

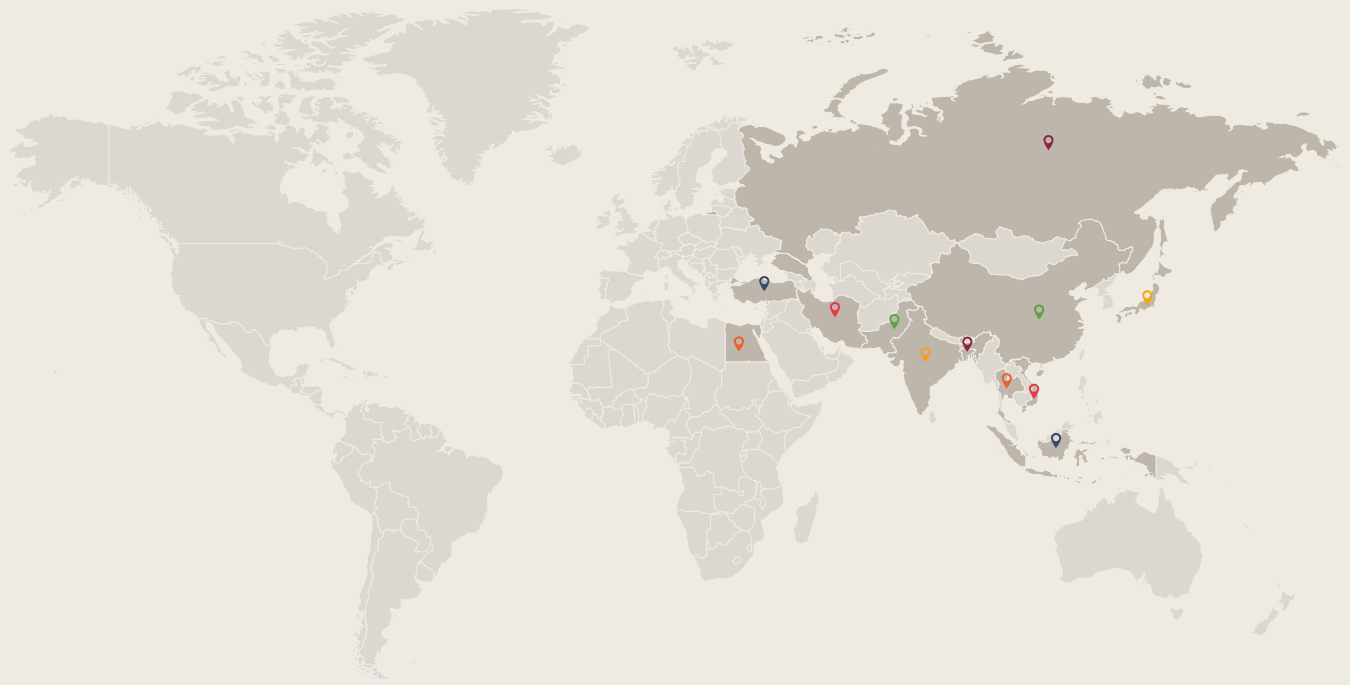
# Family Guide

September 2023  
China



“Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,  
and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.”

— Psalm 2:8, New American Standard Bible 1995



# A One-Year Prayer Adventure!

Using this handy family guide, we will travel to a faraway country every month, learn about its people and culture and pray for them. We will focus on a different least-reached country in every guide. There are 12 family guides covering 12 countries in 2023—one for every month.

Why do we call these countries “least reached”? Many of the people in these countries have never heard about Jesus, or it’s difficult for them to hear about Him. Even though you won’t get on a plane to each country, when you pray, you join our adventure—our mission to make a difference in the lives of the people in each country.

The best part is you’ll always know what to pray for. This family guide gives you a prayer request for every day of the week. Moms, dads and kids everywhere will be praying for the same thing together too. Let’s get started by learning about this month’s country.

WELCOME TO  
**China!**



# Fun Facts About China



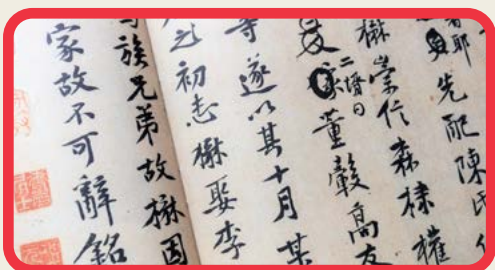
China is the oldest continuous major world civilization, with records dating back about 3,500 years. How old is your country?



