

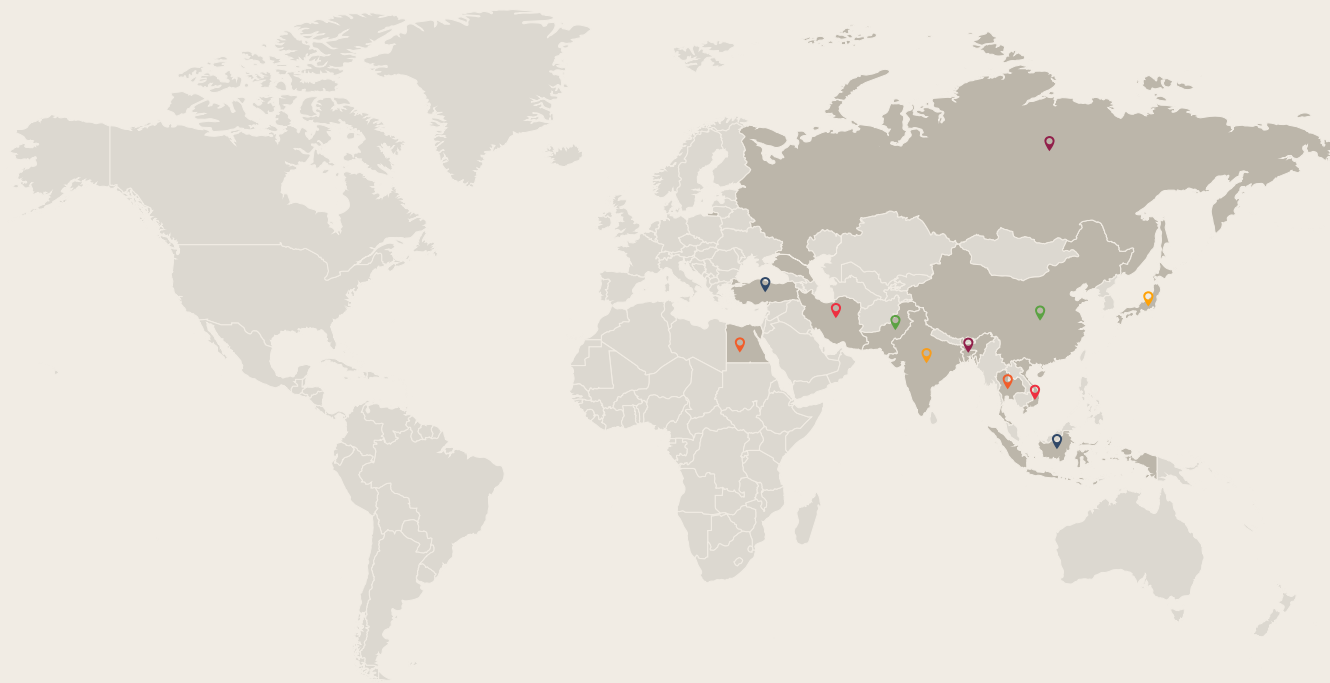
Family Guide

October 2023
India



“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 India!

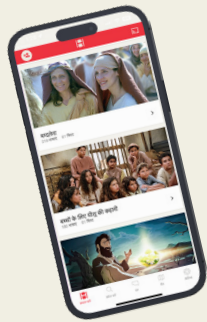


India's vibrant colors, immense crowds and overpowering smells captivate all who visit. India's population of 1.42 billion people means it has surpassed China as the most populated country in the world. It is home to 2,500 distinct people groups who speak more than 1,600 different languages and dialects. One-third of the world's unreached people groups live here. Pray that the glory of the knowledge of the Lord will cover India as the waters cover the sea.

