

## Welcome to the 2019 edition of the 30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World for kids and families!

This year we are focusing on hospitality. Hospitality is something you do to welcome and care for other people. It is a way of showing love and honor to people you care about. If you are invited to a meal by your neighbors, they are offering you hospitality; they are your host and you are their quest.

Note: some of the pages have quizzes. You will find the answers on page 32.

For many Muslims, hospitality is very important, and many believe that during Ramadan you have to be especially hospitable because Allah will reward you for it. In this year's booklet you will read about different traditions of hospitality around the world. You will pray for people from many different places, such as North America and China, as well as for people who live on small islands.

Remember, you are not alone when you are praying with your family. The same day, maybe at the same time, many people all around the world are praying for the same Muslim groups you are praying for. Why don't you invite your friends to come and pray with you? Your prayers will certainly bring changes to the people you are praying for.

#### Thank you for praying!

**Your 30 Days Editors** 



## DAY MAY 6

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for the Fulani women staying for a long time alone with their children in their tent villages, that they will experience God's protection, provision and peace like the widow of Zarephath.

2 Pray that travelers who know the gospel will come and stay with them to share it.

3 Pray that the Fulani will realize that Jesus is knocking at the doors of their hearts, willing to share eternal life with them. (Revelation 3:20)

#### Let's go!

Use chairs and a blanket to make a tent. Prepare and serve tea in your tent to one another.

Read 1 Kings 17:7-15 about how the poor widow of Zarephath served Elijah and experienced God's supernatural help in return. The Fulani of the Sahel

How can you serve guests in the desert, if there are no shops? Impossible? Issata knows how she can do it. She is a Fulani woman, one of a people group of about 35 million who live in the Sahel desert, which extends from the west to the east of North Africa.

If you travel through this desert you will find Fulani men with their sheep, looking for food for the sheep or trading goods. You will also find tent villages where the Fulani women and children remain. They will definitely invite you to stay with them because you would not find any hotel. For the Fulani, hospitality is very important.

Issata will never ask you how long you will stay. She will always serve generously, willingly and without limits, even if you stay for months or a year.

The Fulani don't have a big variety of food, but they will serve you a hibiscus drink and millet couscous with a fish stew. And, of course, you will have a mat and a blanket to sleep.



### DAY 2 MAY 7

## Egypt: The traditions of hospitality are changing

#### Prayer ideas

1 In 1 John 3:1 we read that God loves us very, very much. Pray that the people in Egypt will experience the love God has for them.

2 The relationship between Muslims and Christians in Egypt is sometimes difficult. Pray that they will become friends and share God's love.

3 Pray that young people in Egypt will bring more good change to the country. One change that is needed is religious freedom, so that everyone can believe what they choose.

#### Let's go

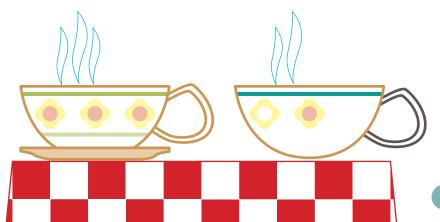
Because it is the young people in Egypt who bring change, today the youngest in your family decides who will start to pray. Everybody start by standing up, and sit down when you have finished your prayer until everyone is sitting down, ready to eat.

Can you find the differences between the tea cups?

Answer on page 32

When someone is invited to a home in Egypt he will get a big meal with a lot of food. Even after he is full, his host (the person who has invited them to his home) will ask him to eat more. If the guests are eating more, the host feels honored. But this tradition is also very expensive, and not everyone has enough money to buy so much food for their guests. So they might decide not to invite anyone at all.

During Ramadan many families are expected to be especially hospitable. Young people in Egypt don't like this tradition, which puts such a burden on them. Many have started to invite their friends just for a cup of coffee, without giving them a huge meal. The young people have realized they can be hospitable without having to spend much money.





#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for people who are examples of honesty, peace, unity and compassion among the Malian people, and who will make good changes in the country.

2 Pray for courageous Christians who are working as strangers in Mali, that they will share the gospel and shine as lights.

3 Pray that many Malians will accept Jesus the Savior and learn from His teaching.

#### Let's go

Make a cup of tea for everyone. While drinking tea, discuss how someone can be a peacemaker as in Hebrews 12:14. Then pray for people to be peacemakers.

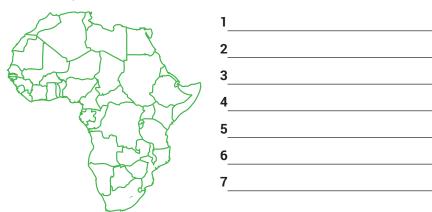
Find Mali on a map. Is it in the north, east, south or west of Africa? Mali has seven neighbouring states. Find them all on the map:

Answers on page 32

### A cup of tea in Mali

It can be dangerous for a foreigner to go to Mali because there are a lot of fights between the different tribes. But if a stranger is able to visit a family there he will be welcomed warmly. The Malians have a saying: "The stranger is worth more than you." The first person who greets the stranger will invite him to his house and he will become like a part of that family. They share everything, even offering their family's name and protection.

One thing you will find in all communities in Mali is people drinking tea together. You see them everywhere, sitting around a teapot with little glasses of tea served—in the streets, in front of a shop, in the courtyard of a house. They drink tea and discuss family, politics, religion, or—a favourite topic—soccer!



### DAY 4 MAY 9

## Coffee in Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray that those who know Jesus in BiH will help the other groups to come together in peace again.

