

PRAYER FOCUS

A Prayer Guide on Access-Restricted Nations in Asia produced by Ethnos Asia Ministries

SRI LANKA

TRANSFORMING LIVES

In 2009, Brother Maheer's excitement grew when Ethnos Asia Ministries (EAM) introduced the Sow for the Harvest (SowH) Discipleship Training program. He recognized its potential to empower Christians and help grow their churches, so he invited EAM trainers to conduct a SowH training in his church. In 2012, after being trained as a trainer, he embarked on a journey that would touch many lives. His confidence in the effectiveness of the SowH program led him to train church members and equip trainers. As other churches caught the vision of the harvest, a network of trainers began to emerge, carrying the torch of discipleship training to various regions of Sri Lanka. Pastors eagerly requested these transformative sessions for their respective churches. Expecting 70 to 80 leaders, they were surprised when often, over 100 individuals appeared, hungry for knowledge and eager to learn.

During the training, pastors and leaders experienced moments of conviction, leading them to rededicate their lives to serving God. Backsliders found their way back to Him. Even non-Christians, who came out of curiosity, were touched and accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. The training awakened the pastors and leaders' passion for the lost. After each training session, the participants were encouraged to come together and form Harvest Teams. These teams would unite, pray and devise strategies to bring about



Leaders learned to lay hands and pray for one another during SowH training.

the harvest of souls in their respective communities.

The SowH training program has impacted individuals spiritually and brought about tangible miracles. One pastor, a graduate of a prestigious Theological Seminary, found himself in despair after losing his business during the pandemic. Contemplating suicide, he saw attending the training as an opportunity to carry out his plans away from his family. However, his encounter with the teachings on building life on Jesus Christ redirected his path. He repented and committed to full-time ministry, convincing his pastor to organize a

SowH training for all their church members.

In another incident, an entire village witnessed the miraculous healing of a paralyzed woman when participants put into practice what they had learned during the training. As they laid hands on her, she was healed.

Brother Maheer's unwavering dedication to the SowH training program did not come without opposition. A gang with ill intentions once surrounded their place of worship, intending to assault him and his companions. However, God protected them as they prayed and worshipped, thwarting the assailants' plans and ensuring the continuation of the work.



The SowH discipleship training program has reached the north, south, central, east, and west Sri Lanka across denominations. Brother Maheer has trained over 5,000 pastors, church workers and lay leaders. His goal is to see 250,000 to 350,000 house churches throughout Sri Lanka.

Let us continue to sow seeds of faith as we pray for the work in Sri Lanka. Pray as Brother Maheer continues to train more trainers. God will surely bring forth an abundant harvest as more lives are transformed.

“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.” John 9:4 (NKJV)

Prayer Calendar

March 2024

1 (FRI) SRI LANKA Pray that the graduates of the SowH (Sow for the Harvest) will establish more house churches.

2/3 (SAT/SUN) SRI LANKA Pray as the Sri Lankan government works on policies and reforms to restore economic stability and growth.

4 (MON) VIETNAM Pray for Christian leaders from North and South Vietnam to unite to bring the Gospel to the whole nation.

5 (TUE) VIETNAM Freedom of expression, religious freedom, and civil activism are tightly restricted in Vietnam. Pray for Christians to be wise in planning their church activities.

6 (WED) BANGLADESH Pray for the sixty-one students enrolled in our Hope of Children school in Dhaka. Ask for wisdom and understanding as they learn new lessons.

7 (THU) BANGLADESH Pray for the newly planted churches to grow and become self-supporting.

8 (FRI) CHINA Pray for the ex-pat Chinese community to encounter Christ. Pray for boldness to share their faith when they return to China.

9/10 (SAT/SUN) CHINA Pray for the provision of Bibles in China. Despite printing Bibles in the country, these only reach the registered churches.

11 (MON) LAOS Pray for the safety of local tribal itinerant missionaries as they share the Gospel with villagers.

12 (TUE) LAOS Pray for comfort upon the family of Pastor K, one

of our Bru Core Team who has been in prison for the past eight months without charge.

13 (WED) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES Pray for the printing and delivery of the Karen-English New Testament.

14 (THU) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES Praise God for the eighty-two students at the recent SowH training. Pray that God uses them to positively influence the young people in the refugee camp.

15 (FRI) BHUTAN Pray for Christians to establish good connections with those in authority, leading to greater religious freedom and opportunities for people to hear the Gospel.

16/17 (SAT/SUN) BHUTAN Pray for Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay as he heads the nation amid economic challenges.

18 (MON) PAKISTAN Pray for the leaders and government officials to govern with justice and integrity, working for everyone's well-being.

19 (TUE) PAKISTAN Pray against the strongholds of Islamist extremism; that the nation be protected from violence and unrest.

20 (WED) MYANMAR Pray for the physical and emotional healing of children who have been injured or traumatized by the war.

21 (THU) MYANMAR Pray for women to be shielded from violence, exploitation, and abuse during the ongoing conflict.

22 (FRI) NEPAL Pray for the safety of Christian leaders being used by God to grow their churches. They may face persecution

and be targeted by forces trying to stop the growth of the Church.

23/24 (SAT/SUN) NEPAL This nation has repeatedly faced natural disasters. Pray for those who have lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods. Pray for swift recovery and rebuilding of affected communities.

25 (MON) AFGHANISTAN The value of Afghanistan's currency has been tumbling, thereby deepening poverty. Pray for the government to work to improve its economic situation and take it seriously.

26 (TUE) AFGHANISTAN For Afghans, following Jesus is a courageous decision with potentially devastating consequences. Pray for Christians to remain strong in faith.

27 (WED) NE INDIA Pray as church leaders prepare for a Leadership training seminar soon.

28 (THU) NE INDIA Tribal Christians in the Northeast have experienced political and social marginalization, discrimination, limited access to resources and exclusion from decision-making processes. Pray for God's sovereignty over them.

29 (FRI) CAMBODIA Pray for the regional leaders of Cambodia to work in unity as they plan for the Church Empowerment Program in their areas.

30/31 (SAT/SUN) CAMBODIA Ask God to bring about positive change and transformation in the lives of political leaders.

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