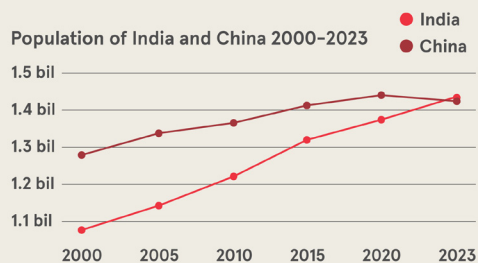


India is the 7th largest country (by area) in the world. India is bordered by Afghanistan and Pakistan to the North-West, China, Bhutan and Nepal to the North, Myanmar to the far East and Bangladesh to the East. Sri Lanka (from the South-East) and Maldives (from the South-West) are two countries with water borders.

Fun Facts About India



Hindi is the official language of India. We have films and resources in 263 of the languages spoken in India. Share one with a friend using the Jesus Film Project® app.



According to worldometers.info, India has now surpassed China as the nation with the highest population in the world. India's population of 1,429,469,757 is increasing. China has 1,425,639,528 people, and that number is slowly decreasing. What is the current population of your country?



Many people consider cows to be sacred animals. Because of this, cows are protected by India's Constitution. Over 6 million cows roam free in cities, on the roads and across the country! Have you ever been near a cow?



India was the first country to mine diamonds. In fact, India was the only source for diamonds until 1726.



India is known for its delicious food, like biryani, a dish of long-grained rice flavored with fragrant spices and layered with lamb, chicken, fish, or vegetables and a thick gravy. What is your family's favorite food to eat together?

Ready to pray for the people of India?

India, which recently passed China as the country with the most people, is our focus this month. Do you have a globe in your house? Can you find India on it?

We are continuing to learn about the ACTS method of prayer. Last month we focused on the first letter, "A", which stands for "Adoration" (I like to call it "celebrating God"). This month we are on "C" which stands for "Confession."

"Confession" means we tell God that we are sorry about the wrong things we have done and ask Him to help us not to do those things anymore. Remember that prayer is simply talking with God. You don't have to do anything special for confession, just tell God what you did that didn't match up with how He wants us to live. Here's an example of a confession prayer: "God, I'm sorry that I took my brother's special toy and hid it from him. It was wrong of me to upset him on purpose. Help me to not be jealous of my brother, but to love him the way You love me, and to let my actions show it."

One good way to do this is to get a piece of paper and write down all the wrong things you have done (you can also share this list with your parents if you feel comfortable). Next, across the sheet of paper, write the words from verse below (1 John 1:9). Finally, tear up the piece of paper to show how God has forgiven each of those sins and thank Him for His forgiveness. As long as you don't repeat these sins, you never have to confess them again.

*"But if we confess our sins, He will forgive our sins.
We can trust God. He does what is right.
He will make us clean from all the wrongs we have done."
-1 John 1:9, International Children's Bible*

If you missed September and the first step in the ACTS prayer method, scan the QR code, then select China which focuses on "Adoration."



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



01

Week 1: October 1-7, 2023

*“There is no one holy like the Lord.
There is no God but You.
There is no Rock like our God.”*

— 1 Samuel 2:2, ICB



Week 1 Prayers



■ Day 1

Let's pray for God's people, that they listen well to the Holy Spirit who lives inside each one of them. He can make it easy to walk in His ways, to love and respect all others in God's family. That way, we can work together doing the work of the church.

■ Day 2

Out of 2,500 different people groups in India speaking different languages, many do not have a Bible in their heart language. Pray for more people to join in doing translation work and for God to supply what's needed. May many people of India read God's powerful words and receive Jesus' gift of salvation.

■ Day 3

Mumbai (pronounced "moom-bye") is a large and important city in India. Like most big cities everywhere, it has big problems—for example, many of its people are very poor. Pray that all Christian churches in Mumbai would work together to help solve the city's problems.

■ Day 4

Radio, TV, the internet, printed newspapers and books are all different types of media, or ways that people pass along information to other people. Your school may have a media center where books and computers are kept. When we share information in the media, it's important that the information shared is truthful. It can be harmful if it is not. Pray that the people of India receive truthful information through their media, and that many Christians will become media missionaries!