2 Pray that believers will share about Jesus as they drink coffee with the Bosniaks.

3 Even 20 years after the terrible war, many people in Bosnia cannot forgive those who fought against them.

Pray that this country can find a way to restore unity and re-unite their nation as they experience God's love and peace. Let's go

Get some coffee beans.
(If you don't have any,
draw some and cut them
out, or use other little
beans or even stones.)
After every prayer put
two beans in a cup. See
how many beans you
have — enough to

Do you like coffee? Maybe you are too young to drink it. In Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) coffee is very special: It is served in tiny cups and often poured out of beautiful little coffee pots. At any meeting, when people come together with friends or neighbors for almost any reason, people in BiH will drink coffee together.

A few years ago there was a terrible war in BiH. The three main groups of people – the Bosniaks (who are Muslim), the Croats (Catholic) and the Serbs (Christian Orthodox) – fought with each other. It is hard to be friends with one another now.



### DAY 5 MAY 10

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray that the Rohingyas will be allowed to go back to their families in their home country and that their broken hearts will be healed and restored.

2 Pray that Christians will share the gospel with them and the people will find Jesus as their Savior.

**3** Pray that Rohingya children will have opportunities for a good future with education and jobs.

#### Let's go!

Refugees are often hiding and uncertain about who to talk to. Hide around your house in different places. The first person should find another and secretly whisper their prayer to them. Then the person who was found should find the next person. Repeat this until everyone is found.

## Rohingya refugees in Malaysia

Sabekunahar invites us in and rolls out a brightly colored mat for us to sit on. Her welcome is warm and friendly, even though she was very busy with morning housework, childcare and cooking. Sabekunahar lives with her family as refugees in Malaysia and had to learn the local language, which she uses to talk to us. She rushes into the kitchen, thinking quickly what she should cook for us. Rohingyas love to cook for visitors even if they have little money.

Sabekunahar creates a feast of curry and rice and a bowl of fresh fruit. She puts much more on our plates than we can eat and encourages us: "Eat, eat!" She is happy we enjoy the meal.

Sabekunahar doesn't like to talk about the difficult journey she and the other 150,000 Rohingya refugees had to get to Malaysia. They had to leave their home because of violence but they are separated from family and they feel very lonely, especially because they are not at all welcome in Malaysia. They will say: "Bishi matha har!" ("It is eating my head!"),

which is what they say when they have a difficult problem to solve.

"Eat, eat!" She is happy we enjoy the meal.



#### Prayer ideas

1 Read the verse in the riddle and pray for the Kazakh Christians who show God's love through welcoming people into their homes.

2 Pray that many Kazakhs will get to know Jesus through missionaries among them.

**3** Pray for the Kazakhs who live in other countries, that they will make friends with others and receive blessings.

#### Let's go!

Do you want to be a Kazakh today? Take a sheet and put it over your table. Now you have a tent like a Kazakh. As a family you can sit in the tent to pray.

### Having tea among the Kazakhs

When a Kazakh invites you to come and drink tea at his house you can be sure that you will not only get plenty of delicious tea with lots of milk, but also you will get a full meal. Many Kazakhs live in traditional yurts, which are round tents. They look after their animals and they can easily move around, taking their yurts with them and rebuilding them in a different place.

Naomi doesn't live in a yurt anymore. She and her husband live in the city near a hospital. She has an open house for anyone who comes from the countryside to the city because they need treatment at the hospital. Naomi knows Jesus and whenever she has such visitors she will tell them about Jesus too.

The following is exactly what Naomi is doing. Can you read it?

Semoh ruoy otni meht emoclew dna pleh deen ohw elpoep rof kooL. pleh deen ohw elpoep s'doG htiw erahS. (13:12 snamoR)

Answer on page 32



## DAY

**MAY 12** 

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for the people who are addicted to drugs to become free, and for more programs to help them.

- 2 Pray for progress in Bible translation and opportunities to share the gospel, and also for more freedom of religion to make this possible.
- **3** Pray that Maldivians who are interested to learn more about Jesus begin to follow Him and make disciples.

## The Maldives: Paradise without Christ

Let's go!

Everyone should get a towel or blanket. Spread them out on the floor and each one is now an island! Everyone sits on his own island to pray. Have we done something wrong?" our Maldivian friends used to ask if we didn't visit them for a few days. Maldivians (also called Dhivehis) are very hospitable. Our friends love to serve tea and delicious food to us any time of the day, as often we can come by.

The Maldives Islands are in the Indian Ocean, south-west of India and Sri Lanka. It's a chain of hundreds of beautiful small islands, a picture of paradise. Many tourists come here for holidays. The Maldivian people are Muslims by law and have no religious freedom. But corruption is a big problem, women and children have an especially hard life, and there is a lot of drug addiction.

Only a few Maldivians know Jesus as their Savior. For more than 20 years Christians have tried to translate the Bible, but only a few parts are available so far, because it is really difficult to find Maldivians who will help with the translation. They are afraid to get involved.





#### Prayer ideas

1 Read the story in Matthew 13:45–46 together, and pray that Emiratis will learn that knowing Jesus is even better than owning a very precious pearl.

2 Pray that the Jesusfollowers who live in the Emirates will have the courage to tell their Emirati friends about Him.

3 Pray that the Emirates will become a blessing to the nations around them.

#### Let's go!

Write the prayer points on pieces of paper, turn them into small balls (like pearls) and hide them.

Then everyone can search for them and if you find one, pray together, before you search for the next one.

