

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12



### **Great Commission Association**

Connecting Churches for a Greater Harvest



Great Commission
Prayer Initiative

September

# Monthly Theme: <u>Youth</u>

Pray that youth and young adults will become saved and fully surrender every aspect of their lives to the Lordship of Christ. Pray they abide in their relationship with God and find their identity in who they are in Christ.

## **Weekly Themes:**

Week 36 - Youth

Week 37 – Churches

Week 38 - Church Leaders

Week 39 – The Persecuted Church



Focus: Youth
UPG: Afghaní Muslims

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them". Ecclesiastes 12:1

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Afghani Muslims
	Sep 1: Ezek 9-12	Pray that the youth would be saved. Pray they have a life transformation and grow in their faith.	Pray for those Afghans being persecuted for their faith
	Sep 2: Ezek 13-15	Pray that the youth would love God's Word. Pray they would be in God's Word daily and fully submit to the Lordship of Christ.	Pray for reconciliation among the Afghans
	Sep 3: Ezek 16-17	Pray that the youth would stay in church. Pray they use their spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ.	Pray for Afghan believers to seek unity
	Sep 4: Ezek 18-20	Pray the youth would have Godly friendships. Pray that they would be encouraged by and spend time with those who display the fruits of the Spirit.	Pray for the Pashtun people to be reached for Christ. Pray for a complete Bible in print and audio.
	Sep 5: Ezek 21-22	Pray that the youth would fight temptation. Pray they would stand firm against sexual, social, and digital temptation.	Pray that God uses the Jesus film and Bible (both in Dari) to draw the Tajik people to Himself
	Sep 6: Ezek 23-24	Pray that the youth would make good choices. Pray they will have wisdom, guidance, and direction during uncertain times.	Pray for the Hazara people group to believe the good news
	Sep 7: Ezek 25-27	Pray that the youth will have discernment. Pray they would seek the truth and resist false teaching.	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: Churches UPG: Hindi-Speaking Hindus

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone.

Ephesians 2:19-20

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Hindus
	Sep 8: Ezek 28-30	Pray that churches would pursue unity. Pray that church members would forgive each other and resolve conflict Biblically.	Ask that Hindus would come across the truth of Jesus Christ and the Father through the internet, Christian witness and other ways.
	Sep 9: Ezek 31-33	Pray for faithful leaders. Pray that pastors would develop leaders to do the work of ministry.	Pray for Hindus to see that we were created to be transformed into Christ's image, not to be God Himself.
	Sep 10: Ezek 34-36	Pray for transparent, meaningful relationships. Pray for churches to meet in groups of 4 and make disciples who make disciples.	Ask for Hindus to have a revelation of the greatness of God and that He alone is to be worshipped!
	Sep 11: Ezek 37-39	Pray for the teaching and preaching of God's word. Pray that churches will have right doctrine and apply the Word of God to their lives.	Pray that God will awaken in the hearts of Hindus the understanding of right and wrong (Romans 2:15).
	Sep 12: Ezek 40-42	Pray that members would be disciple- makers. Pray that small groups will multiply and see lives transformed.	Ask that compassion will touch Hindus in all their ways and that they will start to search for the deeper meaning of love and compassion.
	Sep 13: Ezek 43-45	Pray that churches would engage their community. Pray that believers would reach their neighbors for Christ.	Ask for encounters with the love of the Father and the Lord Jesus to lead Hindus to choose Life.
	Sep 14: Ezek 46-48	Pray that believers would hunger for the ways of God. Pray that they do not get distracted by other things.	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: Church Leaders
UPG: Punjabi-Speaking Sikhs