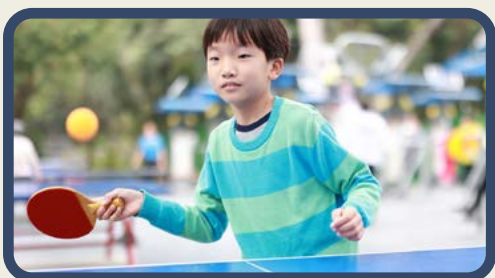
2023 is the Year of the Rabbit. The Chinese believe each year's "adopted" animal has spiritual significance to them. Have you ever held a rabbit?



As of September 2020, China was the most populated country in the world with over 1.4 billion people! India's population is expected to pass that number sometime in 2023.



The Chinese language is the oldest written language still in use in the world. Try tracing a Bible verse in Chinese in this month's guide!



Basketball is China's most popular sport, but ping-pong is the national ball game. Have you ever played either of these games?

# Ready to pray for the people of China?

We have the privilege to pray for China this month, which is also the time of year when Chinese people all over the world celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. In Chinese culture, families get together each year during this time when the moon is full. It symbolizes wholeness or completeness. Pray that Christians in China will share Christ with their family members, so they may know the One who made the moon!

ACTS is the name of the fifth book in the New Testament, but did you know it's also the name for a type of prayer? This method of prayer was first taught way back in 1883. People still use it today because it is a good way to keep us focused during our prayer times. We will learn more about this method during the next four months.

Here's how ACTS prayer guides our time with God. The letter A stands for "adoration," which means to celebrate. We start our prayer by celebrating who God is. Then we get to the letter C, which stands for "confession." That means we tell God about the sin in our life and ask Him to help us not to sin anymore. The third letter, T, stands for "thanksgiving." We express thankfulness to God for all He has done. Finally we come to the letter S, which stands for "supplication." That just means to ask for something. We bring our requests or our "asks" to Him.

This month we will focus on **adoration**, or as I like to call it, "**celebrating God**." Celebrating is praising God **for Who He is**. We should know the difference between celebrating and thanksgiving, which is thanking God **for what He's done**. This comes later in the ACTS way of praying.

Celebrating God helps us remember how great our God is, and it quiets our minds. Does your mind wander when you try to pray? That happens to a lot of people. When this happens to you, stop and ask God to help you focus. Here are some verses that I use to celebrate our wonderful God.

*"Your love is better than life. I will praise You.  
I will praise You as long as I live.  
I will lift up my hands in prayer to Your name."  
-Psalm 63:3-4, International Children's Bible*

*"I praise Your greatness, my God the King.  
I will praise You forever and ever.  
I will praise You every day.  
I will praise You forever and ever.  
The Lord is great. He is worthy of our praise.  
No one can understand how great He is."  
-Psalm 145:1-3, ICB*

Your 2023 Prayer Partner,

Lucinda

Please email me, or have a parent email me, if you have any questions or want to share what you are learning about prayer. I'd love to hear from you!  
[prayer@jesusfilm.org](mailto:prayer@jesusfilm.org)



# 01

Week 1: September 1-7, 2023

*"The Father has loved us so much! He loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are His children... ."*

– 1 John 3:1, ICB



## Week 1 Prayers



### ■ Day 1

The country of China has hundreds of groups of people who are different from each other. The groups don't always get along because things happened in the past that caused hurt feelings between them. Pray that the Christians among them will bring God's peace to the people so that everyone can be kind to one another. Pray that the people of China will experience God's love.

### ■ Day 2

Pray for the many people of China who have not yet decided to put their trust in Jesus. Pray for them to see that His truth is very different and far more wonderful than anything they have ever known. Pray that they would worship Him and no one else.

### ■ Day 3

Every country has people who are homeless, poor, lonely, sick or disabled. These people have many needs but don't always receive help. The Bible shows us how Jesus was drawn to people like these, and He loved them and met their needs. Pray that followers of Jesus in China would show love and care for needy people, and become regular helpers for them. Pray that needy people would see the love of Jesus in these helpers and want to follow Him too.

### ■ Day 4

There are some places in China where Christians are not able to gether together as the family of God. These Christians are looking for places to meet. Pray that they find safe places to meet. Pray that Jesus' love and truth will keep spreading in their neighborhoods.

### ■ Day 5

There are many small people groups who have not heard about Jesus living in places difficult to reach in China. It takes a lot of effort to go to these faraway places. Ask God to give Christian churches in China compassion and faith to keep sharing His love to these people groups. Someone must tell them so that they, too, can know there's a loving God who wants to be their friend.