Even if they were poor, though, they showed hospitality to all people.

### United Arab Emirates (UAE)

The Burj Khalifa is only one of many high-rise buildings in the UAE today. About 50 years ago, before oil was found and made the nation very wealthy, the Emirates looked very different.

Before oil, many people in the UAE were poor, but they were famous for pearls. Pearls are precious gems found in oysters in the sea. Many men sailed out into the sea to dive for them, sometimes up to 50 dives each day. Diving for pearls is dangerous work and it did not make Emiratis rich. Even if they were poor, though, they showed hospitality to all people, even strangers who came to them. They offered dates, nuts, coffee or tea and whatever else they could.

Many Emiratis have become rich and live very differently from their grandfathers who were pearl divers. Nobody dives for pearls anymore. But they still like to have guests and treat them with great hospitality.

If you are diving for pearls, you will find one pearl after looking in about 1,000 oysters. But if you look for an Emirati who knows Jesus you will only find one in 50,000.

By the way, did you know?

The Burj Khalifa in Dubai is the tallest building in the world.

## **DAY 9**MAY 14

#### Prayer ideas

In Turkish culture, being clean is a symbol of the desire to be accepted by God. Pray that the Turks will discover that Jesus said that they are made clean if they believe in Him.

2 Many Turks feel insecure and fearful because of many difficult things happening in their country. Pray for peace in the nation and for wisdom in the government.

3 Pray that the Christians in Turkey can tell their Muslim neighbours about Jesus.

#### Let's go!

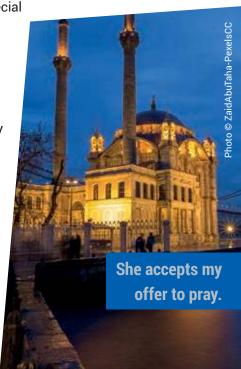
Today you can pray in the living room. The youngest of you pours a drop of perfume into the hands of everyone. You can also put some sweets or cookies for each one on a tray. Everybody who has prayed can eat one of the goodies.

## Turkey

The Turkish street is very dirty, but my friend's apartment is very clean. She welcomes me with a hug, kisses right and left, and smiles. I take off my shoes and she offers me some house slippers (*terlik*) that she

keeps for her guests. We go to the special room that is only used for guests. The grandmother of the family sits there in the most honored seat. I greet her by kissing her hand and touching it to my forehead as a sign of respect. Then the daughter of the house pours some *kolonya* (a light perfume) into my cupped hands to wash them.

I am offered Turkish coffee, a glass of water and a sweet called Turkish delight. At other times the hostess might offer çay (Turkish tea) with sweet or salty cookies. We talk about the challenges in the family, the frail health of the grandmother and problems with the children. She accepts my offer to pray in the name of Isa (Jesus), but is surprised that I do it right there.



## The Afar of Djibouti: Camel milk in the desert

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray that the believers among the Afar learn to trust each other and can meet together.

2 Pray that Christian workers who disciple the new believers will have wisdom about how to best help them.

3 Pray for those Afar who are still shepherds, that they find enough water and food for their animals. Can you pray Psalm 23 for them?

#### Let's go!

Pour some kind of milk into a flat bowl. You can offer the milk to each other and the one who gets the milk will take a sip and then pray. Remember, if you are a guest you cannot refuse the milk!

he Afar people used to be shepherds and proud warriors. When somebody came to visit they offered them camel milk in a flat dish. It didn't matter if you liked milk or not, you just could not refuse, otherwise you would have been very rude.

The Afar lived in a place that now belongs to the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea and Ethiopia. Because of the borders between the countries and because there was not enough water for their animals anymore, many Afar had to go and live in cities in very poor conditions.

Many years ago, missionaries went to the Afar to tell them about Jesus and to translate their Bible, but it is only in the last few years that Afar people have started to follow Jesus. Some have had dreams and visions of Jesus. It is difficult for new believers because their families persecute them and because there are not many Christian fellowships they can join.



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Answers on page 32

#### Prayer ideas

1 Honor is very important to the Hui so they are also afraid of being shamed. Sometimes they will go into debt to provide their guests with the very best. Pray that they will have a revelation of Jesus' love for them.

- 2 Pray for Christian workers to establish good relationships and share the gospel in love.
- 3 Pray that the fruits of the Spirit will be seen among the Hui.

#### Let's go!

Before you pray, try to make an "Eight Treasures Tea", then sit on the floor around your tea tray with the tea and the cups.

Read Galatians 5:22.

Here Paul writes about fruits, not for tea but for our lives.
How many are listed?
Write them on a paper, talk about the meaning and see if you can memorize the verse!

Answer on page 32

### The Hui Muslims in China

In north-west China lives a Muslim people group of over 10.5 million people called the Hui. It is a high honor for non-Hui people to be invited to visit a Hui family. The guests sit around a small table, but the host keeps standing, ready to serve.

First of all, the host will prepare and serve the "Eight Treasures Tea" in a covered bowl. To make this special tea, they add up to eight items for taste and decoration. You'll find dried fruits (dates, figs, raisins, dried berries or other dried fruits), rock sugar and even a rose or another small flower.

Sometimes the guests are invited for a meal. Hui people never waste food. They even brush the crumbs from the table into their hands and put it into their mouths. Honored guests may be surprised to be served a chicken's bottom as a special treat!





#### Prayer ideas

1 The Masalit have experienced war and lost many of the things that were important to them. They have also been treated unjustly by others. Pray that they can reconcile with those who have been unfair and rebuild their lives.