■ Day 5

“[Jesus] said to them, ‘There are a great many people to harvest. But there are only a few workers to harvest them. God owns the harvest. Pray to God that He will send more workers to help gather His harvest.’”

— Luke 10:2, ICB

This Bible verse says there are many people ready right now to say “Yes” to Jesus' invitation to trust in Him! More Christians and Christian workers are needed who will take the message of Jesus to those who are ready in India. Let's go!

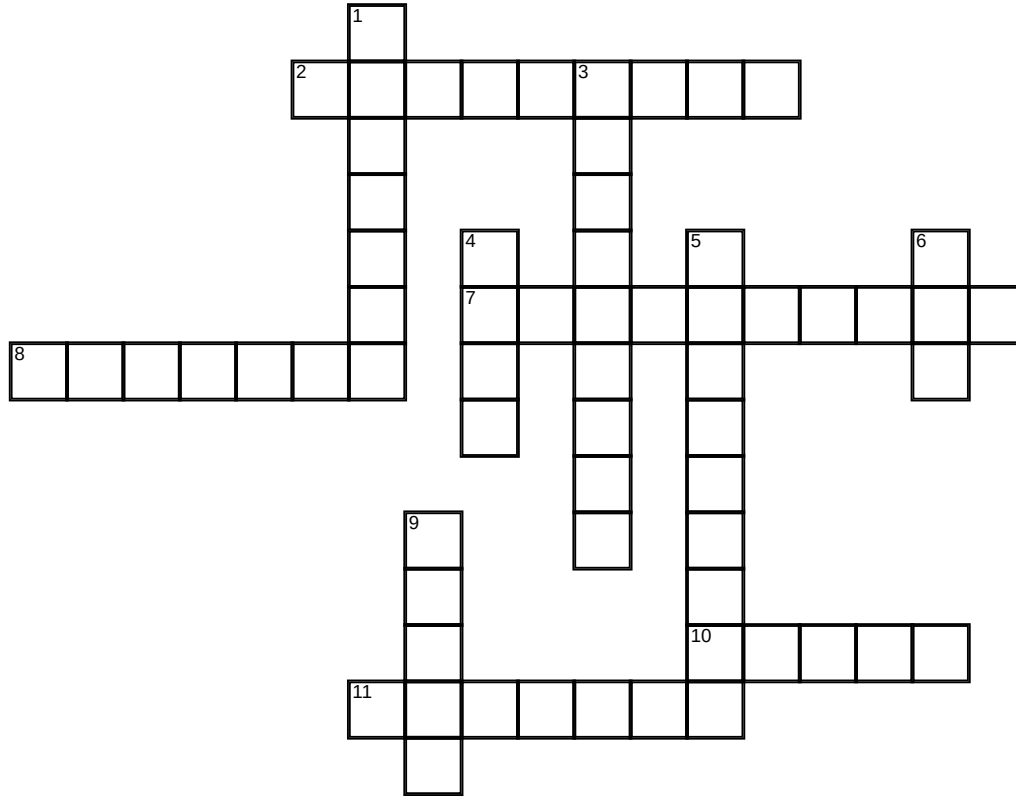
■ Day 6

People who become Jesus' followers have God's book, the Bible, to help us change our ways of thinking, behaving and living to please Him. God calls pastors and Christian leaders to do important work, giving them the special responsibility of being the very best examples of these things. He knows everyone will be watching and listening to them. Pray that God prepares pastors and Christian leaders in all the ways they need to be great examples of thinking, behaving and living.

■ Day 7

You might think being 25 years old is pretty old. But it's actually pretty young when you consider how long people live. In India, people live for about 70 years. Think about this: more than half of all the people in India are younger than 25 years old. That means there are a lot of kids, but not a lot of adults to help guide them and train them while they're growing up. Pray these young people will hear the message of Jesus and open their hearts to His love. May they feel they belong and have purpose being in God's family. May they trust God more each day and grow to become mighty Christian leaders.

