



BMS Prayer Guide 2023

Pray with BMS World Mission from **September to December**



Welcome

to the third issue of the *BMS World Mission Prayer Guide 2023*.

"Oh Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I plead my case to you, and watch." (Psalm 5: 3, NRSV)

By the time I had the privilege of taking over from Laura as *Prayer Guide* editor, she had already commissioned our Nepal-based mission worker Jenny Saunders to pen the welcome to the last edition. It means I have had to wait until this my second issue to introduce myself.

Back in the summer of 2017, not long after becoming a Christian, I attended an event at Blackfriars Hall in Oxford. Father Andrew Pinsent, a Catholic priest and particle physicist, spoke that day about his time as a novitiate and of asking his spiritual director how he should be praying.

"Start with the psalms and then come back to me," was the reply. Father Pinsent has

a very big brain, five degrees, a DPhil and a PhD, and so he learnt all 150 by heart. The result was, he told us, "a cathedral in his mind", a place to which he could always return to meet with God.

I have never forgotten that phrase; it haunts me as part-challenge, part-promise. There are 125 days marked by this edition of the *Prayer Guide*. My brain isn't big enough to commit 125 psalms to heart, but I do commit to praying a psalm a day alongside that day's BMS prayer. And perhaps in so doing, I may be able to build at least a "chapel in my mind".

God bless you,

Matty Fearon
Prayer Guide editor



Photo:
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Front and back cover photos:
BMS has been working with Nepali villagers to equip their whole community to access better education, improve their livelihoods, and have good health – with your prayers, they can do it. Photo: © Clive Thomas and Laura Durrant for BMS World Mission.

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The Baptist Missionary Society: registered in England and Wales as a charity (number 1174364) and a company limited by guarantee (number 10849689).



Pray for guidance for BMS World Mission as we steward the privilege of working with others and telling stories of both joy and difficulty around the world.

Creating safe spaces

27 Aug to 2 Sept

In James 1: 27 we are told to look after the widow and orphan. BMS World Mission takes this mandate seriously and looks to ensure all who encounter the organisation feel safe and are cared for with dignity and respect. This week we are praying for those working to create safe spaces for all.

☐ SUNDAY 27

Louise Lynch is our safeguarding champion for Asia. She works alongside our partners in Asia to encourage good, culturally appropriate policies and practices that promote safe spaces for all people. Pray for her as she navigates delicate conversations and cultural complexities.

☐ MONDAY 28

BMS has the privilege of working with others and telling stories of both joy and difficulty around the world. Pray that we would do this sensitively and wisely, honouring those who have trusted us with their life stories.

☐ TUESDAY 29

Today we pray for strength and wisdom for our partner the Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fellowship (UCLF). UCLF go into schools and communities to educate families about children's rights and protections, and support those who may need help bringing a legal case.

☐ WEDNESDAY 30

While in the UK safeguarding is understood, there are areas of the world where not all people are protected. Pray for those who live in these places, that all people will be safe and live without fear.

☐ THURSDAY 31

Pray for our BMS workers who are challenging exploitative cultures, creating safe spaces and standing up for the oppressed. Pray they would have courage to speak or act in ways that encourage others to think or act differently.

☐ FRIDAY 1

Pray for the BMS safeguarding team and for our Trustees with responsibility for safeguarding, that they would be wise in making decisions, implementing policies and supporting people in difficult situations.

☐ SATURDAY 2

BMS seeks to be an organisation where all people flourish. Pray that we would be able to fulfil that vision and would be a safe space for all.



Those who teach have an eternal impact on our children; we can never tell where their influence ends.

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Education

3-9 September

Education expert Brad Johnson writes that “relationships are the foundation of education”. Relationship is at the heart of all BMS seeks to do in the name of education. Pray that the glory of our Lord Jesus will be seen across our global educational programmes.

SUNDAY 3

In poor, rural areas of Bangladesh, BMS partner BBCS SHED runs the Children’s Education Project (CEP), with more than 30 church-led early learning centres. Please pray for excellent relationships with the children and their families.

MONDAY 4

Pray for BBCS SHED as it inducts a new Director, while also seeking a well qualified Lead Education Officer for the CEP. Pray that the early years educators will foster a love of learning among the children, creating a lasting legacy.

TUESDAY 5

Pray for BMS partner KISC EQUIP, who train teachers in Nepal, and BMS partner workers Dil and Krishna. Pray that their training seminars will bring about positive change in the classroom, and that strong friendships will permit crucial conversations about life and faith.