### ■ Day 6

Children in China—just like children in every country—know that even though they try to be good, they sometimes mess up and don't always make the right choice. Pray that God will give them a heart that wants to know Him and a heart that knows He is nearby, even though they don't see Him. He created the whole universe. He made each one of them, loves them and wants to forgive them even when they mess up. God sent His son, Jesus, to die for our mess-ups. Pray that many children would accept Jesus' gift of forgiveness and grow to become boys and girls who will lead the church someday.

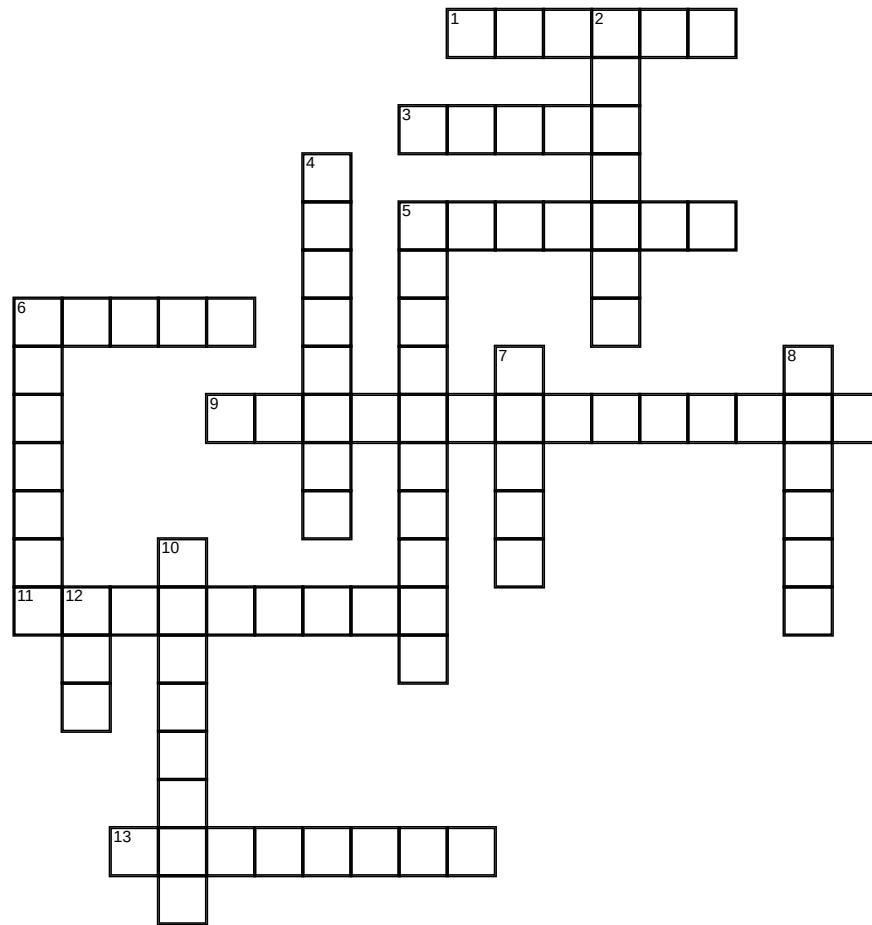
### ■ Day 7

Taking time to thank God is an important part of prayer. We show God how grateful we are when we spend time telling Him what we are thankful for. Let's pray that the Christians in China would be thankful to God as this verse describes:

*"Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever. ...You are my God, and I will thank You. You are my God, and I will praise Your greatness. Thank the Lord because He is good. His love continues forever."*

– Psalm 118:1, 28-29, ICB

# Week 1 Activity: Crossword



## Across

- 1 The Good News about Jesus
- 3 Has the world's oldest continuous major civilization
- 5 Only China and India have more than a \_\_\_\_\_ people
- 6 The written Word of God
- 9 The most important holiday in this country
- 11 Famous Chinese man-made feature
- 13 China's national sport - see fun facts

## Down

- 2 God wants us to talk with Him regularly. When we do it is called:
- 4 China has the largest number of people who practice this religion.
- 5 China's most popular sport - see fun facts
- 6 Capital city of China
- 7 God's son who came to earth, died on the cross, and came back to life again.
- 8 This is the year of the \_\_\_\_\_ in China
- 10 Where this country is located
- 12 \_\_\_ Panda, an animal often associated with China - see coloring page

## WORD LIST:

BASKETBALL  
BEIJING  
BIBLE  
BILLION

BUDDHISM  
CHINA  
CHINESENEWYEAR  
EASTASIA

GOSPEL  
GREATWALL  
JESUS  
PINGPONG

PRAYING  
RABBIT  
RED

*“People everywhere will remember  
and will turn to the Lord.  
All the families of the nations  
will worship Him.  
This is because the Lord is King.  
He rules the nations.”*

— Psalm 22:27-28, ICB



## Week 2 Prayers



### ■ Day 8

Pray that Christians in China would find other Christians and a church that teaches about the God of the Bible. Pray that they would grow to love God and each other, and support one another as God’s family. Pray that they will help each other learn to follow God as He leads them each day.