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage for you. Hebrews 13:17

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for the Sikhs
	<u>Sep 15: Dan 1-3</u>	Pray that they would be led by God on how to carry out their work in a Godly way.	Pray for Punjab, the home of the Sikhs
	<u>Sep 16: Dan 4-6</u>	Pray that church leaders do not grow weary in doing good. Pray they are encouraged by others, the Word of God, through prayer.	Pray for the Punjabi Sikhs in the Bay Area and across the USA
	<u>Sep 17: Dan 7-9</u>	Pray for church leaders to have boldness. Pray they share their faith and speak truth with love.	Pray for the vision of planting churches among the Sikhs
	Sep 18: Dan 10-12	Pray that the church leaders would equip others for ministry service and not try to do all the church work by themselves.	Pray for the missionaries that are trying to reach the Sikhs
	Sep 19: Hos 1-7	Pray that church leaders would be led by the Holy Spirit and submit to God's will.	Pray that God uses Sikhism's rejection of the caste system to unify Sikhs into a church that recognizes equality among believers
	<u>Sep 20: Hos 8-14</u>	Pray that church leaders would have humility, seek to give God the glory in everything they do and work as a team.	Pray that Sikh-background-believers share the gospel with others regardless of caste and class divisions
	Sep 21: Joel	Pray for unity and love in the leaders' families. Pray that they not make church work their number one priority.	Pray that one day millions of believers from Sikh, Hindu and Muslim backgrounds will worship at God's throne



#### Learn about Your Punjabi-speaking Sikh Neighbors

Punjabis were some of the first immigrants from South Asia to the United States. Initially, Punjabis worked on farms, then lumber yards and on railroad construction. Many eventually became successful landowners and farmers. More recently, many have excelled in technology fields. For example, the cofounders of Hotmail and Sun Microsystems are both Punjabi. The University of California, Santa Cruz has a Sikh studies program.

The Sikhs worship in gurdwaras. Another function of every gurdwara is the Langar, a free community kitchen where people of all faiths are invited to share a vegetarian meal together. There are gurdwaras in the Bay Area cities of Livermore, Union City, San Mateo, Milpitas, Fremont, Santa Rosa, San Jose, Hayward, and Santa Clara.



## Focus: The Persecuted Church UPG: Uyghur Muslims

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:11 - 12

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for Uyghur Muslims
	Sep 22: Amos 1-5	Pray the persecuted believers stand strong and witness with faithfulness. Pray they do not give up in doing good.	Pray for a spirit of forgiveness and that Uyghur Christians will actively forgive.
	Sep 23: Amos 6-9	Pray that the persecuted believers find joy in trials. Pray they hold onto hope during difficult times.	Pray that Uyghur Christians would sense God's presence and peace.
	Sep 24: Oba-Jonah	Pray for persecuted believers have continued hope. Pray they hold onto God's promises when they are in despair.	Pray that Uyghur Christians would pray with hope and fervor.
	Sep 25: Micah	Pray the Holy Spirit would strengthen persecuted believers. Pray they listen and obey God when He speaks through his Word, circumstances, or another believer.	Pray for prayer movements to cover the Uyghur's situation, and for God to reveal strategies in prayer for the Uyghurs.
	Sep 26: Nahum	Pray that persecuted believers would have access to the Bible. Pray that they memorize God's word and are encouraged by those verses.	Pray for Uyghur believers to be released from detention camps
	Sep 27: Hab-Zeph	Pray for persecuted believers' families. Pray that families would grow closer together as they suffer for Christ.	Pray that God would call and equip missionaries to the Uyghurs
	Sep 28: Haggai	Pray that persecuted believers would have wisdom on how to share the gospel. Pray they know what to say and when to share the gospel with the lost.	Pray for GCA churches to adopt the Uyghurs and pray for them



#### Learn about Your Uyghur Muslim Neighbors

Most Uyghurs are from Xinjiang, a province in China. Today, Xinjiang is a police state. Over a million Uyghur are in internment camps, experiencing imprisonment and torture. Their children are forced to live at state-run boarding schools. Their language, culture and religion are being systematically abolished and they are being brainwashed to join the Communist Party. For these reasons, Uyghurs are attempting to flee, with some finding asylum in the United States.

Most Uyghur follow a kind of folk Islam. In the United States, local mosques are adopting them. There are various Christian resources for Uyghur in their language. Joshuaproject.net has links to Bibles, The Jesus Film, videos, and more information about the Uyghurs.



Focus: Discipleship UPG: Nepalese

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them". Ecclesiastes 12:1

1	Read thru the Bible	Focus Prayer Points	Pray for the Nepalese
	Sep 29: Zech 1-7	Pray for the training of new leaders in churches	Pray for freedom of religion for the Nepalese
	Sep 30: Zech 8-14	Pray for the Youth Ministry in local churches	Pray for the Church in Nepal to flourish