# PRAYER FOCUS

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#### **BHUTAN**

#### IMMEASURABLE LOVE

In 2018, we shared with you about a lady pastor named Sangmu (not her real name) concerning her unwavering faith in the midst of persecution.

Last year we had a chance to talk to her. She shared about how God is continually moving in her ministry. God reveals Himself in ways that prove His power among the unbelievers in her village.

A religious leader in their village used to practice black magic. He was able to heal the sick with his power and he earned a lot of money doing this. When his daughter became a Christian, she tried to share the gospel with him but to no avail. Some time later, he was afflicted by an evil spirit; his arm was folded to his chest for over a month and he could not move it. He could not apply his black magic to himself. After much suffering, he asked his daughter to call for Pastor Sangmu's help. "I earned so much money doing black magic. Now it's all gone like the wind. I am a sinner. What do I do?" he asked. Pastor Sangmu led him to the Lord, prayed over him and continued to pray for him for a week and he was healed. Recently he was baptized in water. Now he goes round the village, spreading the good news. He always carries his Bible with him, testifying to the people, declaring, "Hey, this is the true God! God healed



A new church was recently built to accommodate 30 families in the village.

me. You should believe in Him," he says.

Pastor Sangmu witnessed another miracle: A villager who opposed the church suffered swelling from head to toe and had been bedridden for four months. The hospital rejected him because they didn't know his illness. He tried to conduct significant Buddhist rituals, but nothing helped. His family could not touch him because of his fresh wounds. They had to burn incense to expel the smell. His skin would stick to the bedsheets. Pastor Sangmu and other church members visited him daily.



cleaning his wounds and prayed for him. He was completely healed after three days. Now his wife and three children are all Christians. Praise God for these miracles! Four backslidden families were also brought back to the Lord as they witnessed God's power.

Let us remember Pastor Sangmu and her church members, who have wholly entrusted their lives to God. When asked how much she loves Jesus, with teary eyes, Pastor Sangmu replies, "It cannot be measured!". What great love! What great faith! May the Spirit of God move mightily in their midst so that many more will know and see the power of the Almighty God who can save and set them free. Pray for these tribal Christians to remain steadfast amid persecution. Declare blessings and provisions upon them as they faithfully bring souls to God's Kingdom. Thirty families are now part of Pastor Sangmu's church. Pray that more will be added to their number.

"And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

Mark 16:17-18 (NIV)

### Prayer Calendar February 2022

**1** (TUE) <u>BHUTAN</u> Pray that more Christians in Bhutan be anointed to move in signs and wonders to show the power of the Almighty God over evil spirits.

**2** (WED) BHUTAN Pray that those who experience persecution will remain steadfast and have boldness to proclaim the truth of the Gospel.

**3** (THU) <u>KAREN BORDER</u> <u>COMMUNITIES</u> Pray for the Karen people - men, women, and children who are again on the run. Pray for God's comfort and protection upon them. Pray for the fighting between the Karen forces and the Burmese army to cease.

## 4 (FRI) <u>KAREN BORDER</u> <u>COMMUNITIES</u>

Over 1,000 people have made the cowshed their temporary shelter because of the ongoing war. Pray for God's provision upon them. May their spirits not be crushed because of the hardship they endure daily.

**5/6** (SAT/SUN) <u>NEPAL</u> Pray that the government creates policies to open up more economic opportunities for women.

**7** (MON) <u>NEPAL</u> 30-40 women will participate in the empowerment training this month in West Nepal. Pray for the safety of the trainees and trainers as they travel; and for a fruitful time together.

Montagnard Evangelical Church of Christ reported being harassed last December; with their pastor allegedly beaten. But the authorities denied this. Pray for the safety of these Christians as they constantly face persecution.

**9** (WED) <u>VIETNAM</u> Pray that the plans of the Churches for evangelism in 2022 be carried through without interruption. May they freely visit villages and share the Gospel despite the Covid

situation. Pray for God's protection upon them.

10 (THU) <u>VIETNAM</u> Pray for the printing and delivery of tribal bibles in different languages.

**11** (FRI) <u>LAOS</u> Pastor Khamphone Kounthapanya, President of the Lao Evangelical Church, has gone to be with the Lord. Pray that able leaders will continue the work he has started among the Lao Christian community.

**12/13** (SAT/SUN) <u>LAOS</u> Pray for salvation to come upon the hill tribes who are blinded with fear as they offer animal sacrifices to appease spirits.

**14** (MON) <u>BANGLADESH</u> Pray that authorities allow opportunities for the Rohingya refugees to earn a living to sustain their daily needs. Bangladesh authorities bulldozed more than 3,000 Rohingya-run shops, saying they were illegal.

**15** (TUE) <u>BANGLADESH</u> Pray for deliverance from extreme poverty as the government tries to improve the economy.

**16** (WED) PAKISTAN Pray for the plan to establish an education center, which will compete against a "Madrassa" (religious school for 'Jihadi' mindset). Let the love of God be made known to these children.

**17** (THU) <u>PAKISTAN</u> Pray for the twenty five young women who were converted due to the empowerment program for women. Pray as they prepare for water baptism. May they not be moved even amid opposition.

**18** (FRI) <u>MYANMAR</u> There is no sign of any efforts by the military authorities to stop violations against human rights. Pray God will convict the military leaders of their grievous acts and relent from further atrocities.

**19/20** (SAT/SUN) MYANMAR to a UN Humanitarian Needs Overview, the turmoil

that the nation is facing is projected to have driven almost half the population into poverty heading into 2022. Pray for God's mercy and provision upon Myanmar.

**21** (MON) <u>AFGHANISTAN</u> Millions of Afghans are at risk of famine following the Taliban's takeover. However, sanctions are complicating efforts to send aid to revive the economy. Pray for an effective solution to this struggling nation.

**22** (TUE) <u>CAMBODIA</u> Almost 14 million of the population are Buddhists. Pray that they will open their hearts as they hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**23** (WED) <u>CAMBODIA</u> Over 60% of Cambodia's 16.9 million population are youth (under age thirty). Pray that both government and private entities prioritize youth development to secure the future of this young generation.

**24** (THU) <u>SRI LANKA</u> Pray for the government to be guided in making decisions that will address the economic crisis that has plagued the nation in recent months.

**25** (FRI) INDIA Hindu mobs recently attacked churches, congregations in prayer, and groups in cities and towns across India. Pray that these mobs will come to the saving knowledge of Christ our Savior.

26/27 (SAT/SUN) INDIA Christians and their Hindu neighbors enjoyed social harmony until the end of the 1990s. Sadly, anti-Christian violence increased in the following years. Pray for peace among Hindu and Christian believers.

**28** (MON) <u>CHINA</u> Many believers in China hold on to God's word in Matthew 10:28, which says, "Don't be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul." Pray that they will stand firm in faith even when their bodies are beaten.