2 Pray that rain will come to this very dry region this year so that the Masalit can harvest enough food to eat.

3 Pray that the Masalit will experience the blessings of God and will get to know Him.

#### Let's go!

The Masalit people who told this story took a long time to get home, and had to overcome many obstacles. Build an obstacle course through your living room with some chairs and other things. While you do the obstacle course you can pray for the Masalit.

### The Masalit of Sudan

We had to drive for many hours to reach the village where we came from. It was almost dark when we reached our house. We had been away for many years and had come home to visit our parents. They had not seen us for a long time and quickly invited all the neighbors to come and greet us too. We had a great celebration with a feast of a slaughtered sheep. We drank our traditional drink (kirimta) and danced all night while our friends played the drums.

We do not often have such celebrations. The Masalit are a big tribe, but very poor, and many people from our tribe have left our home region and either have become refugees or live in slums in many of the big cities in Africa. Some have even risked sailing in small boats to go to Europe.



#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for peace among Patouli families and tribes, for hope for a better life, and that they come to understand what Jesus wants to give to them.

2 Pray that Patoulis will meet Christians who can tell them the good news about Jesus.

3 Pray that the Patouli will be able to have more access to healthcare and schools.

#### Let's go!

Because the Patoulis live a mountainous area, climb to a higher place for prayer. Stand on the couch, a chair, or maybe a ladder or even climb a hill!

## The Patoulis of Afghanistan

In the rough, high mountains of Central Asia where no cars or motorcycles can go, you'll find the Patoulis\*. There are only about 300,000 people in this community but they are strong and hard-working and will easily walk for a whole day to meet with family or friends.

You will not find any shops or a guest house in their villages. After a long and exhausting walk, the first Patouli you will meet will eagerly invite you into his house and offer you everything that they have: Tea, hard cornbread dipped in red beans or yogurt ball soup, water and a bed. No matter how many guests come, they always say: "God will provide."

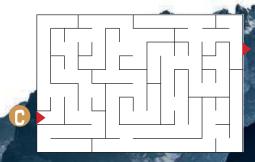
Although the Patoulis like to make jokes, they face many problems such as sickness, violence and death. Some are trying to dig a road through the mountains to make it easier to go to the market and receive healthcare. But it is still almost impossible for them to hear about Jesus.

\* Not their real name, to protect Christian workers.

Help the Christian workers find the right way through the mountains to take the good news to the Patoulis!

P = Patoulis C = Christian worker

Answer on page 32





#### Prayer ideas

1 William Carey, a missionary who lived over 200 years ago, translated the Bible into Bengali. Pray that Bengali Muslims will read the Bible and be inspired by it to follow Jesus.

2 The Bengali Muslims who live in India are facing great problems. Pray that there will be peace in the areas where they live.

3 Pray that the Bengali Muslims who do know Jesus are able to meet together and learn more about how to be followers of Jesus.

#### Let's go!



These letters are in
Bengali script and say
"Jesus Christ". The Bible
that the Bengali Muslims
read is written with this
script. Read Hebrews
4:12 together from your
Bible then pray that the
Bengali Muslims will
have access to theirs.

### Bengali Muslims

John was invited to a wedding in a Bengali Muslim family. At the wedding feast, he was already full and could not eat any more

food. But before he could hold his hand over his plate to show that he did not want any more, his host put more food into his plate. Whenever someone visits the house of a Bengali Muslim, they will get something to eat or drink even if the family is poor and has hardly enough for themselves.

Most Bengali Muslims live in

Bangladesh. All together there are about 185 million Bengali Muslims, which makes them the second biggest Muslim ethnic group. (The biggest group is the Arab Muslims.) Not many Bengali Muslims know Jesus, but in the past few

Jesus, but in the past few years several of them have started to believe in Jesus.

By the way, did you know?

If you want to know how your name looks in Bengali, you can go to this website: http://mylanguages.org/bengali\_write.php



#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for Muslim immigrants to adjust easily to their new country and to make friends who can help them.

2 Pray for Christians in Chicago to get involved in helping immigrants become familiar with their new community and share Jesus' love with them.

3 Pray that Muslims who follow Jesus will share the gospel to other newcomers in their own language.

## Muslims in Chicago, USA

#### Let's go!

Go for a prayer walk, either through your house or outside, and look around for things that might be strange for people who are new to your country! Because of wars, famines, poverty and religious conflicts many people from Muslim countries have found refuge in the USA, mainly in larger cities like Chicago. There are at least 60,000 Muslims from different Asian and African countries in Chicago, often living close together in the same neighborhoods. Here they encounter new struggles: They have to learn English and find jobs, and the children have to adjust to school in a new language. It is difficult to cope with a different lifestyle and to make friends with locals. They also worry about relatives back home, who are often still in dangerous situations.

In the USA it is much easier for Muslims to learn about Jesus. Many churches and Christians are helping Muslims, teaching them English and inviting them to their homes and churches. Muslims in America also love to show hospitality to people who visit them and perhaps offer a meal from their home country. When they become friends, American Christians can pray with their Muslim immigrant friends for their families back home.

Newcomers have to cope with a lot of things that are very different from their home country. Here are some, but the letters got mixed up. Can you straighten them out?

neymo	lures		
doof	shoyalid		
gauganle	terhawea		

#### Prayer ideas

1 The government doesn't recognize the Kaka'i as a people group; as a result, they are sometimes treated unfairly. Pray that they can live in peace.