### ■ Day 9

Pray for Chinese people to go to the Lord in prayer even when they face many challenges. May they discover the beautiful promise of Jesus in Matthew 11:28-30, *“Come to Me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads. I will give you rest. Accept My work and learn from Me. I am gentle and humble in spirit. And you will find rest for your souls. The work that I ask you to accept is easy. The load I give you to carry is not heavy.”* (ICB).

### ■ Day 10

The majority of Chinese people don’t believe in any god. However, there are some Jesus followers and Chinese Christian churches who are working to change that. Pray for all Chinese people to learn about Jesus and what He’s done for them, so they can choose to know Him.

### ■ Day 11

Christians in China sometimes face unkind treatment. Pray God will help Christians be strong when they face hard things and unkind people. Pray that their strong faith in God will show others Jesus’ peace.

### ■ Day 12

Did you know there are many children and young people in China who have never heard of the Bible’s God nor His son Jesus? In fact, many schools teach that there is no such thing as God. But we know that the God of the Bible already knows and loves them all, and that each of them needs God. Pray they would learn the truth about Him, that they would put their trust in His son Jesus and keep their faith in Him all the days of their lives.

### ■ Day 13

When a person decides to trust in Jesus, they begin a new life and learn to follow His ways. He has a plan for that person’s life, and sometimes that means going to a special school where they learn how to become pastors, church leaders or missionaries. Pray that these students would get the very best training possible so that they can become the best Christian leaders that they can be.

### ■ Day 14

Pray that the sick will receive proper medical care to get better. Pray that Christian doctors and nurses would treat their patients with compassion and care, as Jesus would. May they bring comfort to those who are sick or hurting, letting them know they are loved by God.



## Week 2 Activity: Trace John 4:16 in Chinese

耶穌說我就是  
道路、真理、  
生命；若不藉  
著我，沒有人  
能到父那裡。

約翰福音 14:6  
Chinese Union Version (Traditional)

*"Jesus answered, 'I am the way. And I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through Me.'"*

— John 14:6, ICB

# 03

Week 3: September 15-21, 2023

*“He is the one who makes the mountains.  
He creates the wind.  
He makes His thoughts known to man.  
He changes the dawn into darkness.  
He walks over the mountains of the earth.  
His name is the Lord God of heaven’s armies.”*

— Amos 4:13, ICB



## Week 3 Prayers



### ■ Day 15

Everyone needs to know about Jesus! Pray that Christians in China would share their belief and trust in Jesus with their family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Pray that those who make movies and art and those who lead the country would also hear the good news of Jesus and choose to follow Him. Pray that Christians in China and everywhere would help teach new Christians to study the Bible and pray, so that their faith muscle will grow, and they, too, can share their faith with others.

### ■ Day 16

Pray that the people of China will have the food and other important supplies they need each day. Pray that Christians would be thankful to God for the way He provides for them. Pray that they would honor, respect and trust Him even when their lives are hard.

### ■ Day 17

Pray that Christians in China will tell the truth about Jesus to the people who don't yet know Him using things like TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, and their computers and phones. Pray these creative ways of sharing Jesus will also be used to teach lessons from the Bible. Pray Christians will make new friends who believe the same things they do.

### ■ Day 18

Pray that the leaders of China will want to learn about the God of the Bible and will put their faith in Him. Pray they will lead in a way that is fair and right, and best for the people of the country.

### ■ Day 19

In places where Christianity is kept secret, followers of Jesus may face difficulty. Ask God to help Christians in these places to trust and listen to Him. He will guide them on what to say. He will make them strong when their life is hard.

### ■ Day 20

Pray this for every Christian in China:

*“Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. And God’s peace will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace that God gives is so great that we cannot understand it.”*

— Philippians 4:6-7, ICB

### ■ Day 21

Pray that Christian men and women would have healthy bodies, relationships, and spiritual lives. Pray that they would remember to practice what they are learning from the Bible and be careful to resist temptations to make the wrong choices.

