

A United Call for Prayer on behalf of all Oral Peoples, and for those working in Orality/UUPGs & Great Commission Partner groups.

“Devote yourselves to prayer being watchful and thankful. ... that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ.” (Col. 4:2-4)

Praying Each Thursday

EACH THURSDAY we ask you to link in united prayer for those working in Orality & for our Great Commission Partners. *If you are available, please join us live...

Each Thurs at 2 pm (EST) GMT-5

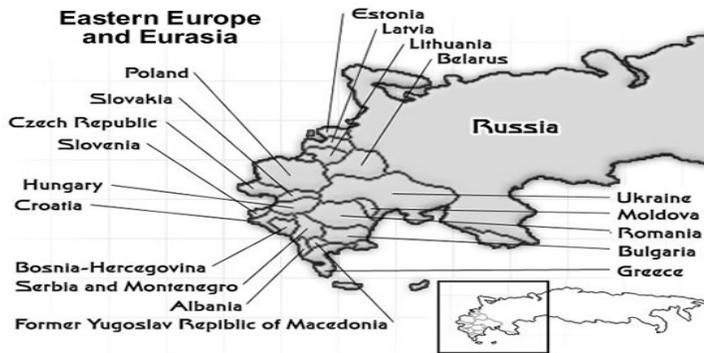
Dial: (712) 432-0926

Access Code: 373000#

Visit <http://Orality.net> Prayer: http://orality.net/prayer_partners/

Praying for the UUPGs & Bible-less Oral Peoples...

Pursuing God for Spiritual Awakening and Global Harvest
We continue our focused strategic prayer for specific peoples of the world who are primarily oral and are still unengaged. **Our prayer strategy will be to bring the remaining people groups that are unengaged unreached (UUPG) into focus.** The info we are using is taken from the Finishing the Task (FTT) listing of the original 639 UUPG, still needing “boots on the ground”. We are intentionally linking w/Harvest Ethne Prayer Strategy Network’s 12 month calendar for unreached people groups (UPG).



MARCH

Harvest Ethne Prayer Network – **Eastern Europe and Eurasia**

Source: <http://joshuaproject.net/ethne.php?es=2ðnmonth=3>

This month, all the nations in this region have had boots on the ground. Even though there are 0 nations with UUPGs, much needs to happen to bring discipleship to this region. We will highlight the 3 people groups in Russia where there is the largest prayer need...

Adjari - 300,000 pop – Georgian Language – Islam is the main religion – No Radio recordings – No Churches – No believers – Currently not adopted – No boots on the ground.

Chuvash 428,300 pop – Moksha Language – Traditional Christianity is the main religion – No radio recordings – No radio recordings - Currently adopted, but No boots are on the ground.

Mordvin-Moksha 1,722,000 pop – Chuvash Language – Traditional Christianity is the main religion – No gospel recordings – No Churches – No believers – Currently adopted, but more workers needed.

Please join in prayer for the 265 UPGs that are located in these nations: **Albania, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Herzegovina, Hungary, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine**

The Original 639 UUPG List all have populations over 100,000.

PRAYER Resources...

Prayer videos focused on this region:



Bosnia-Herzegovina
Czech Republic

http://youtube.com/watch?v=TZnNV_2L0L8

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=kEOS0iTNXxw>



Moldova
Romania

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=EyWYrjnmk5E>

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=h87uRIBUM3E>



Slovakia
Slovenia

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=jW2W-QYYByw>

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=oduIHGc4OH8>

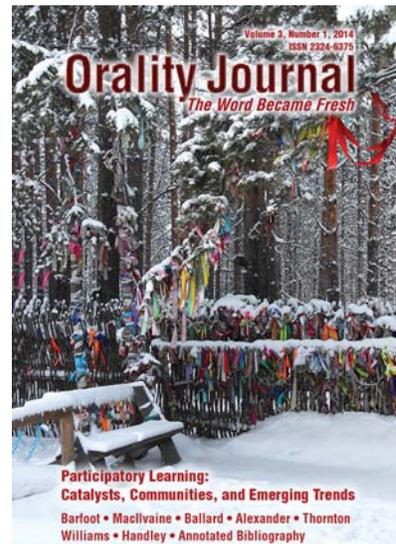


Source: <http://www.operationworld.org/prayer-videos>

New “Orality Journal”

Participatory Learning:

Catalysts, Communities, and Emerging Trends



Vol. 3, No. 1 2014

Available for download by chapter or the entire issue:

http://www.orality.net/journals/volume_3_number_1_2014

ION Prayer Focus

Operation World Prayer Challenge for Europe



Geography Area: 22,978,500 sq km
74% is in the Russian Federation. This is 17% of the earth's surface.

