# EVERYHONE



### The Tribe of Jesus

We know that ancient Israel was divided into 12 tribes — but in Jesus' time, the people of God faced greater differences than whether they were descended from Benjamin or Judah. They were a divided society on many levels:

There was Simon the Zealot, who joined a political movement to oppose Rome's foreign occupying force. And there was Levi the tax collector, who betrayed his people to work for Rome.

There was Joseph of Arimathea, a wealthy man who lived in a major city. And there was Peter, an uneducated fisherman who ran a family business in a rural town.

There was Nicodemus, who represented the religious establishment as both a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin. And then there was John the Baptist, an eccentric prophet who picked fights with the Pharisees.

Everyone was broken into groups, often opposing those who were different. Battle lines were drawn along political, religious and social conflicts. Rich against poor. Powerful against marginalised. Insiders against outsiders. The word for this is "tribalism" and it's as alive today as it was in Jesus' time. It's also just as destructive.

But there's one thing that every person I have named had in common, one thing that united them despite their deep-seated differences. I'm talking, of course, about Jesus. Every one of these men put their faith in Jesus and devoted their lives to following Him. And in Him, their differences became strengths.

This Every Home for Christ newsletter explores stories of people who use their unique backgrounds to serve God in ways that no one else can. Working together, they make up different parts of the Body of Christ, each serving the Kingdom in different ways — all drawing people from "their tribe" to the Saviour.

As you read, I would challenge you to consider how God might use you to overcome differences for the sake of the Gospel. How do your experiences uniquely equip you for the Great Commission?

Because someday, tribalism will end. And in its place, every tribe, tongue and nation will worship together at the throne. Men and women, Jew and Gentile, slave and free — all will be a part of the same tribe: the Tribe of Jesus.

I look forward to that day, and I look forward to seeing you there.

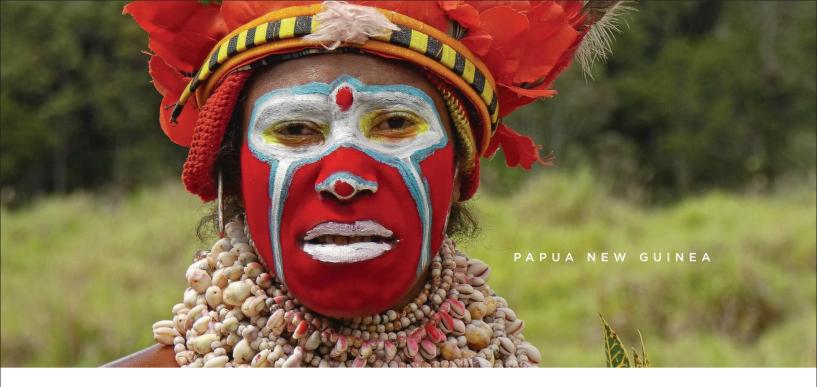
For the harvest,

Dick Eastman

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International President





## Reaching the Tribes at the End of the Earth-Papua New Guinea

How the Gospel is overcoming tribal barriers

by Jono Hall V.P. of Messaging and Mobilisation

A fter more than 50 hours of travel, we descended from the clouds on our Dash 8 prop plane and got our first glimpse of our final destination. Nestled in the green mountains of the Western Highlands Province, Mount Hagen is the third-largest city in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and home to our EHC office. One must fly to Mount Hagen from the capital of Port Moresby as there is no road through the mountains. This was our first glimpse into the remoteness of this beautiful land.

Aaron and Roselyn Nikkie lead the dynamic EHC team in Papua New Guinea. In a nation of 7 million people, over 840 languages and hundreds of tribes, it doesn't take long to see the challenges of tribalism, not only in sharing the Gospel but also in everyday life. Aaron told us about a period of time only a few years ago, when young men from a neighbouring tribe stole one of their vehicles. Although they recovered the vehicle and had a formal reconciliation, the conflict left five dead from one tribe

and four from the other. This was a shocking introduction to the kind of tribal violence that is far too common in PNG.