Week 1 Activity: Crossword



Across

- 2** Large mountain range along India's northern border
- 7** This month's part of the ACTS prayer method
- 8** Each month we pray for a least _ country
- 10** The official language of India
- 11** A common rice and meat dish in India (see fun facts)

Down

- 1** This gem was first mined in India
- 3** We are on a one-year prayer _
- 4** The prayer method we are learning about
- 5** Capital of India
- 6** A protected and sacred animal in India
- 9** _ is now the most populous nation in the world

WORD LIST:

ACTS

ADVENTURE

BIRYANI

CONFESSION

COW

DIAMOND

HIMALAYAS

HINDI

INDIA

NEW_DELHI

REACHED

02

Week 2: October 8-14, 2023

“The Lord is close to everyone who prays to Him, to all who truly pray to Him.”

— Psalm 145:18, ICB



Week 2 Prayers



■ Day 8

Some Christians in India are treated unkindly because they are followers of Jesus, especially if they talk to others about Him. Ask God to protect Christians, Christian workers and their families, and for wisdom to know who to talk to and when.

■ Day 9

Being a leader is an important job, and leading others can be a lot of hard work. Pray for safety for India’s leaders and for God to help them lead in a way that promotes peace and well-being for all.

“You should pray for kings and for all who have authority. Pray for the leaders so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives—lives full of worship and respect for God.” — 1 Timothy 2:2, ICB

■ Day 10

Many people in India work hard their whole lives to follow their religion. They believe they will be rewarded for their hard work after they die. Pray they will come to know the love of the only true God. His son Jesus will accept them exactly as they are. They can receive His free gift of salvation.

■ Day 11

Many young people in India struggle with emotional and mental health. Pray that groups that work with young people would join together with the Church to help them with their struggles. May God bless these steps to help young people find hope and purpose in Jesus.

■ Day 12

Pray that every student in India has a chance to hear the gospel and invite Jesus to be their Savior, and learn how to walk in His ways.

■ Day 13

Christians who own businesses have a special responsibility to do their work as if they’re doing business with Jesus. Of course, they’d want to do the best job possible, to be fair and truthful and honest. It pleases Jesus when we all do our very best in everything we do. Pray that Christians in India would be the best they can be and do the best they can do, so they can point others to Jesus through their good work.

■ Day 14

Sadly, some children in India have become enslaved by people who harm them. Pray that God will rescue and restore these children to a healthy life with a caring family. May they know God loves them and wants them to be in His family, too.

Week 2 Activity: Trace John 14:6 in Hindi

यीशु ने उससे कहा, “मैं ही मार्ग हूँ, सत्य हूँ और जीवन हूँ। बनिा मेरे द्वारा कोई भी परम पतिा के पास नहीं आता।

यूहन्ना 14:6 Hindi Bible: Easy-to-Read Version

“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: October 15–21, 2023

“We pray that the Lord will make your love grow more and more for each other and for all people. We pray that you will love others as we love you and that your hearts will be made strong...”

— 1 Thessalonians 3:12–13, ICB



Week 3 Prayers



■ Day 15

Did you know that God can use filmmakers to bring Jesus to the people of India? By showing the story of Jesus on film, Indians can discover how He lived while on earth, how He healed the lame to walk and the blind to see, and how much He loves them. Pray God will show filmmakers just the right things to include in their films about Jesus so that many Indians will come to know Him.

■ Day 16

One state in India named Uttar Pradesh (pronounced “oo-taar-pruh-daysh”) has a huge population of people. Sadly, it is a difficult place for the gospel to spread. Pray that God would open the eyes and hearts of these people whom He loves, so that they would put their trust in Him.

■ Day 17

School-aged kids in India are just like kids everywhere—they usually do well when they have a teacher they can trust and who cares about them. Ask God to help teachers be the best example they can be so students can learn well. And pray for kids who don’t have the chance to go to school. They need an opportunity to learn too.

■ Day 18

Cities in India are busy places where many people live and where they can find jobs, stores, activities, and churches! Pray for every church in each city to reach out to all the people who haven’t yet heard the message of Jesus.