Population: 732,758,546

Annual Growth: 0.10%

Urbanites: 73%

Largest Religion: Christian

Answer to Prayer

The edges of Europe – North Africa, the Middle East and Turkey – are much more accessible through changes in travel, communication, trade and culture. These provide more opportunities for immigrants to gain access into Europe (where they ostensibly might encounter believers), and more so for active Christians to visit these places for tourism, study and business.

Source: <http://www.operationworld.org/region/europe/owtext.html>

Other Excellent Prayer Resources:

PrayerCast

Prayer information for specific nations in addition to a video. You can find up-to-date current news feed for each nation. *CHECK THIS SITE OUT & BOOK MARK IT

Source: Prayercast <http://www.prayercast.com/nations>

Operation World <http://www.operationworld.org/prayer-videos>

Global Prayer Resource Network

For a source for global urgent prayer alerts and a prayer events calendar, subscribe to the Global Prayer Resource Network. They help to connect you to ongoing GDOP events.

Source: Global Prayer Resource Network (GPRN).

<http://www.globalprn.com/>

Joshua Project

Be sure to BOOKMARK Joshua Project. Excellent Prayer Resources, Prayer Guides & Prayer Cards you can download. What a great tool for info on UUPGs & UPGs around the globe.

<http://www.joshuaproject.net/prayer-resources.php/>

Unreached Peoples Prayer Cards

Pray for the Unreached Abaza of Russia



Country: Russia
People: Abaza
Population: 37,000
World Popl: 61,000
Main Language: Abaza
Main Religion: Islam
Status: ■ Least-Reached
Christ-Followers: Few, less than 2%
Bible: Questionable Need

www.operationworld.org
www.joshuaproject.net

"Declare his glory among the nations" Psalm 96:3

Source: Joshua Project Prayer Cards

<http://www.joshuaproject.net/prayer-cards.php>

Page 2

Operation World Prayer Challenge for Russia

The world's largest country, extending across 9 time zones between the Baltic and the Pacific.

Capital: Moscow **Largest Religion:** Christian

Population: 140,366,561 **Urbanites:** 72.8%

Official language: Russian; local languages in autonomous republics

Languages: 135 http://ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=RU

Peoples: 162 (47% unreached)

<http://www.Joshuaproject.net/countries.php?rog3=rs>

Unreached peoples: There are 78 ethnic minorities considered unreached, totalling over 13 million in population. Most expatriates and even Russian ministries focus on reaching ethnic Russians. Most of these ethnicities are more accessible and open away from their home location and cultural setting. **Pray for effective partnering and viable strategies** to plant churches among them.

a) **Muslims number over 17 million and account for the majority of non-Russians** in the Russian Federation. Their growth & the ethnic-Russian decline could make Muslims a majority in Russia by the end of the 21st Century. The largest groups are Tatars (5.5 million) & Bashkirs (1.6 million), but there are also many Central Asians & peoples of the Caucasus. Undocumented & often illegal, millions of Central Asians live as temporary workers in Russia. **Pray for openness to the gospel on the part of Muslims, and a loving and sensitive passion for their salvation on the part of Christians in Russia.**

i **Radicalization of Islam.** While only around 20% (at most) of Muslims faithfully practice Islam, the radicalization of Muslims in Russia accelerated due to the Chechen war and foreign Islamist influences. Russian military belligerence in the south and the equation of Christianity to Russian imperialism make witness to these peoples difficult for practical, cultural and spiritual reasons.

ii **Conversions to Christianity.** Some reports claim up to two million Muslims converting to Orthodoxy. Protestant missionary effort is limited but sees fruit among the peoples of the Caucasus.

