

A part to play

No Christian worker can do it alone. When mission workers follow God's call to serve at home or abroad, they need to know that people are constantly holding them up in prayer.

It takes discipline and commitment to pray for those who live in places we know little about, work in languages we don't speak, may eat breakfast while we're going to bed, and might not return for years. Yet, they remain our brothers and sisters in Christ, even while they're away.



Paul urged the Ephesian church leaders to "keep watch over yourselves and all the flock" (Acts 20:28).

Maintaining a disciplined spiritual life can be challenging for Christian leaders, perhaps even more so than for others, as the devil knows where to strike. Therefore, pray for mission workers to:

1) *"Speak as men approved by God" (1 Thessalonians 2:4).*

2) *Preach "in and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2) with boldness, even when facing threats (Acts 4:29; Ephesians 6:19).*

3) *Lay foundations "as an expert builder" (1 Corinthians 3:10).*

Colossians 1:9-12, Ephesians 3:14-21 and Philippians 1:9-11 teach us about Paul's faith and God's plans for His church. Why not use these verses to pray for your mission worker and the Christians in their area?



Prayer resources are available at sim.org.au/prayer. We hope these resources will encourage and equip you to pray for your mission workers and those they are ministering to.

- 7 day 'Praying for Mission Workers' bookmark
- 30 day 'Praying with Scripture for Mission Workers'
 - Southeast Asia prayer guide
 - Praying for Desert Tribes in West Africa
 - Across Ministries 7 day prayer guide
 - For Freedom 7 day prayer guide

To request a hard copy of any of these guides, **contact:**

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Praying FOR MISSION WORKERS

Supporting God's Work through Prayer



Ways to pray for your mission workers

Their prayer letter

Mission workers all write prayer letters, so why not ask to receive them? These letters will keep you updated on their work and personal needs—their joys, disappointments, hopes, and loneliness, as well as the fruit of their ministries. Pray creatively for their needs and opportunities.

Their country

Pray for political stability and freedom to preach the Gospel in the country where they work. Find out as much as you can about that country by following current news and get background knowledge from the internet. SIM and other organisations have prayer resources available.

Their personal needs

Pray that your mission worker will feel at home in their new country, culture, and climate. Pray that your mission worker friends will “see” and “hear” Jesus, be connected with Him and bear fruit (John 15).

Pray for their children, particularly if they need to attend school in a different country. Ask God to give parents and children peace about being apart.

Pray that the whole family will happily serve the Lord together. Pray for God’s care for their elderly or frail parents back home.

If the mission worker is single, pray for good friendships, for happy holiday times, and opportunities to relax and unwind. Pray for your mission workers friends when it’s time to adjust back to life in their own country. Pray that as they visit churches and supporters they would build strong links and renew relationships.

Pray for good relationships with national Christian leaders and with fellow workers, some of whom may come from different cultures and countries.

Learning a new language, understanding its nuances, and being able to communicate takes time. Pray for encouraging and wise language helpers.

Pray for:

THE NATIONAL CHURCH

Pray for the spiritual growth of pastors and for their ability to teach, preach, disciple and witness. Pray for vision and for love, and that they will have the resources they need.

Pray for Christians to be “salt and light” in their neighbourhoods, society or government, and for good relations with those of other faiths.

Pray for the church and for yourselves to be ‘strong in the Lord and in His mighty power’ to overcome spiritual forces of evil (Ephesians 6:10-18).

PRAYING WITH OTHERS

Check with your friends to see if they know of a prayer group. Or, check out sim.org.au/prayer for a prayer group near you or maybe you could start a new group?

PRAY AS PAUL PRAYED

The apostle Paul was a pioneer missionary who relied on others to pray for him. Pray as he prayed.

FOR BOLDNESS

“Pray...that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel...Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should” (Ephesians 6:19,20).

FOR OPPORTUNITY AND FRUIT

“Pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ...Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should” (Colossians 4:3,4).

Jesus is bringing people to Himself and said, “They too will listen to my voice” (John 10:14-16). Pray that as mission workers speak the words of Jesus, for hearts to be softened and responsive and they would become followers of Jesus, who in turn will take the Good News to others.

Remember that
your prayers
count.