults to participate in local mission projects.	Pray God would heal the land and people of the Indian subcontinent from the scars of persecution
<u>Jul 9: Ps 120-132</u>	Pray for a deep passion for missions to spread among the young adults, and for God to confirm their calls into ministry.	Pray that Sikhs will be drawn to Jesus, who bore their suffering on the cross as if it were His own
Jul 10: Ps 133-139	Ask God to prepare the hearts of those who He wants to be saved during local mission projects.	Pray that Sikhs let go of the pains of their past and know the comfort and reconciliation that only God brings
Jul 11: Ps 140-145	Ask God to open our spiritual eyes during local mission project.	Pray that Sikh-background-believers would have a burden to reach their family and friends with the gospel.
Jul 12: Ps 146-150	Pray that we will see many young adults be impacted by our local mission projects	Pray that as Sikhs experience God's redemption and forgiveness, they are able to forgive others
<u>Jul 13: Prov 1-3</u>	Pray that God will confirm the call to ministry among our young adult volunteers	Sikhs have become a respected people with great influence. Pray that they use their influence to spread the Gospel
<u>Jul 14: Prov 4-6</u>	Pray churches will be encouraged to reach their communities and disciple more young adults.	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.



July 15-21

Focus: International Missions UPG: Uyghur Muslims

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. Matthew 24:14

Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Uyghur Muslims
Jul 15: Prov 7-9	Ask God to fill up mission trips with those who are eager to see the gospel spread in all nations.	Pray for Christian leaders to arise from among the Uyghur.
Jul 16: Prov 10-12	Pray for our churches to send Pastors/Leaders and to provide the resources needed.	Pray for the Chinese Church to hear and obey God's call to reach the Uyghurs.
Jul 17: Prov 13-15	Pray that God will open up partnerships with overseas pastors and organizations.	Pray for open doors for Christ followers to be granted access to the Xinjiang region.
Jul 18: Prov 16-18	Pray that God will give us all a heart for missions.	Pray for Uyghurs being detained and persecuted to meet Jesus in their isolation and suffering.
Jul 19: Prov 19-21	Pray that God uses each missionary trip to connect our hearts with His.	Pray for those in detention camps.
Jul 20: Prov 22-23	Pray that God will show us where He is working and for us to connect with His work.	Pray that Uyghur Muslims encounter Jesus when they cry out to Allah in distress.
Jul 21: Prov 24-26	Pray that our pastors make connections and that they are challenged by God to continue to participate in global missions.	Pray for the detention camps to close and oppression against Uyghurs to end.



Learn about Your Uyghur Muslim Neighbors

The core beliefs and practices of Islam are called its "Five Pillars:"

- 1. **Profession of Faith** (*shahada*). "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah"
- 2. **Prayer** (*salat*). Muslims pray facing the city of Mecca five times a day: at dawn, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset, and after dark.
- 3. **Alms** (*zakat*). Islamic law requires that Muslims donate a fixed portion of their income to community members in need.
- 4. **Fasting** (*sawm*). During the daylight hours of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, all healthy adult Muslims are required to abstain from food and drink.
- 5. **Pilgrimage** (*hajj*). Every Muslim whose health and finances permit it must make at least one visit to Mecca, their holy city, in present-day Saudi Arabia.



July 22-28

Focus: GCA Central Region UPG: Nepalese

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:8-10

\checkmark	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for the Nepalese
	Jul 22: Prov 27-29	Pray that God continues to give us Wisdom, Discernment & Love.	Pray for wisdom for Nepal's leaders
	Jul 23: Prov 30-31	Pray that GCA staff hear God's voice as they serve our Pastors, Pastors' Wives & their families.	Pray for grace and peace for the people of Nepal.
	<u>Jul 24: Ecc 1-4</u>	Pray that God opens Santiago & Graciela Rodriguez's spiritual eyes as they serve our GCA churches	Pray for discernment and wisdom for believers as they live out their faith in Jesus.
	<u>Jul 25: Ecc 5-8</u>	Pray that God continues to keep us healthy: Physically, Emotionally & Spiritually.	Pray for conversion of the high-caste Hill Brahim and Chhetri (Rajput). They represent 30.9% of Nepal's population and play a dominant role in shaping it.
	<u>Jul 26: Ecc 9-12</u>	Pray that God will continue to use GCA staff to serve Pastors, Pastors' Wives and the church leaders	Pray against the sex-trafficking of Nepali girls and for the Christian ministries attempting to rescue these children.
	Jul 27: Song of Sol	Pray that we remain focused on what God called us to do here in California, and that we avoid the distractions	Pray for the effective transfer of Christian (Nepalese) leadership between the generations
	<u>Jul 28: Is 1-4</u>	Pray for the family of Santiago and Graciela Rodriguez	Pray that Nepalese Christian leaders learn to function as tentmakers, and that congregations would learn to support their pastors as much as they are able.



Learn about Your Nepalese Neighbors

Many Nepalese immigrate to the United States in search of educational and employment opportunities. Because of Nepal's inadequate educational system, wealthy Nepalese send their children to the West for schooling. Many Nepalese students apply for work permits and eventually become citizens of the United States. However, acclimation to life in the U.S. is often a difficult process.

Many Nepalese customs and beliefs are heavily influenced by Buddhist or Hindu values. Many Nepalese American women continue to wear the Tika, a red sandalwood dot pasted on the forehead, as an indication of marriage. The word "Namaste" is a common expression. It is used for greetings such as "hello," "good morning," and "good night."



July 29-31

Focus: Public Servants UPG: Hindus

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:8-10

\checkmark	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Hindus
	<u>Jul 29: Is 5-8</u>	Pray for the civil and social workers to minister to the needy	Ask for encounters with the love of the Father and the Lord Jesus to lead Hindus to choose Life.
	<u>Jul 30: Is 9-12</u>	Pray for the legislative branch to serve the best interests of the people	Pray that Hindus will have a revelation of the love of God and the free gift of Life forevermore.
	<u>Jul 31: ls 13-17</u>	Pray for more godly candidates to run for office	Pray that God will create opportunities for committed Christians to befriend Hindus