2 The Kaka'i would love to have a personal relationship with God. Pray that they understand who Jesus really is and that He wants to be their friend.

3 Some Kaka'i already follow Jesus. Pray that they will share that with others and bring the truth about God to the people who call themselves "people of truth".

#### Let's go!

Can you draw a moustache on a paper and cut it out? Make one for every family member. Hold them over your upper lip when you pray today for the Kaka'i. For the rest of the day you can carry your moustache in your pocket to remind you to pray for the Kaka'i.

## The Kaka'i of Iran and Iraq: Hospitality with a moustache!

The Kaka'i call themselves "ahl al haqq", which means "people of truth". They are part of the Kurdish people and live in Iran and Iraq. You will easily know if a man is a Kaka'i because all Kaka'i men have large moustaches. The Kaka'i are Muslims, but they also believe other secret things that they don't talk about it. They love to sing together and to make music and they do like to be with Christians. Some of them even have a picture of Jesus in their house. But it is hard for a Kaka'i to really become a

follower of Jesus because if they do so, the others think that they don't want to be part of their community anymore.

The following verse is important for the Kaka'i, but somehow all the words got mixed up. Can you solve it?

"Later, Jesus again to the talked people. He said. 'I the am world of the light. Follows whoever me will darkness live in never. They have will the life gives that light." (John 8.12)

Answer on page 32

## DAY **MAY 22**

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray especially for women in Morocco. that they will have the opportunity to hear about Jesus.

**2** Pray that Christians in Morocco will show kindness and love to their Muslim neighbors during times of grieving.

3 Many Muslim countries don't allow Bibles so it is hard for people to get one. Pray that Moroccans will find ways to hear God's Word and understand how "sweet" it is.



#### Let's go!

Do you have some sugar or honey or something sweet in your house? After you have prayed, eat a sweet and let the next person pray.

Psalm 119:103 describes the sweetness of the Word of God. Write the verse in bright colors on a paper and post it on the wall over your bed to remind you to pray for Morocco!

Mourning in Morocco

Grace, a foreigner who lived in Morocco, heard one day that her neighbor's mother had died. She knocked on her door and offered her a box of sugar cubes. In Morocco, sugar is an appropriate gift to express sympathy to those who are mourning. The neighbor took the sugar into the kitchen and came back with a pot of mint tea, the traditional drink. She took the same sugar Grace had just given to her and mixed it in the tea. Even while grieving she showed warmth and hospitality, though it was difficult.

Often when somebody dies, people start to think about their own life and death. Some Muslims think about Jesus who rose from the dead and offers eternal life. Some Muslims have found peace and joy in Jesus and have tasted

that He is good.



## DAY **MAY 23**

## The Saho people in Eritrea and Ethiopia

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for people like Tesfay who are sharing the good news with the Saho.

2 Pray for a full Bible in the Saho language to be translated and printed.

3 Pray that the peace between the two countries will last, so that

#### Let's go!

Can you find the following words in Romans 10:14: Pray, believe, hear, tell? Who needs to tell, who needs to hear? One of you can be the one who tells the good news, the others can listen, then you pray together.

For many years there was a war between the countries of Eritrea and Ethiopia. Recently, however, they have reached a peace agreement – and the region is ready for peace. Around 300,000 Saho people live in this region. They are farmers and shepherds. Only a few of them are Christians and only a few books of the Bible are translated into the Saho language.

John and Ben have traveled to a small village in the Saho region. They were welcomed by one of the few Saho people who know Jesus and follow Him. They are drinking coffee and eat popcorn while they are waiting for their friend, Tesfay. Tesfay travels around the region, telling the Saho people about Jesus, and today he is meeting with John and Ben to tell them about the work he is doing. Before they leave, the three men pray together. Tesfay is really happy that they have come to visit him.



#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray that many Somalis will find peace in Jesus.

Let's go!

For every prayer request

you will change the

people in the room.

One stays outside and

knocks. The others ask:

"Ma nabad baa?" or "Is it

peace?" The one outside

will answer: "It is peace!"

Then you pray together.

2 Droughts and wars are devastating the Somali people. Pray for peace, for rain and for restoration of the country and its people.

3 Pray for Somalis in other countries to meet followers of Jesus who will spend time with them and introduce them to Jesus the peacemaker.

### The Somali of Somalia

Ma nabad baa?" This is a common Somali greeting, meaning, "Is it peace?" Somalis are not always very welcoming, and are suspicious of strangers.

Find Somalia on a map. It's in north-east Africa. Because of the shape of the country it is called the "Horn of Africa". Often, we hear about political conflicts or droughts and hunger there. It is a long way from being a peaceful country. Therefore, the question "Is it peace?" is a good one.

But it is still possible to have a peaceful time with a Somali friend and a friendly welcome with a cup of Somali tea and a camel-meat snack. The adult men will sit on the floor and talk, but you might play with the children running around, and the women are usually in the kitchen chatting. It takes time to build trust and friendship, but when you do you are part of their family.

Because of the huge problems in their country, many of the 20 million Somalis have left to live in other countries. Will they find peace there?

Read every line from the end to front!

.uoy ot evig I ecaep ym; uoy htiw eveal I ecaeP .uoy ot evig I od sevig dlrow eht sa toN ,delbuort eb straeh ruoy ton teL 72:41 nho.J .diarfa eb meht tel rehtien

Who is promising this? \_



#### Prayer ideas

1 Uighurs are a small people group in China and it is difficult for them. Pray that Chinese Christians will become their friends.