WEDNESDAY 6

Lift up BMS partner Kathmandu International Study Centre (KISC) in Nepal. Pray for the recruitment of excellent teachers who will provide high-quality education for their students.

THURSDAY 7

Covid-19 has affected our work in East Asia, but lecturers continue to build relationships online. Pray for good internet connections, which will facilitate student and lecturer interactions online.

FRIDAY 8

In Ghusel, Nepal, teachers asked for help to improve facilities. Pray for our partner MCDS as they serve this wonderfully resourceful community and guide people towards positive educational outcomes.

SATURDAY 9

Teachers have an eternal impact; they can never tell where their influence ends. Give thanks for a teacher who influenced you, that BMS-supported teachers will be godly examples.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



© Clive Thomas for BMS World Mission

Empowering people and giving them a sense of ownership and togetherness fosters long-term unity.

Mobilising communities

10-16 September

BMS is starting to grow its Church and Community Mobilisation (CCM) work. In CCM, two things happen. Firstly, churches are encouraged to be more outward facing and see the positive role they can have in their communities. Secondly, churches are equipped to recognise the resources their communities already have, and to take ownership of the development they want to see.

SUNDAY 10

Thank God that through CCM, communities can recognise the resources they have and start using these to meet their needs. This has empowered people and given them a sense of ownership.

MONDAY 11

CCM helps people to see that poverty is not God's plan: there is potential within people to change their situations. Thank God that through the CCM Bible studies, people realise God has given us all gifts, talents and resources.

TUESDAY 12

Thank God for the 28 people in Nepal who are being trained to facilitate CCM. Praise God that CCM has enabled churches to build good relationships with community members and government officials. Churches have gained respect and recognition in their communities.

WEDNESDAY 13

Self-help groups are a key component of CCM. Thank God that through these groups people can save money and access loans, enabling them to start businesses and meet their needs.

THURSDAY 14

CCM uses Bible studies to help churches consider what it means to be "salt and light". Thank God that in Nepal this has led to Christians supporting the most vulnerable in the community.

FRIDAY 15

In Uganda, BMS partner JLH is planning to start CCM. Pray for them as they make their plans and identify facilitators to be trained.

SATURDAY 16

The widow in 2 Kings 4: 1-7 thought her situation was hopeless. But she learnt that a mere drop of oil could be used to overcome her challenges. Praise God that CCM gives communities hope.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



AMAC's legal education work raises awareness of the rights of widows, women and children.

Mozambique

17-23 September

Mozambique gained independence less than 50 years ago. It's developing rapidly in its cities, while subsistence farming is still the norm in most rural areas. The threat of hurricanes is very real, and the country is still recovering from the damage caused by Cyclone Idai in 2019.

SUNDAY 17

Pray for peace in Cabo Delgado Province, where an Islamist group has been killing people since 2017 and many people have been displaced from their homes.

MONDAY 18

The new board of the Baptist Convention of Mozambique took up its responsibilities in August. Ask God to give them wisdom and vision, and pray that they will govern with transparency and strong leadership so that believers in their churches will grow in their faith.

TUESDAY 19

Carlos Jone has been appointed as temporary pastor of the First Baptist Church in Beira following the death of Pastor Mosse. Pray for strength and wisdom as he leads the church while also working with self-help groups and supporting farmers in an agroforestry project in Sussundenga.

WEDNESDAY 20

Elections in October will appoint the mayors in many cities. Pray that this process will be peaceful and that all parties will accept the results.

THURSDAY 21

Lift up a new sewing project for widows and the most marginalised in Beira. Pray that it will provide a sustainable income for those in the greatest need.

FRIDAY 22

AMAC provides legal aid and mediation services for vulnerable people in Beira and Maputo. Pray that this work will bring justice to many who would otherwise be unable to access legal services.

SATURDAY 23

BMS worker Jane Edwards supports AMAC in their Beira and Maputo offices. Pray that their legal education work will raise awareness of family, land and labour laws and protect the rights of widows, women and children.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



The role of women in daily life has been seriously curtailed under the de facto Afghan government.

Afghanistan

24-30 September

Since the arrival of the de facto government in 2021, the work performed by international organisations in Afghanistan, including BMS' local partner, has been hit by bans targeting the participation of women and girls in public life. This week, we lift up this troubled nation to the Lord.

SUNDAY 24

Pray that the de facto government will be moved by compassion and will fully identify with the Afghan people's many needs. May the government promote a climate of freedom instead of oppression and fear, mercy instead of inhumane bans, and forgiveness instead of hate.