Papua New Guinea is one of the least urbanised nations on the planet, with approximately only 15% of people living in urban areas. The majority of people still reside in villages, many in thatched huts and many surviving as subsistence farmers. The limited infrastructure related to roads and electricity means that EHC Pioneer Missionaries and volunteers must often walk many miles up mountains and across raging rivers and sometimes over crocodile-infested waters in order to reach places that are beyond the influence of most churches or missionaries.

On my second day in Papua New Guinea, I found myself riding in an EHC Land Cruiser with part of the team as we made our way into the Southern Highlands. In this province, the OIKOS Initiative is going forward swiftly, with many denominational streams getting involved in the transformational work.

## ...most of the young men we passed were carrying weapons of some description, predominantly machetes.

My driver that day was Pastor Bonny Kama, who coordinated all the outreach work in the Southern Highlands. The team has been hugely motivated by the OIKOS Initiative, combining its efforts and picking a region at a time to be reached with the Gospel. As we drove and he pointed out the various villages where outreach was going forward, he also highlighted the languages and tribes of different areas. One area in particular had just had a formal reconciliation after literally hundreds of young men were killed in response to a slight to the honour of one local tribe.

As we drove deeper into the Southern Highlands Province along bone-shaking roads, it was evident to me that most of the young men we passed were carrying weapons of some description, predominantly machetes. At first, I didn't think that they were anything more than farm implements, but slowly it became clear that these were used for more than plants. When we eventually got out of the vehicle and climbed the hill to the small village of Wabi-Sumi, we met with a number of local pastors. They came from different denominational backgrounds, but they all had a passion for the OIKOS Initiative and wanted to see the Gospel penetrate and transform this remote part of the world.

In this endeavour, they are aware that one of the greatest challenges they face is Raskol gangs. Although the idea of problematic "rascals" might strike a Westerner as humorous, the reality is anything but funny. Raskol gangs are young men who engage in theft, rape, murder and all manner of lawless activities. Due to tribal divisions and conflict, corrupt authorities, a lack of basic infrastructure, illiteracy and the lack of employment options, the problem of Raskols continues. It is one of the biggest issues in Wabi-Sumi. (Only two days after we left, we would find out that two men had been murdered in this small village.)







I asked the pastors about redemption and transformation for these Raskols. The Lutheran pastor came alive as he shared about a local Raskol who had recently turned his life around, becoming a pastor and even committing to the OIKOS Initiative. Hearing this story, I was struck by how God has transformed violent cultures and violent men throughout history and used them for His glory. We bowed our heads as a group and prayed that God would transform this area with the Gospel and, indeed, choose some of these violent young men to become messengers of life.

Before travelling to PNG, I had read many testimonies of EHC outreaches in this nation. One name that came up a few times in my reading was Benjamin Patrus, one of the EHC team leaders. I was eager to meet this Benjamin, but I was surprised to hear his backstory.

A few years ago, Benjamin himself was one of the Raskols in the Komkui community. A few members of the EHC team were discussing how to address the Raskols in the area when Aaron Nikkie had an idea. Recognising that we often wait to disciple people until after thev experience salvation, Aaron suggested a reversal discipling people toward Christ as was often modelled in the New Testament.

With this in mind, they found five young men in the community who were open to going on a mission trip with Every Home for Christ. Almost all of them were drug-addicted petty criminals. Samuel, one of the young men, described to me how he was open to going on the trip, but he had smoked marijuana much that SO morning that he was stoned until halfway into the journey.

They journeyed to Kavieng, a town on the far northern tip of New Ireland, where Every Home for Christ owned some undeveloped land. As they followed a young EHC leader named Elijah, these young men gave up their addictive

substances and committed themselves to Christ. Together they built a new EHC base, and as they worked, they were truly discipled to faith. Now all these young men are leading teams of missionaries as they complete the OIKOS Initiative. Bright and smiling, Benjamin is one of them.

