

A part to play

No Christian worker can “go it alone.”

When missionaries follow God’s call to serve at home or abroad, they need to know that with them are people constantly holding them up in prayer.

It takes discipline and commitment to pray for people who live in a place we know little about, who work in a language we don’t speak, who may eat breakfast while we’re going to bed, and who may not be back for some years. But they don’t stop being our brothers and sisters while they’re away.



Keep on keeping on

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

It can be as hard for Christian leaders to maintain a disciplined spiritual life as for anyone. Probably harder. The devil knows where to strike. So pray.

Pray that missionaries will “speak as men approved by God” (1 Thessalonians 2:4).

That they’ll preach “in and out of season” (2 Timothy 4:2), with boldness even when facing threats (Acts 4:29; Ephesians 6:19) and laying foundations “as an expert builder” (1 Corinthians 3:10).

Colossians 1:9-12; Ephesians 3:14-21; Philippians 1:9-11 teach us about Paul’s faith and about God and His plans for His Church. Why not use them in praying for your friends and the Christians in their area?



Prayer resources available: sim.org.au/prayer

We hope they will encourage and equip you to pray for your missionaries and those they are ministering amongst.

- ▶ 7 day ‘Praying for your Missionaries’ guide
- ▶ 30 day ‘Praying with Scripture for Missionaries’ guide
- ▶ Praying for China and Desert Tribes in West Africa
- ▶ Prayer videos

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

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SIM
Serving In Mission

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Praying

FOR MISSIONARIES

Supporting God’s Work through Prayer

Ways to pray for your missionary

Their prayer letter

Missionaries all write prayer letters, so why not ask to receive them? They will keep you up to date with their work and personal needs - their joys, their disappointments, their hopes, their loneliness; the fruit of their ministries. Pray imaginatively 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 missionary friends will feel at home in a new country, culture and climate.

Pray that your missionary 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 missionary is single, pray for good friendships, for happy holiday times, and opportunities to relax and unwind.

Pray for your missionary 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 times. 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 missionaries 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.*