MONDAY 25

Pray for the security situation in Afghanistan and for physical safety for BMS' local partner staff, their families and those served through their work. Pray especially for safe travel in their daily commutes.

TUESDAY 26

Lift up BMS' local partner's distribution of food and basic supplies to support the poorest families while they wait for the agricultural season. Pray that the rainy season will be on time and the harvest will be plentiful.

WEDNESDAY 27

Pray for physical and spiritual protection for BMS worker Ruby. Pray that her agricultural work produces not just food to sustain a family's physical needs, but fruits of hope for a better future.

THURSDAY 28

Remember Afghan women and girls who are stuck at home, banned from primary, secondary and university education. Pray that they will soon be able to resume their studies.

FRIDAY 29

Lift up BMS workers Arthur and Reeta as they continue learning the language and culture. Pray for strong local friendships, and that they will experience God's presence in all they do.

SATURDAY 30

Pray for the leaders of BMS' local partner. Ask God to grant them protection, freedom, wisdom, creativity and the resources needed to continue supporting those living in poverty.



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We pray that the children of Gulu will grow up healthy and safe, with harvest enough for all.

Uganda

1-7 October

Uganda is a beautiful country, but opportunities to grow abundant food have been stolen because of poverty, changing weather, cost of living crises, and knowledge lost during the civil war. Through our *Days of Plenty Harvest* appeal, you and BMS World Mission partners are coming alongside farmers to help navigate these challenges.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!

☐ SUNDAY 1

BMS partners JLH and Cek Cam are helping Ugandan farmers diversify their farming, protect their crops, navigate changing weather and then store and sell their crops at a good price. Please pray for the strengthening of relationships in this season.

☐ WEDNESDAY 4



BMS agriculturist **Genesis Acaye** has been key to developing relationships of trust with the farmers. Please pray for protection over

Genesis and his family as he continues to build new relationships.

☐ MONDAY 2

JLH are always looking to grow the number of their workers who can meet the spiritual needs of people in Gulu, northern Uganda. Please pray for the extra funding required to cover the wages of these workers.

☐ THURSDAY 5

Barbara and her family are at the heart of the appeal. Pray that this harvest, families like Barbara's in Uganda and across the world would experience the abundant life made possible by Jesus.

☐ TUESDAY 3

Cek Cam is a collective established to give farmers the chance to sell their crop in bulk as a response to rapacious buyers. Please pray for the prophetic imagination that leads to such initiatives, where the good of the people wins out against Mammon.

☐ FRIDAY 6

Thank God that through gifts given at harvest time and the work done by Genesis and his team, generations in Uganda will be blessed.

☐ SATURDAY 7

Ask God to protect farmers in Gulu from the threats of poverty and climate change, and pray that their children will grow up healthy and safe.



Much of the relief work in vulnerable countries such as Nepal is preparing buildings and communities for the sadly inevitable disasters.

Relief

8-14 October

Every year, countries around the world face multiple crises. BMS World Mission's partners based in and near affected communities are quick to respond, ensuring the right support is given at the right time. Pray for those responding, both in prayer and action, that they would have wisdom, energy and sufficient resources.

☐ SUNDAY 8

Pray for churches on the ground who play a key part in BMS' relief responses, who often find themselves in the midst of a crisis with no warning. Pray they will be places of safety and hope for the communities around them.

☐ MONDAY 9

Climate uncertainty and insecurity is impacting the most vulnerable with erratic rainfall, higher temperatures and stronger storms. As BMS responds to the impacts of these events, pray that we will be able to increase communities' resilience.

☐ TUESDAY 10

Back in February you gave so generously as BMS responded through our partners to the earthquakes and aftershocks in Türkiye (formerly Turkey) and Syria. Please pray as the work of rebuilding continues.

☐ WEDNESDAY 11

Earlier this year BMS responded to the relief effort in northern Peru following the widespread destruction caused by Cyclone Yaku. Many of the 50,000 people made homeless remain in temporary shelter. Please pray for them.

☐ THURSDAY 12


The aftereffects of Covid-19 may have faded mostly into the background in the United Kingdom, but for many of BMS' partners, life is only just resetting. Please pray for life anew in these places.

☐ FRIDAY 13

BMS' relief work is about preparedness as well as response. Please pray for the work being done to develop Namuna Hospital in Nepal so they may become responders and not victims.