Engaging with a culture like that in Papua New Guinea was enlightening. The challenge of seeing the Gospel penetrate across racial and tribal barriers significant. Encountered in nearly every place across the globe —although, not to the same extent that we saw in PNG — such tribal differences span humanity. Though differences between groups can often seem to us permanent and beyond our control, we believe the core of the Gospel is forgiveness, and that speaks to these differences powerfully.

Papua New Guinea has seen a tremendous transformation over the past decades, both on an individual and on a societal basis. There is still so much to do in so many areas of society. The EHC teams, both in PNG and around the world, want to help in these areas but also believe that real change begins with lives that are transformed at the heart level. That is why we are giving so much time and effort to see that this offer of new life is given to everyone, everywhere.



#### **COUNTRY PROFILE**

**COUNTRY LEADER:** 

Peter O'Neill

MINISTRY DIRECTOR:
Aaron Nikkie

POPULATION: 8.4 Million

EVANGELICAL: 22.8%

CHRISTIAN: 94%

LANGUAGES: Tok Pisin,
English and roughly 825
living languages (most linguistically diverse place on Earth)

#### **OIKOS GOALS**

ESTIMATED YEAR OF
COVERAGE: 2028
HOMES TO BE REACHED:
1.7 Million
HOMES REACHED IN 2019:
43,016
POSITIVE RESPONSES
IN 2019: 1,172

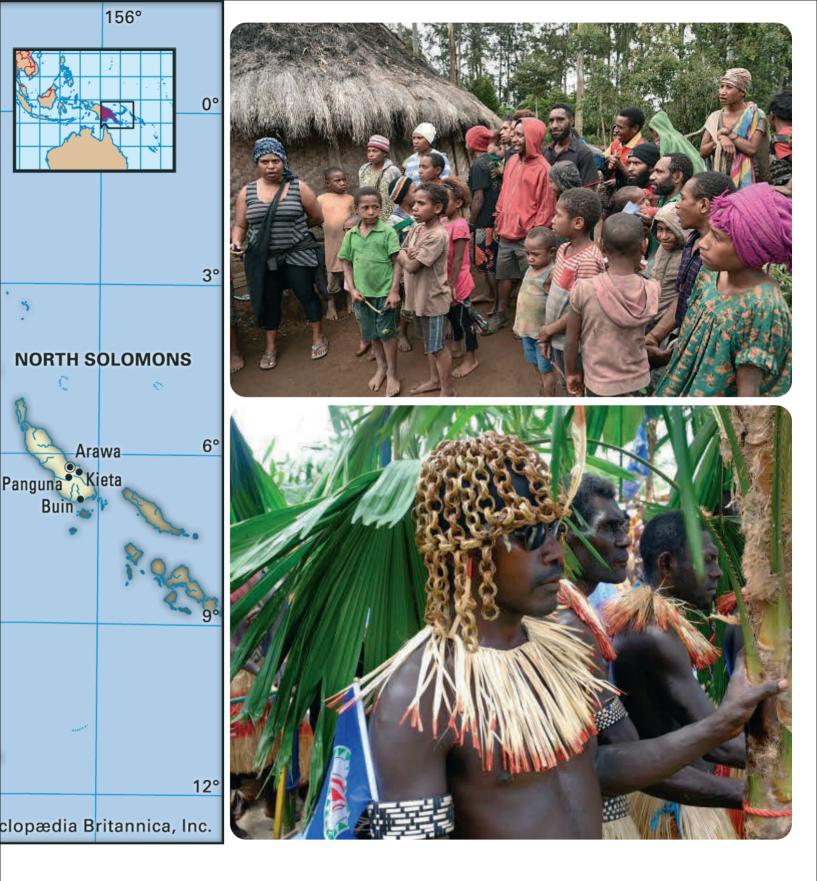
#### PRAY FOR

- The Gospel to run swiftly in the midst of severe geographic and logistical obstacles
- Wisdom for translation and effective gospel tools to reach people in their heart languages
- Workers and volunteers who are passionate to share the Good News throughout all 600 islands





