

PRAYER FOCUS

Published by Ethnos Asia Ministries (EAM) as a Prayer Guide on Access-Restricted Nations in Asia (ARNA).

VIETNAM

TOGETHER IN UNITY

After many years of restrictions on Christians, the Vietnamese government finally softened its stand, approving their request for a two-day Spring Love Festival, where American Evangelist Franklin Graham was invited to preach the Gospel. From an officially-approved crowd of 5,000, the organizers received a total registration of 20,000 and when the event finally started, over 42,000 people came.

The local Christians had been preparing for this event since 2018. More than 70 denominations joined together in unity and mobilized churches to pray. Every day, they prayed for the people; Christians, non-Christians, and the government. They trained Christians in the local churches to effectively share the gospel.

During this preparation period, the Vietnam Evangelical Alliance (VEA) was launched, forging the unity of North and South Vietnam churches, both official and underground house churches. Foremost leaders came together, asking God what to do since evangelical Christians comprised only 2% of the population. They needed to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom and they decided to invite Franklin Graham to come. It was not possible in 2019, so they postponed to 2020 but then the pandemic came. However, it became an opportunity for Christians to reach out with food, medicines, clothes, and basic necessities, regardless of religious affiliation. The



Over 4,500 souls crowded the stage to receive Christ during the Franklin Graham crusade.

government saw this. In December 2022, just before Christmas, the church leaders submitted their request to hold the Crusade. Approval was given in February.

Praise God for His favor. The 4-5 March event resulted in over 4,500 people signing decision cards to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. We believe that there were more. The stage was crowded, full of people coming forward to receive Christ.

Our country team reported, “More than 80 different denominations, with 300 local churches, came together in unity. This is

what we are concerned about — how to teach the new believers to grow in Jesus Christ. I believe that the Sow for the Harvest (SowH) discipleship manual is one of the best materials we can use. We want to work with Ethnos Asia to spread this to the 300 churches. We want to mobilize all the churches across the country to pray, to do evangelism and discipleship. We also want to raise a younger generation of leaders in the country and to follow up on what happened in the past.”

Praise God for the new converts who have been added to the church. May each be channeled to the right church to nurture them into maturity. Pray that the unity of the church be preserved and remain strong for the furtherance of the Gospel.

Our country team is coordinating with main church leaders for the SowH Discipleship Training. Pray as we reach out to the 300 churches to strengthen them with this training.

Let us continue to stand guard as intercessors for Vietnam. God is doing a great thing in this nation!



“Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in breaking of bread, and in prayers.” Acts 2:41-42 (NKJV)

Prayer Calendar September 2023

Karen leaders will be zealous in coordinating the work to provide for their people's needs.

giving discipleship and agricultural training to Christian farmers and leaders.

1 (FRI) VIETNAM Pray for churches to strengthen and prepare their young people to lead the next generation of believers.

2/3 (SAT/SUN) VIETNAM Pray for Christians in the business world to be used by God to bring the Gospel to their peers.

4 (MON) CAMBODIA Pray for more women to be empowered through the Deborah leadership training.

5 (TUE) CAMBODIA Pray as we encourage young Christian leaders to pursue their call to serve the Body of Christ in Indo-China.

6 (WED) CHINA Pray for the hardened Communist leaders to see their need for Christ.

7 (THU) CHINA Pray against the government's plan to rewrite the Scriptures that include Confucian and Buddhist concepts in their efforts to 'sinicize' religion.

8 (FRI) SRI LANKA Pray for our country team as they make the gospel known by educating special children in their communities.

9/10 (SAT/SUN) SRI LANKA Pray for the new government leaders to lead the country out of the economic crisis.

11 (MON) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES Pray for God's guidance and protection upon our missionaries working among the Karen people.

12 (TUE) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES Pray that our

13 (WED) NE INDIA Pray as our country team strengthens and helps rebuild the lives of those affected by the crisis in Manipur, where over 300 churches were destroyed due to the violent clashes between warring tribes.

14 (THU) NE INDIA Pray for the Deborah Training on 1 and 2 October. At least 100 women are expected to come.

15 (FRI) MYANMAR Pray against the atrocities the military junta continues to commit against their citizens.

16/17 (SAT/SUN) MYANMAR Praise God for the new graduates from our country team's Bible School. Pray that their desire to serve God will grow deeper as they face new challenges.

18 (MON) PAKISTAN Pray for the Christian Pakistani diaspora to be equipped and used by God to spread the Gospel to the Muslim communities.

19 (TUE) PAKISTAN Pray for God's protection of Christians who are constantly threatened due to the anti-blasphemy law.

20 (WED) LAOS Pray as Bru pastors and leaders prepare for the Bru training in November.

21 (THU) LAOS Pray that our country teams remain in good health as they do the work of the ministry.

22 (FRI) LAOS Pray for our Harvest Centers to serve their purpose of spreading the gospel and

23/24 (SAT/SUN) BANGLADESH Pray for a fair National election set in January 2024.

25 (MON) BANGLADESH Pray for the safety of Rohingya refugees in the camps. The authorities reported that armed groups killed over 40 Rohingya in 2022, and at least 48 were killed in the first half of 2023.

26 (TUE) BANGLADESH Pray as our country team coordinates with different churches to conduct SowH training in 14 districts.

27 (WED) ETHNIC TIBETAN Pray as leaders of the Tibetan Evangelical Alliance meet every month to plan, encourage and update one another concerning the ministry.

28 (THU) NORTH KOREA Pray for the children in North Korea who are taught to worship the country's rulers from a very young age. May they be set free from this bondage.

29 (FRI) NORTH KOREA Pray for supernatural intervention as secret believers find ways to make the Gospel known to their loved ones.

30 (SAT) AFGHANISTAN According to a UN report, conditions for women and girls in Afghanistan are the "worst globally". Pray that the Taliban will change hearts and allow women to be counted in society.