☐ SATURDAY 14

In a broken world, peace comes dripping slowly, but with peace, communities flourish. Pray for places facing crises where conflicts rise, that they will experience peace in Jesus.



BMS is committed to developing new programmes for emerging leaders, with a focus on women in leadership.

Equipping emerging leaders

15-21 October

BMS World Mission recognises the future of mission movements lies in equipping, training and working with partners across the world to help develop their emerging leaders. Thank God for this vision of building capacity and developing missional leaders in God's Kingdom.

□ SUNDAY 15

BMS-supported workers Baptist John Jaya Prakash and Koffi Soké Kpomgbe are the regional leaders of the Baptist World Alliance 'Horizons' training programme for youth and children's work. Pray that young people across India and Africa will join this programme.

□ MONDAY 16

Pray that we will successfully support the sending and training of mission workers through our partners the Global Institute of Vocational Excellence, Biglife in India and the Asia-Pacific Baptist Federation.

□ TUESDAY 17

Pray for the All Nations Christian College collaboration for mission preparation. Pray for the staff from All Nations and BMS working together, that they will provide high-quality mission preparation training and learning.

□ WEDNESDAY 18

Pray for Bijoy Sangma, our Indian-born, India-based Director of Intercultural Learning and Collaboration (ILC) and the ILC team at BMS. Ask God to open new doors for them to collaborate with global partners.

□ THURSDAY 19

Pray for BMS partnerships among the academic community, that they will spread practical wisdom across Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia.

□ FRIDAY 20

Humble leadership is vital for the work of the global Church and mission. Pray for all who provide guidance for the development of emerging leaders within BMS.

□ SATURDAY 21

Pray for new programmes for emerging leaders with a focus on gender and women in leadership, that they will support women in leadership at all levels across various roles.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



BMS and the Albanian Baptist Union founded Tek Ura in 2016 to bring transformation to vulnerable communities.

Albania

22-28 October

From World War Two until 1991, Albania was an isolationist and communist state. Soon after the establishment of the democratic Republic of Albania, BMS World Mission began working in the country. Fast-forward three decades, and BMS' formal partnerships in Albania are due to finish at the end of this year.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!

☐ SUNDAY 22

Give thanks that there is now freedom to worship and witness to Christ in Albania. Pray that the lives of those who follow Christ will reflect God's love, peace and hope to all they meet.

☐ MONDAY 23

Pray for the people and churches of the Albanian Baptist Union (ABU), with whom BMS has partnered in supporting local pastors, food banks, youth camps and administration. Pray that the Union will continue to find sustainable ways to grow, plant churches and share the good news.

☐ TUESDAY 24

Rejoice that Tek Ura (a charity started in 2016 by BMS and the ABU to serve vulnerable communities) is bringing transformation to many through the commitment and witness of its leaders and staff.

☐ WEDNESDAY 25



Give thanks for the years BMS workers **Dan** and **Annie Dupree** have spent in Albania. Praise God for their gifts of mentoring and leadership, enabling Tek Ura to establish a strong national team.

☐ THURSDAY 26

Lift up the Dupree family as they continue to discern their place of service after summer 2024.

☐ FRIDAY 27

Pray for the thousands of Albanians who have been influenced through youth camps, food banks, the ABU, Tek Ura, local pastors, BMS mission workers and volunteers. Pray that these seeds would bear fruit.

☐ SATURDAY 28

Many Albanians have moved across Europe seeking new opportunities. Pray that they would find "life in all its fullness", and ask God for an opportunity to bring hope to an Albanian local to you.



The importance of the Christian call to be stewards of God's creation is becoming known across Peru through the advocacy of BMS mission workers.

Peru

29 Oct to 4 Nov

We are excited to be seeing the first fruits of the expansion of BMS World Mission's partnership with the Baptist Evangelical Convention of Peru (CEBP) beyond church leadership training, community social projects and environmental action. BMS co-operation with the establishment of CEBP's first mission board, JME, is a big step forward for mission in Peru and beyond.

☐ SUNDAY 29



Please continue to hold BMS workers **Dave and Michele Mahon** in prayer as they participate in CEBP's mission plans for Peru, and for Daniel Clark as advisor to the JME. May the number of Peruvians engaged in mission multiply.

☐ MONDAY 30

Pray for success as BMS-supported worker Pastor Carlos, and Pastors Manuel and Pepe, implement CEBP's bold plan to start 150 new churches in Peru and overseas. Pray too for the strengthening and expanding of current mission work.