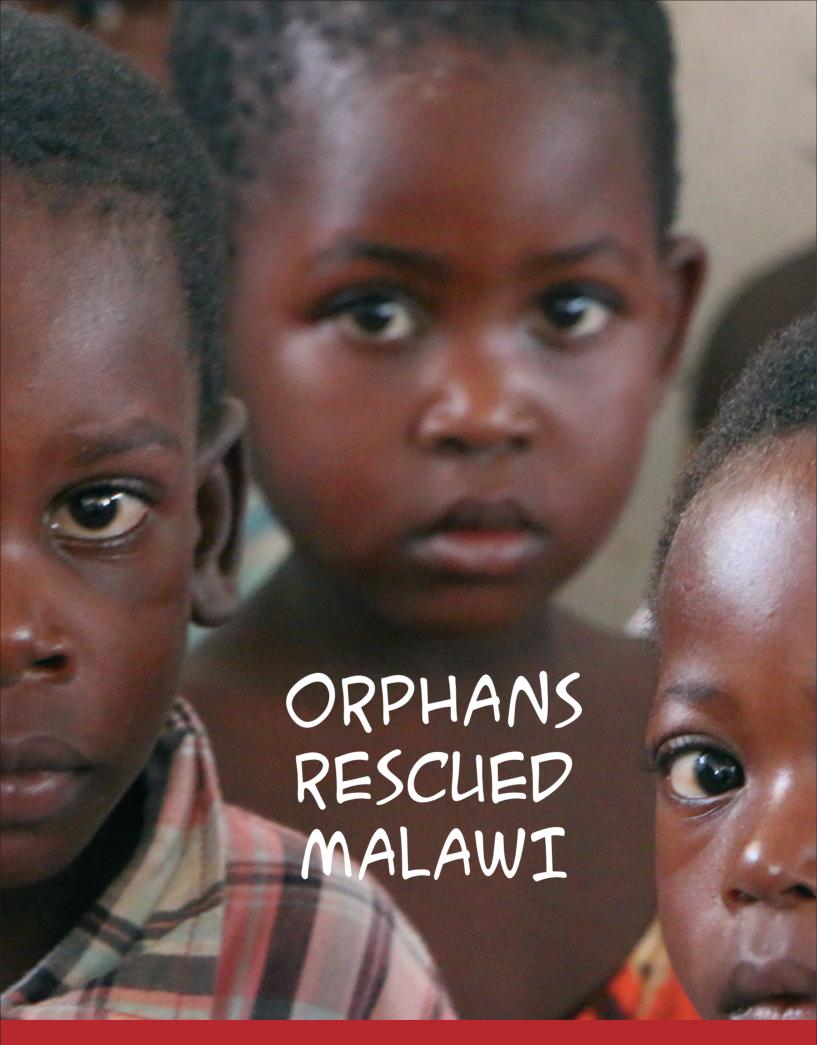
Every Home for Christ Papua New Guinea Director Aaron Nikkie and family



Jesus said to them...

"Go into all the world and preach the Good News to all creation and whoever believes and is baptised will be saved".

Mark 16:15



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Malawi (formally known as Nyasaland) is a beautiful landlocked country in South East Africa bordered by Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania. The name "Malawi" is derived from the name Maravi who were a tribe of people who migrated to the country from the southern Congo region around 1400 AD.

The country is globally renowned for the arrival of the famous Scottish explorer and missionary Dr. Livingstone in 1859, who established Christian ministries throughout the country. A large part of their work at that time was to help bring about the end of slavery in Malawi, which was finally abolished in the country in 1897.