2 Read Song of Solomon 2:4 together. It says that God wants to give us in abundance and that He loves us. Pray that the Uighurs can experience this Godly love.

3 Pray for those Uighurs who live outside of China.

#### Let's go

Pray after your meal, with your hands raised. Choose a host to say the last prayer and everyone can say "Amin!" at the end, so you feel a little bit like Uighurs.

## **Uighur Muslims of China**

Mahmud had invited his friends to come to his family to celebrate a very important Muslim festival called Korban, where Muslims remember that Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son.

When they arrived they were served tea together with fruits, sweets and a flat bread called naan. They were also given some water in a bowl to wash their hands. Once they had finished their tea the meal really got started. They were served more naan, lamb and noodles. They were really full after that and thought that it was time for them to go home. But more and more food was served, until finally at the end all raised their hands. Then the host gave thanks for the meal and everyone said "Amin!"

Uighurs really love to be hospitable and they express their friendship through it. But it has become harder for Uighurs to express their hospitality like that, because there are only a few of them in the big nation of China and life has become very difficult for them.

In Matthew 22:1-14 Jesus tells the story of a big party where many people are invited. Search for the Uighurs, who are hiding in this picture and who Jesus wants to invite as well.



Answer on page 32

#### Prayer ideas

1 In Zanzibar many people believe in witchcraft. Pray that the people realize that Jesus wants to set them free from this and give them a peaceful relationship with God and each other.

2 Pray that Christians in Zanzibar will find open doors to share about Jesus the Savior.

**3** Pray that new believers will grow in their relationship with Jesus and be examples as Jesus-followers.

#### Did you know?

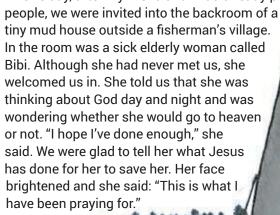
Zanzibar is known as the 'Spice Island' because many spices we use grow there, such as pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. If you have some of these spices get them out. If you have time why not use some of them to bake a cake? Either way, it will smell like Zanzibar while you are praying.



### The Swahili of Zanzibar

Zanzibar is a small island, belonging to Tanzania in East Africa. You'll find it north of Dar es Salaam. Although it is so small, there are 1.4 million people living there, and 99 percent of them are Muslim. They are very friendly and welcome you with "Karibu!" ("Welcome!") wherever you meet them. If you accept their invitation they will quickly serve you tea with milk and sugar. Then they may listen to the gospel you are sharing with them, just as we experienced when visiting Bibi ...

One day, after my friend and I had already prayed with many sick



They are very friendly and welcome you with 'Karibu!' ('Welcome!') wherever you meet them.

## Hospitality in Kohistan

#### Prayer ideas

1 When the Kohistani are sick there is nobody to help them. Pray for healthcare workers to come to their area.

2 There are only a few followers of Jesus among the Kohistani. Pray that they can be examples to others in forgiveness and in bringing peace.

3 There is no Bible in the Kohistani language and only a few people can read. Pray for Bible translators and that people can learn to read.

#### Let's go!

Today we are praying for people who come from an area with high mountains. Put a chair in the middle of your room, so that the person who prays can climb on the chair to pray.

Ahmed is running to the tower of refuge to hide. Can you show him the way? Answer on page 32 Kohistan means "Land of Mountains" and is in northern Pakistan. It is a place where not much grows and where some of the highest mountains on earth stand. About 600,000 Kohistani live there. They only became Muslims in the 17th century, about 400 years ago.

The Kohistani follow many very old traditions. For example, if someone does something bad it is the village chiefs who will be the judges but the person who is accused can run and hide in a tower of refuge.

Amira is on the way to visit her friend in the upper village. She carries one child on her back and holds the other by her hand. Because it is a long way she gets really tired. But when she arrives, her friend tells her to sit down on the bed and makes her some tea with a little goat's milk inside. The children of the two friends soon



## **DAY 23**MAY 28

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for jobs, schools and medical care for the Bedouin.

2 Pray that Bedouins will have many opportunities to meet Christians who will share about Jesus.

3 Pray that God will reveal to them through dreams that Jesus is standing at the door and wants to come into their lives. (Read Rev 3:20.)



#### Let's go!



Copy this Bedouin tent to a bigger paper and color it. Draw a picture of Jesus by the tent — he knocks at the door and is coming to visit while they are drinking tea.

### The Bedouin of the Levant

The Bedouin are a nomadic people. This means that they traditionally live in large tents in the desert, together with their animals. Nowadays, many Bedouin no longer wander around searching for pasture land for their animals. Instead, you can find them in villages and cities because there are more jobs there. But they have kept their traditional custom of hospitality, which is very important for them.

Guests will be under the full protection of a Bedouin family until they leave. The hosts feel responsible for all their needs. They provide everything for a comfortable stay. Before serving a meal with the best food, they provide tea or coffee. This is very important because if a cup is offered and the guest accepts the cup, they start to build trust to do business together. With certain movements of the hand and cup you can say if you want more or if you have had enough.

Bedouins are proud Muslims. Most of them have never heard about Jesus. Only a few have learned about Jesus. Tribal leaders, called "sheikhs", have a lot of influence in the lives of the people, so it is important for the sheikhs to lead the way.

By the way, did you know?

The Levant states are: Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories.

We want to show them how much Jesus loves them.

#### Prayer ideas

1 Many Muslims who live in America are immigrants — in other words, they have come from foreign countries. Pray that they meet Christians who show them that Jesus loves them.

