

PRAYER LINE



DEVOTIONAL

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds"
James 1:2 NIV

My IT support person, who is Muslim, recently told me the problems he was having with a client. He said the man was the most difficult person to work with, and then he said, "You know, he is always talking about God, and even mentioned holding prayer meetings in his home! He must be praying to a different God!"

Brothers and sisters, don't allow a global pandemic and your problems to rob you of your Christian joy. In the Apostle James' letter to the early church, he used the word "when," and not "if." He knew that trials were inevitable. Christians are not immune to difficulty, but we must hold on to our faith and count our blessings. It will not always be easy, especially if you have lost your job, and now you must deal with children and adults who are normally not at home during the day. Nevertheless, our greatest testimony as Christians is in the way we deal with the difficult situations that will surely come.

To be joyful in the midst of trouble is difficult, but we can do it if we remain focused on God and the blessings that we still have.

Donnamie K. Ali

PRAYER LINE



TODAY WE PRAY FOR GUATEMALA IN THE NORTH CENTRAL FIELD

Important stats:

Population: 17.5 million people

2019 Church of the Nazarene membership: 96,721 members

Churches of the Nazarene: 782 churches total, including 685 organized churches

Districts: 17

(Church of the Nazarene Statistical Report 2018-2019)

COVID-19 Health Report (as of June 18, 2020)

Confirmed cases: 11,868

Recovered: 2,290

Active Cases: 9,127

Deaths: 449

PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for:

1. The national governing authorities, that they would be guided by the Lord to wisely dictate strategies to keep the public safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The people of Guatemala, especially in the capitol, where there is the highest number of COVID-19 cases. Pray that they would understand the need to stay at home, and only leave when it is necessary with the appropriate precautions to avoid more infections.
3. The health of the more than 9,000 infected people who are in hospitals or at home.
4. The families of those who have died from the virus, including doctors and Nazarene brothers and sisters. Also pray for those who have lost loved ones for any reason, but, because of the state of emergency, have had to bury them without the support of their families and the family of faith. Pray they would find that the Lord is their strength and their comfort they need and that, as Christians, God is using us to lift them up in prayer.

PRAYER LINE



5. The health professionals, both those caring for those ill with COVID-19 and those who serve in other areas, that God would protect them from infection and give them strength while they work long hours.
6. That God uses His people to be compassionate. In the streets of the capitol there are people who ask for help alongside their children. They expose themselves to the possibility of infection and respiratory illness during the rainy season and changes in weather.
7. Those who have lost their harvest or belongings recently due to the constant rain that has drenched the country.
8. Those who have lost their jobs, that they would be able to find another way to earn money to support their families.
9. The interim field strategy coordinator and the team that serves with him, that they would have wisdom to help guide church leadership in this time.
10. Pastors and church leaders. Though social media has served as a way for many district superintendents and pastors to preach the Word and guide their congregations spiritually, we pray that God would give wisdom to those who are unable to access them. Pray that they find a way to reach the members of their congregations since the state of emergency in the country does not allow people to meet in the church buildings.
11. The leaders of the different ministries in the local churches, districts, and congregations, that united they may continue to bring the message of salvation to those who need it, even in difficult circumstances.
12. The missionaries who serve in this country, many of them far from their children and families, that they might be able to continue serving God with wisdom and passion in the midst of difficult situations.

We are grateful for your support in prayer!

" . . . if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." 2 Chronicles 7:14-15