From Livingstone's arrival, Malawi proceeded to be under British colonial rule for approximately 80 years until the country finally gained its independence in 1964. Due to a struggling economy and a lack of biodiversity matched with an ever-increasing population, Malawi is now **the poorest country in the world** with a long way to go in establishing itself without the need for foreign aid.

Most Malawians rely on subsistence farming, but the food supply situation is precarious because of the climate.

Malawi is one of the world's countries worst-hit by HIV-Aids and home to more than one million children orphaned by the disease.

In the poorest parts of the world it is almost impossible for a lone parent to support a large family. And families tend to be large. On average, Malawians have 6.2 children and traditionally, extended families would look after orphaned children. But as Malawi's population continues to grow at an astonishing rate, many families are finding

it harder to properly care for nieces and nephews or grandsons and granddaughters left behind.

#### **ORPHANS "RESCUED"**

Let me introduce you to Mwatipa, and Tiyamike, the children of one of the Every Home for Christ workers in Malawi. Like most children they felt secure and loved and were being brought up by loving parents who excitedly shared with their children the good news that there was soon to be another child in the family. However, as is the case many times in Malawi, the new baby boy, Chigonjetso, was delivered at the expense of his mother who tragically died at childbirth. Their grief-stricken father struggled to look after the baby and the two older girls as well as being faithful to his calling as an Every Home worker. Tragically, when Chigonjetso was still a baby, this father died from Malaria, leaving 3 heart-broken orphans. Ruth, their Aunty, took these children as her own and has given them the life her sister would have wanted although life in rural Malawi with 3 children was a great struggle financially. However one of the Every Home supporters heard about the plight of these children and she has been sending monthly financial support for this family. Ruth married a Malawian Pastor and has since given birth to two healthy baby girls, increasing the family to seven.

An email from Ruth said,

"60D HAS BEEN 600D TO US, THESE CHILDREN THEY DON'T LIVE AS ORPHANS AS OTHERS DO, THEY LIVE AS IF BOTH PARENTS ARE ALIVE."



Although Every Home Global Concern doesn't have a child sponsorship program in Malawi or Zambia, we do have, as part of the Food Security program, **feeding centres for children under 5 years old**. These orphaned children are cared for by relatives who really have so little themselves, so every day they bring the children to the Feeding Centre where they are given a nutritious lunch, listen to stories, sing and dance and learn simple games and basic facts about health and hygiene. EHC used to receive government support to help keep these feeding centres going but, as this support is no longer available, we need to raise the funds ourselves.

## A special one-off gift





## MARCH 2020

**Bible Readings:** This month the daily text will be taken from the books of Mark and Luke. For those wanting to do the one-year Bible reading program these chapters are in brackets.

## PRAY FOR DICK AND DEE EASTMAN.

Dick is the International President of Every Home for Christ with a large responsibility for EHC ministries across the world. Mark 6:1-28 (Genesis 1 - 4)



**PRAY FOR DEAN & MURIEL LLEWLLYN** 

Dean is the United Kingdom Board Chairman living in Northern Ireland and has served Every Home for Christ for many years.



PRAY FOR ADRIAN & LAURA STONE

Laura is the Office Secretary dealing with the mailing list and receipting of donors and other organisational matters. Adrian has also served Every Home for Christ for many years on the United Kingdom Board.

Mark 6:29 - 56 (Genesis 5-8)



PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY - sons, daughters and grandchildren, plus others to come to Christ. Get a piece of paper and write down their names. Get their photos and pray every day for their salvation; eternity without Christ is a long time! Mark 7 (Genesis 9 - 11)

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA Pop. 3,300,000 Map 70. The EHC team is partnering with three groups that work with children with special needs. EHC supplied picture books, children's Bibles and New Testaments for the parents. Pray that God will bless the group leaders and the families they work with through this literature.

Mark 8 (Genesis 12 - 14)

God for hearts that are responsive to the preaching of the Gospel. During a recent month, 25 people gave their lives to Jesus. People are ready to hear the Gospel; they are only waiting for evangelists to come to them. May God raise up more labourers!