■ Day 19

Movies and videos have a powerful way of changing what we think or do. That’s why it’s important for us to find out if a movie we want to watch has a story or message that helps the good in us to grow stronger. Pray that India’s movie-makers would make movies that encourage good and not cause harm.

■ Day 20

Even after we tell Jesus that we want to accept His gift, we might still disobey Him. His Word tells us that we should confess our sins to God, which just means telling God what we did wrong. Let’s pray that we, and Christians in India, will quickly tell God when we realize we did something wrong.

“But if we confess our sins, He will forgive our sins. We can trust God. He does what is right. He will make us clean from all the wrongs we have done.”

— 1 John 1:9, ICB

■ Day 21

Do you know the name of the capital city of your country? New Delhi (pronounced similarly to “deli”) is India’s capital city, where many of the country’s leaders gather to meet. Pray that leaders will lead their people well, being fair and just toward everyone, and caring for the poor and disabled people.

Week 3 Activity: Word Search

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

WORD LIST:

ACTS

ADVENTURE

BIRYANI

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COW

DIAMOND

HIMALAYAS

HINDI

INDIA

NEWDELHI

REACHED

04

Week 4: October 22–28, 2023

“Patience and encouragement come from God. And I pray that God will help you all agree with each other the way Christ Jesus wants. Then you will all be joined together, and you will give glory to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

— Romans 15:5–6, ICB



Week 4 Prayers



■ Day 22

Thank the Lord for the Christian groups that work with students and leaders in India and for the Christian groups that do good by working with the poor, sick, homeless and helpless people. Pray that churches would partner with and help these groups.

■ Day 23

God gives everyone in His family the special job of showing His love to people who are hurting, and helping however we can. When we show compassion, it means we feel concerned for someone who is suffering. Pray God’s people in India show compassion and kindness toward others. Is there someone you can show compassion to today?

■ Day 24

Let’s pray that people in India who don’t yet know Jesus hear about Him, get to know Him and follow Him soon.

“All people everywhere, follow Me and be saved. I am God. There is no other God.” — Isaiah 45:22, ICB

■ Day 25

Pray that Christians and Christian workers in India find ways to use technology to meet people who don’t know Jesus yet, and to teach and train new believers to grow their faith.

■ Day 26

Pray that God would protect the doctors, nurses and helpers in India who take care of the sick. Pray that hospitals would be open to all people, even poor people, so that they may receive help and healing. Pray also for doctors, nurses and helpers to turn to God and seek His help.