2 Other Muslims have lived in America for a long time, but people still see them as foreigners. Pray that Christians and Muslims have good relationships.

#### Let's go!

Stand opposite each other and pray for Muslims in America, then give each other a hug. For the second prayer hold hands and stand in a circle.

## Muslim hospitality in America

Hello! I am a church leader in the USA, and together with a friend I visited the mosque that is near my house. The leaders of the mosque were very kind and explained many things about their mosque and the prayer service we visited. We had to take off our shoes before we were able to go in and join the men in prayer. The Muslim men there asked us many questions and we decided that we would continue to visit them each week to become friends. Through our friendship we can learn more about their faith and they can learn about ours. We want to show them how much Jesus loves them.

During Ramadan there is a meal in the mosque every evening, and we are always served first because we are the guests, even if we have not fasted through the day as they have. The men must be really hungry, but hospitality is more important to them than feeding themselves.

I have come to really love these men and pray for them a lot. Will you pray too?



By the way, did you know?

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for freedom of speech and religion, which will help the Turkmen to be able to learn about Jesus.

2 Pray for the few Jesus-followers, that they find ways to meet and encourage each other without fear and to share their faith with friends.

3 Pray for the Turkmen who live outside of their country (mostly in Afghanistan, Iran, Azerbaijan and Turkey). Pray that they would meet followers of Jesus who will share the gospel with them.



Let's go!

When you pray today, hold up your hands during the whole prayer time like the Turkmen do.

### The Turkmen of Central Asia

You might have never heard about Turkmen and their country Turkmenistan in Central Asia.

There are about 8 million Turkmen, but only 5 million of them live in their homeland. The capital, Ashkabat, looks impressive with beautiful marble buildings. But the Turkmen know very little about the world beyond their borders. It is hard to leave the country or to get news from

outside. Almost all Turkmen are Muslim; only a few of them follow Jesus. We heard this story from a Christian worker there:

Gülbibi and her three small children live in a very simple, one-room apartment and share the bathroom with other families. Recently, Gülbibi was desperate. Her husband had stolen the little money they had and she didn't know what to give her hungry children to eat.

For the I prayed for them and blessed her home.

When I was praying for her I had the idea to bring her all the ingredients for "pilav", the national dish. Gülbibi was very touched when she received it and urged me to stay for tea. She spread a plastic cloth over the carpet and everyone sat around it. She served hot green tea in small cups, some sweets, bread, cucumbers, tomatoes and a yogurt sauce. Before I left we lifted up our open hands to God and I prayed for them and blessed her home.

## DAY

**MAY 31** 

26

#### Prayer ideas

1 Many Muslims pray all night on the Night of Power. Pray that they will meet Jesus in dreams and visions.

- 2 Solve the riddle above and then pray the verse for Muslims, that they receive good gifts.
- 3 Pray the Lord's Prayer together as a family for Muslims. Imagine that you are doing it with all the people around the world who are also praying on this day for Muslims.

## The Night of Power

Always around the 27th day of Ramadan, Muslims celebrate the "Night of Power", or Laylat al-Qadr. Maybe you have heard of this special night? But why is it so special?

Have you ever done anything that you realized was wrong and wondered if your mum and dad would forgive you? Many Muslims always wonder if God will forgive their sins. But they believe that if they pray and worship Him during this special night, He is more likely to forgive them. They also believe that worship on this one night is like worshiping God for many months at any other time.

Some Muslims also believe that, during this night, God decides what is going to happen to them and their family in the coming year. To be

certain that they are praying on the correct night (because no one really knows for sure which night it is) some Muslims stay in the mosque for the last ten days of Ramadan to pray continuously.

#### Let's go!

Because Muslims pray during the night, make your prayers right before you go to bed, joining Muslims as they are hoping for answers from God.

> Can you read this Bible verse?

Sa dab sa uoy era, uoy llits wonk ohw ot evig stfig ot ruoy nerdlihc. Tub ruoy ylnevaeh Rehtaf si neve erom ydaer ot evig doog sgniht ot elpoep ohw ksa.

Answer on page 32

## **DAY 27**JUNE 1

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for the government to make wise decisions about the economy and caring for the many refugees living in their country.

2 A few Christians live in Jordan, but they are mostly separated from Muslims because of fear of persecution. Pray that God will keep them safe when they reach out to help Muslims and share what Jesus has told them.

3 Pray that Muslims will realize that they are forgiven not because of their good deeds but only through Jesus the Savior.

## Jordan: Counting on God's reward!



Many Muslims believe that God will measure our deeds in a scale, the good deeds against the bad deeds. They believe they have more chances to receive God's forgiveness when they have more good deeds on the scale. Talk together what your good deeds of the day are, then read the following Bible verse:

1. John 1:9

During Ramadan in Jordan we were invited to dinner with Muslim friends, who served a buffet loaded with food. The prices in Jordan are rising constantly but salaries remain the same. That means that families are getting poorer, but they still want to be hospitable. I asked my friend: "Fatma, why is hospitality so important to you?"

She replied: "Because our culture and religion demand it. If I am not generous it would be shameful for me and my family. I also want to be generous to please God. Especially during Ramadan, when the good things we do are multiplied before Him. I don't want anything back from the guests. I only expect my reward from God!"

#### The Bible says about forgiveness:

"If we	our sins, he						
is	and	and will					
us our sins and		us from all					
unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)							
	An	swer on page 32					



## **28**JUNE 2

#### Prayer ideas

1 There is war and a lot of violence in Yemen and many people are hungry or sick because of it. Pray that the war will stop.