b) **Several widely dispersed peoples need prayer:**

i *The Jews once numbered over two million, but are now reduced to one-eighth of this. Emigration to Israel continues, but there are important concentrations in European Russian cities. Significant numbers – over 10,000 – have come to Christ, and a large proportion of Messianic Jews in Israel are of recent Russian or Ukrainian origin. However, pockets of Georgian, Tat & Hill Jews in the Caucasus region are still unreached. The Jewish Autonomous Oblast in Far East Russia only has a few thousand Jews remaining, but there is outreach to them.*

ii *The Romani (Gypsy) live scattered over European Russia w/many in the Urals; they are significantly Christianized but also heavily marginalized. Some areas see an awakening and churches planted. About 5% of Russian Gypsies are evangelical.*

iii *The Chinese number over 50,000 in Moscow alone & over 1 M. nationally, including temporary migrant workers in Siberia & the Russian Far East. They are largely unevangelized, though a few dozen small churches exist. Russian attitudes toward Chinese are poor, but Chinese in China & abroad have a growing heart to reach these unappreciated workers who are essential to Asiatic Russia's economy.*

c) **The 16.5 million Russians of the "near abroad".** The collapse of the USSR left many as ethnic minorities in the 15 new states formed, where they are often resented. Their status & future are far from secure. Nearly 20 million Russians emigrated back to the Russian Federation in the last 25 years – often with few possessions. **Pray that many among them might be receptive to the gospel and in turn gain a burden for the non-Christian peoples among whom they lived.**

Source: <http://www.operationworld.org/russ>

ION Prayer Focus

Understanding the region...

Focused prayer for the Persecuted Church

From: Focus on the Family <mail@fotffamily.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:04 PM

Subject: How should we pray for the persecuted church?

If we're honest with ourselves, far too often we take our blessings for granted. Americans in general enjoy freedoms that most of the world cannot even comprehend. And while we see criticism of the Christian faith increasing in our culture, we as believers still have the liberty to openly worship as we see fit and express our beliefs publicly. That basic freedom is something that many of our Christian brothers and sisters across the planet can only dream about. We know that the early Christians faced intense persecution for the sake of the Gospel; history tells us that *all* of the Apostles, except John, were martyred (and even he was tortured repeatedly). But some of us may tend to separate those accounts from our "present reality," and forget that persecution still runs rampant around the globe. **In fact, Evangelical monitoring groups report that more Christians have been killed for their faith worldwide in the past 100 years than were martyred in the previous 19 centuries combined.** ...It's important to educate ourselves about global persecution of Christians & use our freedom to raise our voices on behalf of the victims & survivors. "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone & especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10).

Source: Jim Daly, Focus on the Family

Recommended Reading...

"The New Age of Christian Martyrdom"



[Jim Daly's blog](#) Jan 16, 2014 9:38 AM Focus on the Family

"Persecution of Christians"

[https://community.focusonthefamily.com/b/jim-](https://community.focusonthefamily.com/b/jim-daly/archive/2014/01/16/recommended-reading-the-new-age-of-christian-martyrdom.aspx)

[daly/archive/2014/01/16/recommended-reading-the-new-age-of-christian-](https://community.focusonthefamily.com/b/jim-daly/archive/2014/01/16/recommended-reading-the-new-age-of-christian-martyrdom.aspx)

[martyrdom.aspx](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/01/13/the-new-age-of-christian-martyrdom.html)
[http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/01/13/the-new-age-of-christian-](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/01/13/the-new-age-of-christian-martyrdom.html)

Global Prayer Digest

March 2014 Issue: *World Class Cities: The Best Places to Reach the Unreached!*



by Keith Carey

In 2008, for the first time in history, the population living in urban areas reached 50 percent, and the level of urbanization is expected to rise from 50 percent in 2008 to 70 percent in 2050. It is clear that in this century the urban landscape must be a priority for planting the gospel.

Dear Praying Friends,

This month we are praying for unreached people groups who live in cities. It took a long time to agree on which groups & cities to write about, so we had to limit this issue to "world-class" mega cities that play an important role in the world's global economy. This situation creates a setting where individuals are often more open to the gospel. But there is a downside to this issue as well as you will see in the article, "The Gospel and the City." The article points out that the social isolation people experience in the cities can potentially keep the gospel from spreading. We must pray for more workers in urban areas who will reach out to people groups in the cities!