☐ TUESDAY 31

The overall aim of the venture with CEBP is to mobilise and train the churches and members for mission, with mission workers going to un-evangelised parts of Peru and around the world. Pray for those selected to make those journeys.

☐ WEDNESDAY 1

Laura-Lee Lovering has moved from Nauta to Piura after nine years of ministry. Pray for her as she continues to build deep relationships through her work with CEBP, while also co-ordinating BMS' creation stewardship initiatives globally.

☐ THURSDAY 2

Give thanks for the work of the Piura Baptist Youth Association as they host awareness-raising events inspired by Laura-Lee's leadership. Pray that youth leaders would be inspired to keep building up young Christians in the city.

☐ FRIDAY 3

Daniel and Regiane Clark are involved in leadership training ministries, focusing on pastoral ministry and integral mission in the Amazon region. Pray they will serve with creativity and boldness.

☐ SATURDAY 4

Pray for Regiane as she works to bring energy and organisation to the growth of faith-based communities.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase."

1 Corinthians 3: 6-7 (NKJV)

Church growth

5-11 November

Growing churches have the potential to help disciples grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Join us in praying for church growth as we partner with others around the world to make disciples and plant churches. Pray for BMS to develop as a catalytic agent in polycentric mission – "from everywhere to everywhere".

SUNDAY 5

Give thanks for BMS-supported worker Pastor J, whose ministry in Cambodia is leading young people to become disciples of Christ. Pray that some of the young people will become disciple makers in turn.

MONDAY 6

Give thanks for BMS workers Andrea and Ian and the team they work with in Spain. Pray that through the broadcasting of the gospel, many people will become followers of Christ in North Africa.

TUESDAY 7

Praise God that BMS workers Helen and Wit are experiencing church growth in Thailand. Pray that more people will respond to the call to go and preach the gospel, make disciples and plant churches in that country.

WEDNESDAY 8

Give thanks for BMS workers Kamal and Nadia, making disciples in North Africa and beyond. Pray for their protection and their effective presentation of the gospel.

THURSDAY 9

Praise God for BMS worker Ben Francis and the Biglife team, and for their fruitful ministry in south-east Asia. Pray that the vision to plant 100,000 small groups will be fulfilled by the end of the year.

FRIDAY 10

Praise God for the recent graduates of Siloam Bible Institute. Pray they will thrive and that God will use them to transform lives.

SATURDAY 11

God has opened new doors for BMS to bring good news to Vietnam in partnership with the Baptist Church of Mizoram. Pray that those who become believers will be firmly established in the faith.



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BMS' Engage magazine hopes to bring inspiration and encouragement through stories of God's work around the world.

BMS community

12-18 November

The work of BMS World Mission is impossible without the support of our global family. From the smallest act of kindness to the biggest donation, every contribution from our community helps us to share the love of Jesus in some of the world's toughest places. This week, we pray for the BMS community.

SUNDAY 12

Pray for the thousands of supporters who receive BMS' *Engage* magazine. May they be inspired and encouraged by the stories of God's work around the world.

MONDAY 13

Thank God for supporters who have left gifts to BMS in their wills. Pray for good stewardship of their gifts and ask for blessings on their families.

TUESDAY 14

Pray for mission workers who recently reached the end of their service and returned to the UK. Ask for God's guidance and direction for their next steps, and for peace and rest as they adjust to life back in the UK.

WEDNESDAY 15

Give thanks for the Scottish Baptist churches who recently came together in their online celebration. Pray God's blessing upon them as they pursue their vision for the future.

THURSDAY 16

Pray for the churches who recently showed the BMS harvest resource, *Days of Plenty*. May God bless their efforts to raise awareness and funds for this work.

FRIDAY 17

Pray for the success of the BMS Christmas appeal. May God bless the fundraising efforts of the BMS community, and may the resources raised enable lives to be transformed.

SATURDAY 18

Pray for churches that are currently experiencing challenges. May God provide strength, comfort and wisdom to church leaders and members, and may they continue to be faithful witnesses to God's love and grace in their communities.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



Please lift up before God all those who have a role in contributing to peace in the Holy Land.

Israel-Palestine

19-25 November

This week we pray for a region geographically small, but large in its impact on world affairs. In previous years BMS World Mission partnered mostly with peace and reconciliation organisations, and their work and impact continues today. Currently, BMS strategically prioritises work with people on the move within the country.