Mark 9: 1 - 25 (Genesis 15 - 17)

RWANDA Pop. 12,800,000 Map 17. Pray for EHC Rwanda as they mobilise the Church to pray as individuals, as families and corporately. They realise they can accomplish nothing without prayer. Pray for a fruitful harvest during the second year of the OIKOS Initiative in Rwanda.

Mark 9:26-50 (Genesis 18 - 20)

PRAY FOR ISRAEL ROMANS 11:28

an EHC outreach in Tornabe, 13 people gave their lives to Christ. There is no local church or Christ Group in the area. Pray that the Lord will appoint a mature believer to give time and effort to these people so they may grow in their knowledge of God and His Word.

Mark 10: 1 - 26 (Genesis 21 - 22)

BENIN Pop. 11,900,000 Map 37. Pray for the salvation of the many people the EHC team meets every day. Some suffer from illness, some are deeply engaged in idolatry, and others are discouraged and living without hope. Pray for God to break into each of their lives. He loves them all, and each one matters. Mark 10:27-52 (Job 1 - 7)

MOLDOVA Pop. 4,00,000 Map 102. Please pray for the next outreaches in the villages of Taul, Tirnova and Salvirii Vechi. Pray that God will give good weather and that He will go before the team to open people's hearts. There are only a few churches in this area. Pray for a great harvest. Mark 11 (Job 8 - 14)

CREATIVE ACCESS - ASIA Praise God for keeping the EHC staff safe during a recent outreach. Government officials were watching one staff member, Paul, because he was sharing the Good News with villagers. God saved Paul from harm twice, and he did not lose heart. Pray for strength like this in all workers.

Mark 12: 1-22 (Job 15 - 22)

ZAMBIA Pop. 18,200,000 Map. 14 Pray for the recently appointed Ministry Director, Bishop Albert Muleya. May God give him the grace and wisdom that is needed for this task as he and his team carry out Zambia's plan for the OIKOS Initiative. Together, they believe they can reach every home in Zambia.

Mark 12: 23-44 (Job 23 - 31)

HUNGARY Pop. 9,700,000 Map 79. Pray for God's people in Hungary to dare to talk about Jesus Christ - in their families, at work and around their neighbourhoods. Pray that God will give believers a sense of urgency and responsibility to reach people around them.

Mark 13 (Job 32 - 37)

EHC workers slipped gospel literature under a closed door during a recent outreach. Later, they received a call from a man named Soro. He asked them to meet with him to explain the message in the brochure. Soro's whole family ended up surrendering to Jesus. Praise God!

Mark 14:1-36 (Job 38 - 42)

**MONTENEGRO** Pop. 620,000 Map 73. EHC teams have gone to several Muslim villages recently. They gave out around 600 gospel booklets and copies of the Gospel of John. Pray that God will touch the hearts of those who received this literature. May God change their hearts and bring them into His Kingdom. **Mark 14: 37 - 72 (Genesis 23 - 25)** 

A Muslim gave his life to the Lord during a recent outreach. As soon as his family found out, they offered him money to renounce Christ. When he refused, his uncles hired mercenaries to beat him up. Please pray for perseverance for this brother in the midst of hardship.

Mark 15:1 - 23 (Genesis 26 - 28)

FRANCE Pop. 65,200,000 Map 89. For two years, EHC workers have been sharing the Gospel in the southern part of Corsica with encouraging results. Several thousand gospel booklets have reached rural areas the Gospel has never before penetrated. Pray for the new Christ Group in the commune of Corte.

Mark 15:24 - 47 (Genesis 29 - 33)

EHC staff have been in phone contact with James for two years, since the time he started to believe in Jesus. He is a young man finishing his degree. Most of his instruction in the faith has come by reading, mainly on the internet. He has yet to meet another believer. Please pray for him.