## Week 3 Activity: Word Search

N A H V Y Y V O U V J V L B D  
L V J E S U S E E K A A L L S  
F B A S K E T B A L L G T V R  
O T Q W P I K S I S U T E R E  
W M B V I N P K M N T E Z A D  
P O F C N C H I N A T A S B W  
J T T J G O S P E L M U S B D  
M Q T W P R A Y I N G F O I F  
B E T H O B I B L E H H Q T A  
I Y O P N I B U D D H I S M P  
L Y F Y G B E I J I N G M X K  
L C H I N E S E N E W Y E A R  
I Y F X J T Q H D O I J G V T  
O F V A G R E A T W A L L Y P  
N W Q U K X V X A P Y Y B R Q

### WORD LIST:

BASKETBALL	BUDDHISM	GOSPEL	PRAYING
BEIJING	CHINA	GREATWALL	RABBIT
BIBLE	CHINESENEWYEAR	JESUS	RED
BILLION	EASTASIA	PINGPONG	

*“Then I looked, and there was a great number of people. There were so many people that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth ... .”*

— Revelation 7:9, ICB



## Week 4 Prayers



### ■ Day 22

People in every country love entertainment, like television, movies, video games, and books. But there are some forms of entertainment that aren't honoring to God. Pray that Christians in China can help create uplifting forms of entertainment. Pray that more and more people would look for entertainment that honors God.

### ■ Day 23

Being a parent is hard work. That is true in China as well. Pray that Christian moms and dads in China would ask God for wisdom in being parents. Pray they learn how to express love to their children so that each child knows they are dearly loved.

### ■ Day 24

Pray that Christian gatherings in China would follow Paul's instructions from this Bible verse:

*“Let the teaching of Christ live in you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and strengthen each other. Sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”* — Colossians 3:16, ICB

### ■ Day 25

Pray that China and all the other countries in the world will find ways to work well together, even if they sometimes disagree with each other. Pray that leaders will hear the gospel of Jesus, and that they can find the best ways to work together to make the world a better place.

### ■ Day 26

Pray for Christian men and women who have not found a husband or wife yet, that they will see being single as God's gift to them for now. He has a purpose! Pray they will patiently wait for whomever God has for them to marry, and use the time they have now to make their faith muscle stronger by trusting Him in all things.

### ■ Day 27

Jesus was the very best example of how to live rightly. People were often watching Him, and they saw that He was kind and made loving and wise choices in all that He said and did. His love and kindness toward others honored God, His Father in heaven. Pray that Christians in China would live this way too. Whether they are business people, leaders, teachers, moms, dads or kids, may their words and actions always be kind, fair and loving to everyone. By doing this, those who don't yet know Jesus may want to follow Him too.

### ■ Day 28

Pray Christians in China would model God's plan for marriages and families. Pray that Christian husbands and wives would put each other's needs before their own. Pray for them to love and care for each other, and to treat each other well. Pray that Christian parents would love their kids well and train them in the ways taught in the Bible. Pray that kids would love, respect and obey their parents.

# Week 4 Activity: Coloring Page

## Red Panda





## Week 5 Prayers

---



### ■ Day 29

Most Chinese people, wherever they live in the world, will celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival today (September 29). In Chinese culture, families get together each year on this day when the moon is full. It symbolizes wholeness or completeness. Pray that people will have opportunities to share Christ with family members so they can know the One who made the moon!

### ■ Day 30

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for China each day this month. We believe You will continue Your work there until everyone has heard clearly about Jesus and been invited to follow Him. Someday we'll see how You answered our prayers. May heaven be filled with Chinese people who started to follow Jesus in part due to our prayers this month. We give You all honor and praise.

# Resources

- ▶ Joshua Project has a tremendous amount of information about every country. This link will take you to information about China.  
<https://joshuaproject.net/countries/CH>
  - ▶ Prayercast has great prayer videos.  
<https://www.prayercast.com/china.html>
  - ▶ A great way to help someone learn more about Jesus is to share the *JESUS* film in their heart language. We have the film in over 2,000 languages on our website.  
<https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html/english.html>
  - ▶ We also have multiple other films and short films available.  
<https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch.html>
  - ▶ For more Jesus Film Project® prayer resources—including access to each month’s family prayer guide—visit the prayer page on the Jesus Film Project website.  
[jesusfilm.org/pray](https://jesusfilm.org/pray)
- 



The Jesus Film Project app is completely free and available on iOS and Android devices. Get the app now and start watching and sharing a huge library of Jesus-centered films.



This family guide is part of For the Least Reached: A Year of Prayer—a one-year prayer initiative created by Jesus Film Project. It's a great way for families to pray together for countries and people in the world who still don't know love, hope and forgiveness in Jesus. A new family guide is available every month.

Learn more at [jesusfilm.org/pray](https://jesusfilm.org/pray).