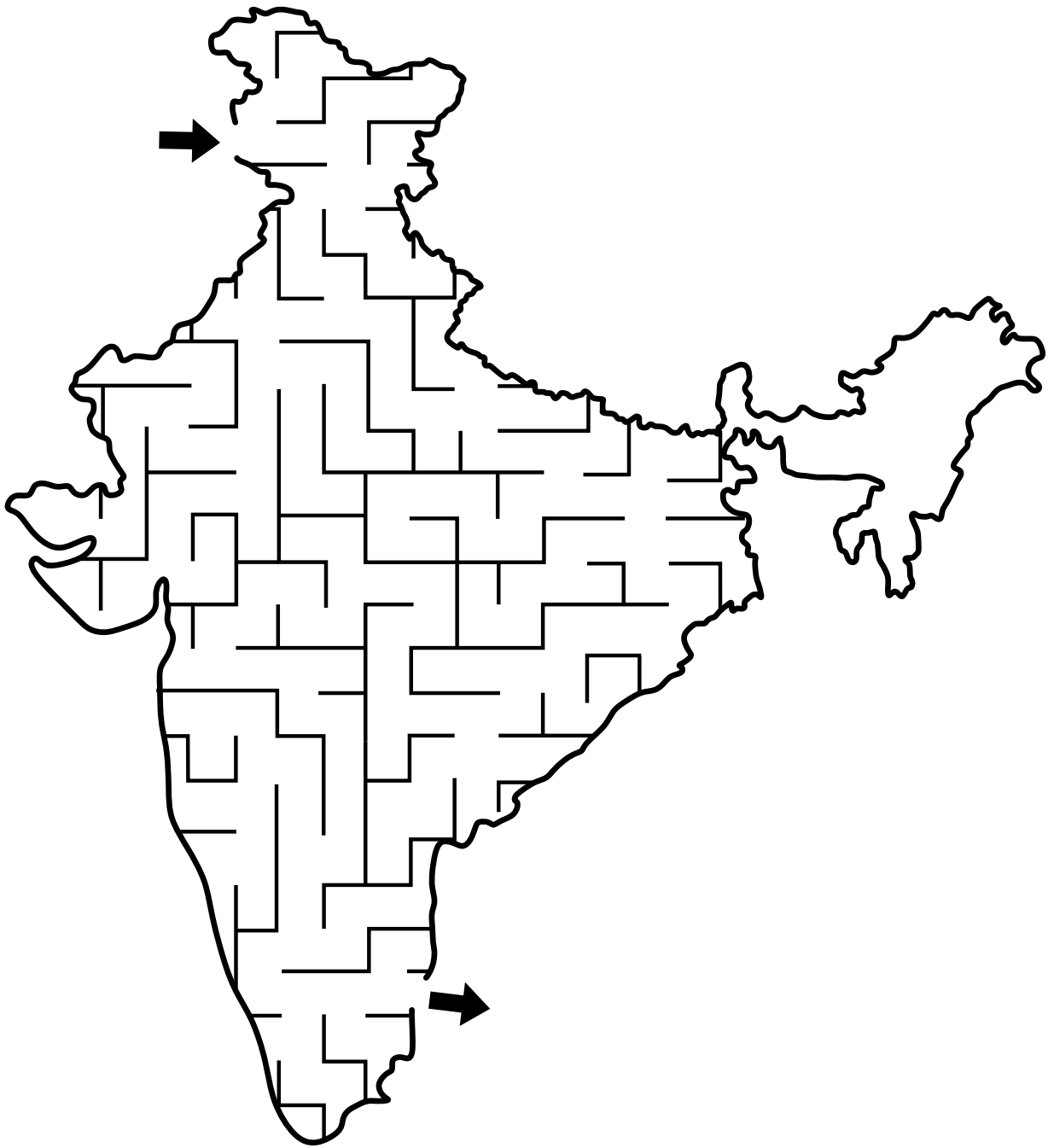
■ Day 27

The city of Chennai in India has been a really important city for thousands of years—almost since the time when Jesus lived on Earth. But sadly, many people in Chennai seem to have little interest in knowing about Jesus. They don’t know how much He loves them! Pray their hearts will open to receive the message of Jesus. May Christian leaders form churches in their neighborhoods where their faith can grow along with Christian friendships.

■ Day 28

Even though Indian law says its citizens may choose to worship any god they want to worship, sometimes Christians are treated harshly by neighbors and even by their own families. Whenever new Christians are rejected by their families, pray that God would surround them with a new Christian “family.” May God’s Spirit help those in India to know He is the one true God.

Week 4 Activity: Maze



05

Week 5: October 29–31, 2023



Week 5 Prayers



■ Day 29

Jesus wants us to love other people, no matter what they believe. That's what He does. Pray people in India will be curious about Jesus, and that Jesus would show Himself to them in their dreams. We want them to know that Jesus is the one true God.

■ Day 30

Kolkata is a very big, populated city, with less than one percent of the people following Jesus—that's not very many. Pray for more Christian workers to rise up and for Christians to find new, creative ways to share God's love with those who don't know Him.

■ Day 31

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for India 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 Indian 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 QR code will take you to India.



[Prayercast](#) has great prayer videos.



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.



We also have multiple other films and short films available.



For more [Jesus Film Project prayer resources](#)—including access to each month's family prayer guide—visit the [Jesus Film Project prayer page](#).

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.

