



*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*



## *Great Commission Prayer Initiative*

*November 2021*

*Vol. 1 - Iss. 11*

### *Monthly Theme:* *Gratitude*

Grumbling and gratitude are, for the child of God, in conflict. Be grateful and you won't grumble. Grumble and you won't be grateful.

- Billy Graham

### *Weekly Themes:*

Week 45 – Gratitude

Week 46 – Thanks for  
Salvation and Faith

Week 47 – Thanksgiving

Week 48 – IMB/ Lottie  
Moon Offering



**Great Commission Association**  
Connecting Churches for a Greater Harvest



# Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 45: November 7-13, 2021

*Focus: Gratitude*

*UPG: Nepalese*

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thess 5:16-18*

✓	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for the Nepalese</u>
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 7: John 3-4</u>	Pray that God opens our eyes to recognize the blessings in our lives	Pray for wisdom for Nepal's leaders
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 8: John 5-6</u>	Ask God to help you appreciate and enjoy the people around you today	Pray for grace and peace for the people of Nepal.
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 9: John 7-8</u>	Thank God for 2 recent occasions of His provision for you or your family	Pray for discernment and wisdom for believers as they live out their faith in Jesus.
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 10: John 9-10</u>	Ask God to expose any spirit of entitlement in our hearts and replace it with thankfulness	Pray for conversion of the high-caste Hill Brahmin and Chhetri (Rajput). They represent 30.9% of Nepal's population and play a dominant role in shaping it.
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 11: John 11-12</u>	Pray for opportunities to express gratitude to those around you	Pray against the sex-trafficking of Nepali girls and for the Christian ministries rescuing these children.
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 12: John 13-15</u>	Ask God to fill you with thankfulness for the future He has promised you in heaven	Pray for the effective transfer of Christian (Nepalese) leadership between the generations
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Nov 13: John 16-18</u>	Pray for the Holy Spirit to increase your understanding of the "unfathomable riches" of living in Christ	Pray that Nepalese Christian leaders would learn to function as tentmakers, and that congregations would 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."





# Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 46: November 14-20, 2021

## Focus: Thanks for Salvation & Faith UPG: Afghani Muslims

*Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16*

✓	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for Afghani Muslims</u>
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 14: John 19-21</a>	Thank Jesus for sacrificing His life for us "while we were yet sinners" and had no desire or love for Him	Pray for the Afghan believers to grow in maturity in their walk with the Lord and share the gospel with others
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 15: Acts 1-3</a>	Praise God for His kindness toward both believers and unbelievers, and ask for grace to have the same heart for others	Pray for the over 60,000 Afghans in the Bay Area, that God would soften their hearts to the gospel of Jesus
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 16: Acts 4-6</a>	Thank the Holy Spirit for indwelling us and helping us to "work out our salvation in [reverent] fear and trembling"	Pray for peace through Jesus to come to Afghanistan after 40 years of war in the country
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 17: Acts 7-8</a>	Praise God for being the author and finisher of our faith, and that He is at work within us to accomplish His will	Pray for the over 2.5 million Afghan refugees in the world! Pray that God will mobilize his to reach out to their Afghan neighbors
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 18: Acts 9-10</a>	Praise God that there is "now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Ask God to help you view the past through the truth of this verse	Pray for unity in Christ for the worldwide Afghan church that they might reach their own people together. Pray for a pure gospel to be proclaimed
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 19: Acts 11-13</a>	Take time today to thank God for the wonderful promise of eternal life with Him in heaven	Pray for the many remote ministries that are designed to reach Afghans via the internet, television, and radio.
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 20: Acts 14-15</a>	Thank God for choosing you to become His child and join the Family of God	Pray for the many Afghan "secret believers" who are isolated from other believers, that they might find fellowship and not fear.



### *Learn about Your Afghan Neighbors*

Multiple sources say that the Bay Area, especially Fremont, hosts the largest Afghan population in the US. There is a cultural and commercial district called Little Kabul in Fremont, which serves as a hub for Afghans.

The most common form of greeting among Afghan women is hugging and kissing 3 times; men are more likely to put their hand over their chest and/or shake hands. Physical contact with a person of the opposite gender is avoided, except with close family.

Hospitality is important to the culture, and visitors are treated with much respect. Meals are often served while sitting on the floor. Zabihah.com lists local halal eating establishments and the kind of ethnic food served at each, making it easy to find restaurants owned and managed by people from Afghanistan.



# Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 47: November 21-27, 2021

*Focus: Thanksgiving*

*UPG: Hind-Speaking Hindus*

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7*

✓	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for Hindus</u>
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 21: Acts 16-17</a>	Thank God for transforming us spiritually as we walk with Him	Pray for Hindus worldwide to hunger and thirst for a deeper truth than what they currently believe
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 22: Acts 18-20</a>	Praise Jesus for being our Prince of Peace	Ask that God will supernaturally answer Hindus in their search, and many would turn to follow Christ as the one and only Truth.
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 23: Acts 21-23</a>	Thank God for being our Jehovah-Rapha, the God who heals	Pray that in their search to know 'god,' Hindus will come to understand the triune God of heaven
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 24: Acts 24-26</a>	Think of loved ones who have passed away and take time to thank God for their impact on your life	Pray that Hindus will come to understand that God has given them eternal life only through His Son.
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 25: Acts 27-28</a>	Give thanks to God for the gift of earthly family and the eternal gift of being part of the Heavenly Family	Pray that Hindus will understand that Jesus Christ is the only WAY to truth and reality
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 26: Rom 1-3</a>	Praise God for being our all-sufficient Provider, our Jehovah-Jireh	Ask that many Hindus would start exploring the Bible with hearts and minds opened to Jesus
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 27: Rom 4-7</a>	Thank Jesus for praying before the Father on our behalf	Pray that Hindus will become hungry and thirsty to have a personal relationship with the living God



## *Learn about Your Hindi-speaking Hindu Neighbors*

Hindi refers to a language and Hindu refers to a religion. Around 80% of India identifies as Hindu, and Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world. It includes a wide range of beliefs, ideas, practices, philosophies, and traditions, and signifies a way of life. Hinduism does not teach belief in one god, nor in one prophet. For most Hindus, there is a unifying belief in Dharma, which includes certain duties, laws, conduct, and virtues that become essentially a right way of living.

There are 42,000 Hindu speakers in Santa Clara County that are five years and older. Many are short term workers and students who will return to India in a few years. Those who stay have ongoing relationships with family and friends in their home country. Most are able to speak English, so English speakers of many backgrounds can reach out to them.



# Great Commission Prayer Initiative

Week 48: November 28 – December 4, 2021

## Focus: *IMB/Lottie Moon Offering* UPG: *Punjabi-speaking Sikhs*

...store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. *Matthew 6:19.*

	<u>Read thru the Bible</u>	<u>Focus Prayer Points</u>	<u>Pray for the Sikhs</u>
Sun. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 28: Rom 8-10</a>	Pray for God's protection on our IMB missionaries and their families as they share the Gospel and disciple new believers	Pray God would put believers in the paths of Sikhs, and that gospel conversations would begin
Mon. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 29: Rom 11-13</a>	Ask God to send more workers into the harvest locally and globally. Pray for sensitivity and courage to share	Pray that God would allow you to meet a Sikh and have the chance to share the gospel with them.
Tue. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Nov 30: Rom 14-16</a>	Pray that God provide the IMB with the necessary resources of money, key relationships, and volunteers	Pray that Sikhs would understand that they cannot earn God's grace; forgiveness is through Jesus.
Wed. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Dec 1: 1 Cor 1-4</a>	Pray for our IMB missionaries to experience the Spirit's guidance, the Father's love and Christ's perfect peace despite spiritual opposition.	Pray that Sikh-background-believers would have a burden to reach their family and friends with the gospel.
Thu. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Dec 2: 1 Cor 5-8</a>	Pray that the lost in your area will understand that salvation comes not by good deeds, but through faith and trust in Jesus Christ	Pray that Sikh-background-believers would remain firm in their faith despite all persecution and suffering.
Fri. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Dec 3: 1 Cor 9-11</a>	Pray that at some point today, the Holy Spirit will point someone you know to Jesus, convicting them of sin, righteousness, and judgment	Pray that Sikh-background-believers would maintain a good testimony before their family and friends.
Sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Dec 4: 1 Cor 12-14</a>	Pray that your church family will have the kind of heart eager to point people to the Savior.	Pray that illiteracy among Sikhs, especially among women, would not hinder the expansion of the gospel.



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

About 148,000 Punjabi speakers live in California. Almost 30,000 of those reside in the Bay Area. Most have roots in the Punjab region of northern India and Pakistan, where Sikhism is practiced by the majority.

There are five Sikh religious symbols: Kesh (uncut hair), Kara (a steel bracelet), Kanga (a wooden comb), Kaccha (cotton underwear) and Kirpan (steel sword). Sikhs (especially men) who wear turbans as part of their religious heritage are sometimes mistaken for Muslims or Arabs, but they are neither. Sikhism is a completely different world religion and is not related to Islam at all. Most people you see wearing turbans in California are Sikh. They assemble and worship in gurdwaras, which means "door to the guru." There are many gurdwaras in Bay Area cities.