

...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 Guide
Vol. 2 - 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 – Church Planters



Great Commission Association
Connecting Churches for a Greater Harvest



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

March 1-7

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 Nepalese</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 1: Deut 5-7	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 2: Deut 8-10	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 3: Deut 11-13	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 4: Deut 14-16	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 5: Deut 17-20	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 6: Deut 21-23	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 7: Deut 24-27	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

March 8-14

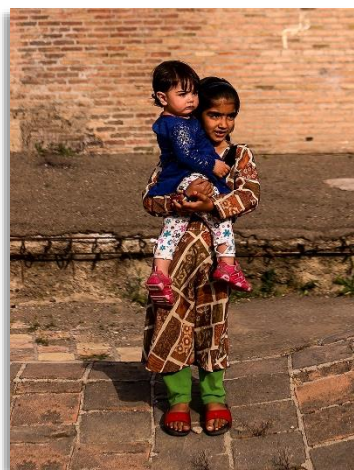
Focus: Anthem School

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>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 8: Deut 28-29	Principal Robin Young	Pray for the Kyrgyz people to find hope in Christ.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 9: Deut 30-31	Vice Principal Jonathan Ryan	Pray for the Baluch people group to find their home in Jesus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 10: Deut 32-34	Office & Support Staff	Pray for God to open doors for the Shugni people group to be reached with the gospel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 11: Josh 1-4	Staff Families	Pray for opportunities for the Wakhi people group to come to know Jesus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 12 Josh 5-8	Pray that God will grant joy and strength to Anthem school staff	Pray for restoration and healing for the Afghan people
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 13: Josh 9-11	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 14: Josh 12-15	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

March 15-21

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

✓	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for Hindus</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 15: Josh 16-18	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 16: Josh 19-21	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 17: Josh 22-24	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 18: Jud 1-2	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 19: Jud 3-5	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 20: Jud 6-7	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 21: Jud 8-9	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

March 22-28

Focus: Church Planters 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>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 22: Jud 10-12	Pray for church planters to have a strong marriage and family.	Pray God would heal the land and people of the Indian subcontinent from the scars of persecution
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 23: Jud 13-15	Pray for church planters to have opportunities to meet people and build relationships.	Pray that Sikhs will be drawn to Jesus, who bore their suffering on the cross as if it were His own
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 24: Jud 16-18	Ask God to give church planters wisdom as they develop a core team.	Pray that Sikhs let go of the pains of their past and know the comfort and reconciliation that only God brings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 25: Jud 19-21	Pray for church planters to creatively reaching the lost.	Pray that Sikh-background-believers would have a burden to reach their family and friends with the gospel.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 26: Ruth	Pray that church planters would be Kingdom minded and partner with like-minded churches and networks.	Pray that as Sikhs experience God's redemption and forgiveness, they are able to forgive others
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 27: 1Sam 1-3	Pray that church planters would have wisdom on how to strategically reach communities for Christ.	Sikhs have become a respected people with great influence. Pray that they use their influence to spread the Gospel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 28: 1Sam 4-8	Pray that church planters would persevere when they feel discouraged.	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.



Great Commission Prayer Initiative

March 29-31

Focus: Marriage

UPG: Nepalese

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh.” Mark 10:7-8

✓	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for the Nepalese</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 29 1Sam 9-12	Pray for a deeper understanding of each other	Pray for freedom of religion for the Nepalese
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 30: 1Sam 13-14	Pray to remain connected/ united during trials	Pray for the Church in Nepal to flourish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mar 31: 1Sam 15-17	Pray for resistance to temptations	Pray for the next generation of Nepali Christians