- See more at:

<http://www.globalprayerdigest.org/index.php/issue/#sthash.SuxZGkLJ.dpuf>

Source: <http://www.globalprayerdigest.org/index.php/coming/>

Praying for Orality Partners...

Please join in praying for orality/ION Prayer Requests and follow the prayer calendar for events & trainings:

<http://www.orality.net/prayers-calendar>

Praying for Training...

Please join in praying for posted trainings:

<http://ion2008.ning.com/m?id=2118812%3AMobilePage%3A39166/>

Kids Around the World – Provides exciting opportunities to share the Bible with children. To find out more on the trainings:

http://www.kidsaroundtheworld.com/?page_id=1743

School of Storying – StoryRunners Exciting opportunities at the Orlando School of Storying. Are you a teachable, strategic thinker and innovative problem solver? <http://www.storyrunners.com/>

Living Water Int'l - Introduction to Contextual Bible Storying - Join in prayer for the upcoming workshops around the globe. For info visit <http://www.water.cc/orality>

Simply the Story - For info on STS: Join in praying for these global training opportunities. <http://www.simplythestory.org>

Story Training for Trainers Workshop (ST4T) with 33 Partners Ministry. For more on trainings: <http://www.e3partners.org/orality/>

Resurrection Sunday is coming!

It's hard to believe it's already upon us, but the season of Lent--the weeks leading up to Easter Sunday--begins in just a few days on Ash Wednesday, March 5.

Easter Sunday may be the most joyous day on the church calendar, but for many Christians, the Lenten season leading up to it is marked by quiet, prayerful reflection and repentance. Some Christians commit to daily Scripture meditation, devotional reading, or regular prayer. One common practice during Lent is to "give up" something you take for granted as an act of self-denial--and as a way to center your priorities around Jesus Christ. (If you're thinking about observing Lent this year but aren't sure what to do, here are a few ideas to think about)

Bible Gateway has a Lent tradition of its own: [Lent and Easter devotionals!](http://www.biblegateway.com/lent-devotions/) <http://www.biblegateway.com/lent-devotions/>

- **Lent Devotions:** An eclectic mix of Scripture readings, prayers, and reflections to help you focus your heart on Jesus Christ during the Easter season.
- **The Story of Jesus:** Read through the entire life of Jesus Christ on earth, from his miraculous birth to his death, resurrection, and ascension.
- **Readings for Lent and Easter from *The Voice*:** Daily Bible readings to help ground you in Scripture throughout Lent, drawn from *The Voice* Bible translation.

Source: Lent & Easter Devotions from BibleGateway

Sign at <http://www.biblegateway.com/lent-devotions/>



Orality Focused Prayer Requests



HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM (HOE-chee-men) - "I really want a Bible. I want to learn more!" Praise God for the words An* said recently after some believers shared the Gospel story with him. Such a desire could only come from the prompting of the Holy Spirit. Thankfully, the believers were able to provide a Bible for An so that he could study God's Word directly. Please pray that An will make a decision to place his faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. Pray for four new Bible studies to be started this month, each with several who have not yet believed in attendance. Ask God to open their hearts and provide a harvest of new brothers and sisters in Christ. **Pray** that from each of these locations, there will be a new church start that will, in turn, multiply further in the city. (*pseudonym)

JOLA-FONYI OF SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA (JOH-luh-FOH-nyee) - "Last month we asked you to pray as we prepared for eight dental clinics that would be held in two villages. Today is the last day that the visiting dental team will be holding clinics in Village B. Pray that those hearing Bible stories will have a burning desire to hear more of God's Word and that they will accept Jesus as Savior. Later in the month, 'vision teams' will be coming from Idaho and Kentucky. We will be visiting and sharing Bible stories in four or five different villages, and the team members will be praying and asking God to show them which village they should 'adopt' for prayer and evangelization. Their churches will be sending teams to this adoptive village two to four times a year to pray and share 'Creation to Christ' (C2C) and other Bible stories. **Pray** for their travel safety, for their health, and for discernment to know which village God would have them adopt."