SUNDAY 19

Give thanks for the 12 years of partnership between BMS and the Association of Baptist Churches in Israel. Praise God for new churches planted, churches revitalised, Nazareth Evangelical College, and youth and family ministries.

MONDAY 20

Pray for the Association of Baptist Churches in Israel as the partnership with BMS finishes at the end of this year. Pray that they will be able to employ a full-time Executive Director, that their plans will prosper and that the Association and the churches will be a blessing to the nation.

TUESDAY 21

Pray that those who feel they have no influence on the peace process, but live with the daily consequences of decisions made by others, will know that God hears.

WEDNESDAY 22

BMS partner Bethlehem Bible College (BBC) trains people for ministries throughout the Arab-speaking world. Pray that the college would have the staff and facilities it needs.

THURSDAY 23

BMS contributes towards BBC student scholarships. Pray that those who study would grow both in theological knowledge and personal maturity.

FRIDAY 24

Pray for our partner the Shepherd Society in their humanitarian work in and around Bethlehem and with displaced people in Jordan. Pray that the people they work among would receive Christ's love as well as material aid.

SATURDAY 25

Intercede for all who have a role in contributing to peace in the Holy Land. Ask that they will be reminded daily to do their part, no matter what others are doing.

“For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.” Colossians 1: 16

Creation stewardship

26 Nov to 2 Dec

Through Scripture, we understand that Jesus Christ is not only Lord and Saviour of the world, but also its Creator, as part of the Trinity. In taking the gospel of Jesus to communities where he is unknown, we're passionate to present the whole person: our Saviour and Creator.

SUNDAY 26

Praise God for winter – even the dark days show us the significance of Jesus as the Light of the World, and the evergreen conifers remind us that his life eternal has overcome death. Praise Jesus!

MONDAY 27

BMS can use creation stewardship to share God's love with communities in countries where we are not permitted to preach the gospel directly. Pray that the solar projects in Chad and the 'food forest' project in Afghanistan would provide opportunities to share Jesus.

TUESDAY 28

Each year we run online creation stewardship workshops for BMS' UK staff, mission workers and partners. Pray that these workshops would lead to real change in our awareness and actions, both at work and at home.

WEDNESDAY 29

Pray for the work of BMS partner Justice Livelihoods Health in Uganda. We hope to see the expansion of their environmental community projects, such as organic briquette making and sustainable woodlots.

THURSDAY 30

The COP28 climate change conference reconvenes today in the UAE. Pray for integrity in decision-making that acknowledges the human suffering already exacerbated by global warming.

FRIDAY 1

BMS works in communities that regularly suffer from natural disasters, such as cyclones in Mozambique and flooding in Bangladesh. Pray that BMS can help communities become more resilient.

SATURDAY 2

Give thanks for Laura-Lee Lovering's work with the Piura Baptist Association in Peru, encouraging creation stewardship initiatives within churches.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



Transformation is being seeded in northern Uganda through agroforestry projects aimed at sustainable livelihoods.

Hope for the World

3-9 December

The world is often a broken place. People living in poverty are also commonly facing exclusion, violence, lack of services, political turmoil and natural disasters. BMS aims to improve services and income in areas where neither the government nor economy functions well. In emerging economies, we work with churches to help them respond to poverty in their own locations.

SUNDAY 3

Pray for church communities in Nepal who are tackling poverty as part of their daily witness within the Sanga-Sangai project, run by BMS' local partners.

MONDAY 4

Lift up mission worker Genesis Acaye as he serves communities in northern Uganda through agroforestry projects aimed at sustainable livelihoods. Praise God for the many Ugandan believers who are taking seriously their commitment to their families and the planet.

TUESDAY 5

Pray for access to justice for the poorest communities, and praise God that BMS' legal partners in Uganda and Mozambique are working to make this possible. When conflict is navigated and land rights are established, local communities can develop their land to provide enough income for their households.

WEDNESDAY 6

Pray for the BMS team in Guinea as they work with poor communities to help them discover their God-given gifts, enabling them to thrive in a highly marginalised context.

THURSDAY 7

Pray for fragile countries such as Afghanistan, Chad and Guinea. Problems such as political instability and the exodus of refugees reverse development and heighten poverty.

FRIDAY 8

Lift up regional Baptist bodies and the Baptist Forum for Aid and Development as they respond to major humanitarian disasters. Pray especially for settlement and reconstruction efforts in Ukraine, Türkiye and Syria.