2 Pray for the Hadhramis who come from the "valley of death", that they will find abundant life with Jesus.

3 Pray that Hadhrami businesspeople who travel throughout the region will have dreams and visions of Jesus, like Hamoudi, so they can tell the people they meet during their travels about Him.

#### Let's go

Hamoudi is a secret believer. Pretend you are all Hamoudi today. Read the first prayer request and then each one hides somewhere to pray for it. Come together, read the second and hide again.

He had a vision of Jesus who came to set him free

### The Hadhramis of Yemen

he Hadhramis are from a place called "Hadhramaut", which means "valley of death". It is very isolated and the people living there have few opportunities to hear about Jesus. Hadhramis love to have guests, however, and serve them delicious food, such as their special acacia honey and dates.

The Hadhrami are Bedouins and have become wealthy while traveling and selling things. Now many of them live in different countries.

Because of the war between Yemen and Saudi Arabia and because some people from among them did really terrible things, many Hadhramis have lost their homes. Now they are searching for new countries to live and work in.

Hamoudi is an important man among the Hadhramis in his village. He had a vision of Jesus who came to set him free and he started to follow Him secretly. When Hamoudi talks about his new faith he gets into trouble, but he continues to follow Jesus and hopes that others will too.



## **29**JUNE 3

## European migrants: Speaking the language of hospitality

#### Prayer ideas

1 Pray for Christians to take Matthew 25:34–46 seriously and to visit the strangers and help them in their new land.

2 Pray for governments, aid agencies and churches to have wisdom as they try to respond to the migrant crisis in Europe.

3 Pray for Christians to share the good news wisely with those who have never heard it.

#### Let's go!

As a family read together Matthew 25:34-46.

What are the actions
that we have to do
to others and at the
same time for Jesus?
Can you name them?

Answers on page 32

In one word, what is it we should do?

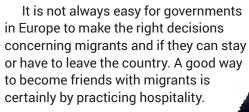
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(rearrange the letters)

A migrant is a person who has traveled from their country to live in a new country, often because they were not safe in their own country anymore. Many migrants have come to Europe, and some are staying in detention centers, which are like a prison and not a nice place to be.

Some chaplains have decided to become friends with the new migrants and so have invited them to evenings together where they can talk about things that are important to them. Their goal is for Muslims and Christians to become friends and treat each other with respect and brotherly love. Everybody can share and listen to the stories of the others.

One of their new friends, a Muslim from Asia, makes the evenings hospitable by serving tea and goodies and seeing that everyone is happy. He makes sure the conversation is friendly and no one is left out.





## JUNE 4

#### Prayer ideas

1 Ask God to show you how you and your family can offer hospitality to Muslims in your neighborhood.

2 Pray for the people who work among Muslims around the world — especially those you know — that they can share the love of Jesus with them.

#### Let's go!

Jesus loved to celebrate with his friends. Why don't you have a little celebration as a family together today. Maybe you can even invite some friends to come and pray with you. Put a sheet or tablecloth on the floor and all the food or the snacks you want to eat, and sit around it like many Muslims will do when celebrating the end of Ramadan.

## Offering hospitality

Several people had come together and were all sitting on the floor in a circle around a tray full of cooked lamb, vegetables, dates and bread. Some of them knew Jesus, others were Muslims; they came from different places and were speaking three different languages.

One of the people welcomed all the guests and explained to them why they were celebrating. He said: "Today we are eating a lamb, but we don't need to kill a lamb anymore as a sacrifice for our sins, because there is Someone, who is full of love, who has died for us to make whole what was broken in us."

After that they all ate together and played some games. At the end they all received a flashlight as a gift to remind them that the He wants to be the light of the world.

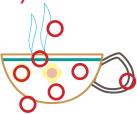
This celebration happened in West Africa. At the end, one of the Muslim guests said that nobody had ever explained to them before what followers of Jesus actually believe.

Read the story in John 2:1-11 and see if you can answer the following questions (cross out the wrong answers):

- 1 What did Jesus make: clean water, apple juice or wine out of water
- 2 How many jars were there: 7, 5 or 6
- 3 What was celebrated: a birthday, a wedding or Passover

### Answer page

Day 2



#### Day 3

Mali/West Africa. Neighboring countries:

- 1 Mauritania
- 2 Algeria
- 3 Niger
- 4 Burkina Faso
- 5 Ivory Coast
- 6 Guinea
- 7 Senegal

#### Day 6

Read backwards: Rom 12:13 Share with God's people who need help. Look for people who need help and welcome them into your homes.

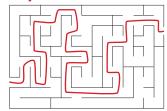
#### Day 10

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#### Day 11

Nine fruits

#### **Day 13**



#### **Day 15**

money food language rules holidays weather

#### **Day 16**

"Later Jesus again talked to the people. He said 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never live in darkness. They will have the light that gives life." (John 8:12)

#### **Day 19**

John 14:27: "'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid!"" Jesus is promising this.

#### Day 20



#### Day 22

The right way: Second from the top.

#### Day 26

Read every word backwards. Start with Sa ... (Matthew 7:11)

#### Day **27**

Missing words: confess, faithful, just, forgive, purify (1 John 1:9)

#### Day 29

giving food and drink, invitation to home, giving clothes, looking after the sick, visiting prisoners, hospitality

#### Day 30

Wine out of water 6 Wedding Published in North America since 1993 by



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