FULANI OF WESTERN NIGER (foo-LAH-nee) - "With so many Western Fulani to reach, missionaries depend on help from others. Partnering churches send valuable help in the form of volunteers. Volunteers walk alongside missionaries and provide extra hands to help with the work. This month a team from Texas has come to partner with our Western Niger Fulani Team. They arrived on February 3 and will serve through February 13. They are traveling to Fulani villages to sow new seeds and water seeds that have already been planted. **Please pray** for these partners and for the sowing and tending of seeds. **Pray for Fulani hearts to be open. Ask God** to go ahead of the volunteer team to prepare the soil in each place. **Thank Him for partners** in the work among the Western Niger Fulani.

LOMWE OF MALAWI AND MOZAMBIQUE (LOHM-way) - "In October, our Lomwe Team asked you to pray for Village M, as the participants were nearing the end of nine months of chronological Bible teaching. We rejoice to report that since you prayed, the first seven believers have been baptized in two separate services. **Praise the Lord!** Two of these have come out of Islam. There are several others who have made decisions but are not quite ready to be baptized. **Please continue to pray!**" mozamfam@gmail.com

EAST ASIAN PEOPLES - Pray for wisdom and discernment in prioritizing Scripture resources for evangelism and church planting among 74 unreached people groups (UPGs) being engaged in East Asia that are currently without a Bible, Scripture portions or Bible stories. Praise God for ongoing Scripture translation efforts!

FULAKUNDA OF SENEGAL, GUINEA-BISSAU AND THE GAMBIA (GAMBIA FOO-lah-KOON-dah) - "Love doesn't mean the same thing here. Most marriages are arranged, and there are men who do not take care of their wives. **Please pray** for some of the women we have been in contact with. **Pray** for Jennifer*, whose husband does not care for her. She is seeking our Father's love. **Pray** for Eve*, who recently joined our family with the consent of her husband. **Ask** that she will receive training in Bible stories, and pray for her baby who is coming very soon! **Pray** for Hannah*, who is

reading and learning about our Father's love, but who has not yet decided to follow Jesus. **Pray** for all of these women as they seek our Father, asking that they will come to know what love really means." (*pseudonyms)

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN UNENGAGED PEOPLES - "Once renowned warriors, today the Ngbandi-Ngiri (pronounced N-gh-bah-ndee N-ghee-ree) are looked down upon and discriminated against as 'those forest people.' Living in mud-and-thatch houses on the edge of the largest freshwater wetland area in all of Africa, the Ngbandi-Ngiri of the Democratic Republic of the Congo are a people living without the knowledge of salvation through Jesus Christ. While some sources report that almost 70 percent of the Ngbandi-Ngiri practice a form of Christian religious activity, this is only to say that they reject non-Christian sects such as Buddhism or Islam. The reality is that very few understand the Gospel, practicing a syncretistic form of religion that involves spiritualism and ancestor worship. Pray for these 'people of the forest,' asking that God will place in their hearts a longing to know Him. We do not know much about the Ngbandi-Ngiri people; more research needs to be done to help us understand their culture and worldview in order to make a viable plan to plant Gospel seeds among them. **Ask God** to make a way to reach isolated villages in this vast and heavily forested area."

SOUTHEAST ASIAN UNENGAGED PEOPLES - "On a recent survey trip to visit an unengaged unreached people group (UUPG) here, the worker had to bring stout wooden boards to create a makeshift bridge in order to traverse terrain that otherwise would be impassable even with a four-wheel-drive truck. With good roads, the trip would have taken less than an hour, but because of the poor road conditions, it took most of a day to reach the area. **Pray** for God-called workers who are willing to pay the price of traveling difficult roads to reach the least-engaged areas of our island. **Petition for open doors** so that workers will be welcomed into villages that they have spent most of the day trying to reach. Pray for travel safety as workers traverse the 'roads least taken' in order to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Source: International Mission Board Prayer Director, Ed Cox
CompassionNet <http://www.imb.org/main/pray/>



 Find us on Facebook

Follow ION on the Facebook Page

Facebook users, we would invite you to follow ION on Facebook. Be sure to check off the box for notifications to show up on your newsfeed?! Check your notifications or just simply 'Like', 'Comment' or 'Share' to continue to see your favorite pages more often.

You may subscribe to the ION Monthly Prayer Focus: Simply by sending an email to IONPrayer@gmail.com asking to subscribe. Thank you for your prayers and linking to us.