SATURDAY 9

Pray for BMS workers in Afghanistan seeking to improve agricultural livelihoods and access to safe water. Pray that they can share something of our gospel hope through their actions and sensitive conversations.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



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In the long tradition of the missionary medic, BMS mission worker Kalbassou Doubassou leads Guinebor II Hospital in Chad.

Health

10-16 December

BMS seeks to provide services to some of the world's poorest communities, where healthcare is always a huge need. The missionary medic has long been part of BMS' history and remains a critical aspect of outreach in some parts of the world.

SUNDAY 10

Pray for BMS mission worker Kalbassou Doubassou as he leads Guinebor II Hospital in Chad. Pray especially for Kalbassou in his work as a surgeon at the hospital.

MONDAY 11

Lift up the mental health work delivered by BMS partners in Afghanistan. After decades of conflict, many people in Afghanistan have witnessed extreme violence and are psychologically damaged by their experiences of loss and fear.

TUESDAY 12

Pray for BMS surgeons Mark and Andrea Hotchkin delivering vital medical services at a government-owned hospital in the isolated north of Chad. Pray for opportunities to share the love of Christ in word and deed in a region that is often marked by chronic insecurity.

WEDNESDAY 13

BMS partners in Nepal provide health education alongside improved water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. Pray for healthier communities and a chance to share Christ's love.

THURSDAY 14

Lift up BMS worker Claire Bedford as she contributes to the leadership of Guinebor II Hospital in Chad and seeks to share the love of Christ within the pharmacy department.

FRIDAY 15

Pray for continued grace, energy and compassion for BMS worker Judy Cook as she brings respite care to families living with severely disabled children in Thailand.

SATURDAY 16

BMS partners in Afghanistan help women in remote communities to give birth safely. Pray for good planning for mothers, strong maternal care awareness for fathers and clear access to medical services during a snow-bound winter.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



BMS supports 32 pre-schools across the country, offering children connection in their early years.

Bangladesh

17-23 December

Bangladesh's rich cultural heritage has been influenced by Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism over the centuries. It also has the third-largest Muslim population in the world. BMS World Mission has been privileged to work collaboratively in Bangladesh for many years. Join us in praying for the ongoing work in this beautiful country.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!

☐ SUNDAY 17

Give thanks for the children who benefit from the 32 preschools supported by BMS. Pray that the development of parent-teacher meetings will have a positive impact on family wellbeing.

☐ MONDAY 18



Give thanks for BMS workers **Louise and Peter Lynch**, and for the support they give to BMS partner the Christian College of Theology in

Bangladesh. Pray that the graduates will use their learning to enhance the Church's witness.

☐ TUESDAY 19

Pray for BMS-supported worker Barnabas – for strength and health as he travels to co-ordinate the work of evangelists all over the country.

☐ WEDNESDAY 20

Pray for BMS-supported workers Bina and James as they reach out to communities with the gospel message and help run education projects in Sreemangal.

☐ THURSDAY 21

Pray for the leadership of the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha (BBCS) – for God's peace and guidance in their efforts to plant ten new churches by 2025.

☐ FRIDAY 22

Give thanks that men and women are responding to the call to go and witness for Christ in their communities. Pray that BBCS will establish a mission training centre to equip people to be sent to new areas.

☐ SATURDAY 23

Give thanks for the vision of BBCS to train and ordain 20 women leaders in the next ten years. Pray for a good pathway to identify, train, send and support these amazing women.



The education opportunities provided through your support are bringing hope where before all felt hopeless.

Lebanon

24-30 December

A once-flourishing economy, now in crisis; basic commodities (food, medicine, fuel) expensive and/or difficult to obtain; electricity limited and often off for hours; a country governed by a caretaker cabinet. It's hard to believe this is the current description of Lebanon, once described as the "jewel of the Middle East".

☐ SUNDAY 24

Give thanks for BMS World Mission's partner and the local churches they work with. Thank God for the welcome and support they provide to people from Lebanon, neighbouring Syria and across the Arabic-speaking world.

☐ MONDAY 25

Pray for BMS-supported Nabil Costa leading our partner the Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development (LSESD). Pray that as he and his staff encounter those troubled by chaos in the country, they may reflect the peace and hope we celebrate with the birth of our Saviour.

☐ TUESDAY 26

BMS partners with LSESD in a refugee education project. Pray that teachers, psychologists and support workers working with Syrian and displaced local children will have the resources and capacity needed to provide excellent education, trauma relief and family support.