Mark 16 (Genesis 34 - 36)

BURKINA FASO Pop. 20,700,000 Map 40. Pray for God to comfort the evangelical church in the village of Hantoukoura. Terrorists attacked the church during a Sunday service and killed 14 people, including the Pastor. Many more were wounded. Pray for God to protect His Bride in the coming days.

Luke 1:1-40 (Genesis 37 - 41)

BARBADOS Pop. 280,000 Map. 207 Please pray against violence in schools. A recent stabbing death in a local school has caused fear among students, teachers and staff. Pray that many students would turn to Christ. Luke 1:41 - 80 (Genesis 42 - 45)

MOZAMBIQUE Pop.30,900,000 Map 8
Tete Province is a stronghold of traditional religion and cults and EHC team members often face resistance and physical threats. Please pray that the Gospel and the Holy Spirit will bear fruit.

Luke 2: 1 - 26 (Genesis 46 - 50)

God for the increase in labourers sharing the Gospel in Croatia. Kristina, a student in the town of Osijek is sharing the Gospel with the people in her community. Pray for many faithful people like Kristina who have a heart for people without Christ. Luke 2:27 - 52 (Exodus 1 - 4)

SIERRA LEONE Pop. 7,900,000 Map 44 Please pray that more Muslims and animists will become receptive to the Gospel as the OIKOS Initiative gathers momentum in rural areas. And pray that those who responded positively to the Gospel recently will become grounded in their faith.

Luke 3 (Exodus 5 - 11)

Thank God He has manifested His glory in this country, healing the sick, leading families to have home Bible studies, and moving schools to ask for evangelical believers to be present in their classrooms. Despite all the chaos in Latin America, God is moving.

Luke 4: 1 - 22 (Exodus 12 - 15)

that the many people who responded positively to the Gospel will become "fruit that remains". May they all be grounded in the Lord as they participate in the BFAM program and grow to love the Lord and love their neighbours as they love themselves.

Luke 4: 23 - 44 (Exodus 16 - 18)

Pray for Peter, a former Muslim teacher who recently came to Christ. May God protect his newfound faith and make him useful for the expansion of the Kingdom. His family is persecuting him and an EHC family has taken him in. Please pray for everyone in this situation.

Luke 5 (Exodus 19 - 24)

BURUNDI Pop.11,800,000 Map 18. Pray for Na, a girl who accepted Christ as her Saviour recently. Since she made the decision to follow Christ, her family has been persecuting her. She has nowhere to go. Pray that God would give her grace and even joy in suffering and that other believers would support her.

Luke 6: 1 - 26 (Exodus 25 - 28)

A team of EHC Pioneer Missionaries is sharing gospel literature home to home in the region of Varna. Please pray for the team and the churches involved in the outreach and for all those who will receive the Good News. May the Gospel fall on good soil in Jesus' name. **Luke 6: 27-49 (Exodus 29 - 31)** 

Following a series of protests against the government, police and government authorities have started persecuting believers as "western spies". Please pray that God would protect believers in this tough time and give them courage. Luke 7:1-25 (Exodus 32 - 34)

NIGERIA Pop. 204,000,000 Map 35 During a recent outreach in brothels, focusing on prostitutes and other workers in these environments, several people gave their lives to Christ! Some are willing to forsake the lifestyle but are concerned about what they will do to survive. Pray for grace and wisdom.

Luke 7: 26 - 50 (Exodus 35 - 40)

TALY Pop. 60,500,000 Map 65. Pray that the Italian people will have open minds to receive the Gospel and that long-standing religious traditions will not be an obstacle to responding to the Good News. Pray for the workers within the churches to be on fire for evangelism. Luke 8: 1- 27 (Psalm 90)

Pray for the team of Pioneer Missionaries from Kingdom Vision Church who are doing hospital outreach in Colon City. Pray that God will prepare the hearts of those who will hear the Gospel. May they find new life and hope in Jesus Christ. Luke 8: 28 - 55 (Leviticus 1 - 7)

Write your prayer request and we will pray for you too!