☐ WEDNESDAY 27

Pray for students from the Middle East and North Africa studying with LSESD. Pray their studies would enhance their service and strengthen their churches to withstand persecution and pressures.

☐ THURSDAY 28

The World Bank has described Lebanon's economic crisis as one of the worst in modern history. Pray that Lebanon would have a stable government and recover economically.


☐ FRIDAY 29

Praise God that our partner has given faithful and joyful testimony of God's love and faithfulness through years of challenge. Pray that they will be encouraged themselves as they encourage others.

☐ SATURDAY 30

Give thanks for the 25 years of ministry that our partner celebrated this year. Pray that as they reflect on all God has taught them, they will be able to put into practice their God-given vision for the future.

Tear off here to put a page of prayer in your Bible or on your fridge, church noticeboard or anywhere else!



“When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, ‘Woman, you are set free.’” Luke 13: 12

Gender justice

31 Dec to 6 Jan

In many parts of the world, girls and women are denied access to education, employment, land, property, finances, status and respect. All too often, they are victims of violence. But the value Jesus placed on women was radically counter-cultural. BMS is committed to promoting the idea that women are inherently valuable, made in the image of God.

☐ SUNDAY 31

Pray that gender equality becomes the air we breathe. Lift up BMS partners as they contextualise the BMS Gender Charter. Pray that they will be open to considering their own gender theology to help overcome the fractures in society.

☐ MONDAY 1

Astha Shrestha works with Human Development and Community Services (HDCS), BMS’ partner in Nepal. Pray for Astha as she promotes maternal and child health, encourages educational attainment for girls, and implements empowerment projects for women and girls.

☐ TUESDAY 2

Celebrate individuals with special needs who add value to our communities, remembering their intrinsic worth. Pray for the centre for children with learning differences run by the Lebanese Society for Education and Social Development (LSESD).

☐ WEDNESDAY 3

KISC EQUIP, BMS’ partner in Nepal, is introducing safeguarding and gender-based violence training for teachers. Lift up their work towards reducing child abuse and improving girls’ attendance and retention in schools.

☐ THURSDAY 4

Ask God for wisdom for Justice Livelihoods Health (JLH), BMS’ partner in Uganda. Pray that their interventions will reduce inequalities and ensure justice for both females and males.

☐ FRIDAY 5

Pray for BMS partners supporting refugees and asylum seekers. Women are often the most vulnerable, frequently facing injustice and inequality not only in their context of origin but also in their new location.

☐ SATURDAY 6

Praise God for gender champions and BMS partners who have embraced women in leadership. May their efforts help free girls and women from gender-based violence.

Pray for our mission workers

Africa	
Chad	Claire BEDFORD
Chad	Kalbassou DOUBASSOU
Chad	Andrea and Mark HOTCHKIN
Chad	Bethan and Gareth SHRUBSOLE (Samuel, Jonah and Eva)
Chad	Mel and Tom SPEARS (Maisie and Rosa)
Guinea	Caroline and Victor
Guinea	Holly
Guinea	Leena
Mozambique	Jane EDWARDS
Mozambique	Carlos TIQUE JONE
Mozambique	Liz and Sergio VILELA (Chloe and Joshua)
Uganda	Genesis ACAYE
Uganda	Benon KAYANJA

Asia	
Bangladesh	Louise and Peter LYNCH
India	Benjamin and Gillian FRANCIS
Nepal	Alan and Megan BARKER
Nepal	Angus and Helen DOUGLAS (Caleb, Charis, Esther and Qiniso)
Nepal	Joy RANSOM
Nepal	Andy and Jenny SAUNDERS
Nepal	Pippa and Toby VOKUHL (Jakey, Ella and Millie)
Thailand	Helen and Withaya BOONDEEKHUN
Thailand	Paul and Sarah BROWN
Thailand	Judy COOK

Some names have been changed due to security reasons.
(Children aged 0-18 in brackets.)

South America

Peru	Daniel and Regiane CLARK (Ana Sophia)
Peru	Laura-Lee LOVERING
Peru	Dave and Michele MAHON (Jonathan, Ruth and Phoebe)

Europe

Albania	Annie and Dan DUPREE (Charis, Isaac, Amaya and Thalia)
France	Philip and Rosemary HALLIDAY
France	John and Sue WILSON
Spain	Andrea and Ian

Middle East and North Africa

Afghanistan	Arthur and Reeta
Afghanistan	Grace
Afghanistan	Tim
Afghanistan	Ruby
Tunisia	Sophie



"Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked."

Psalm 84:10