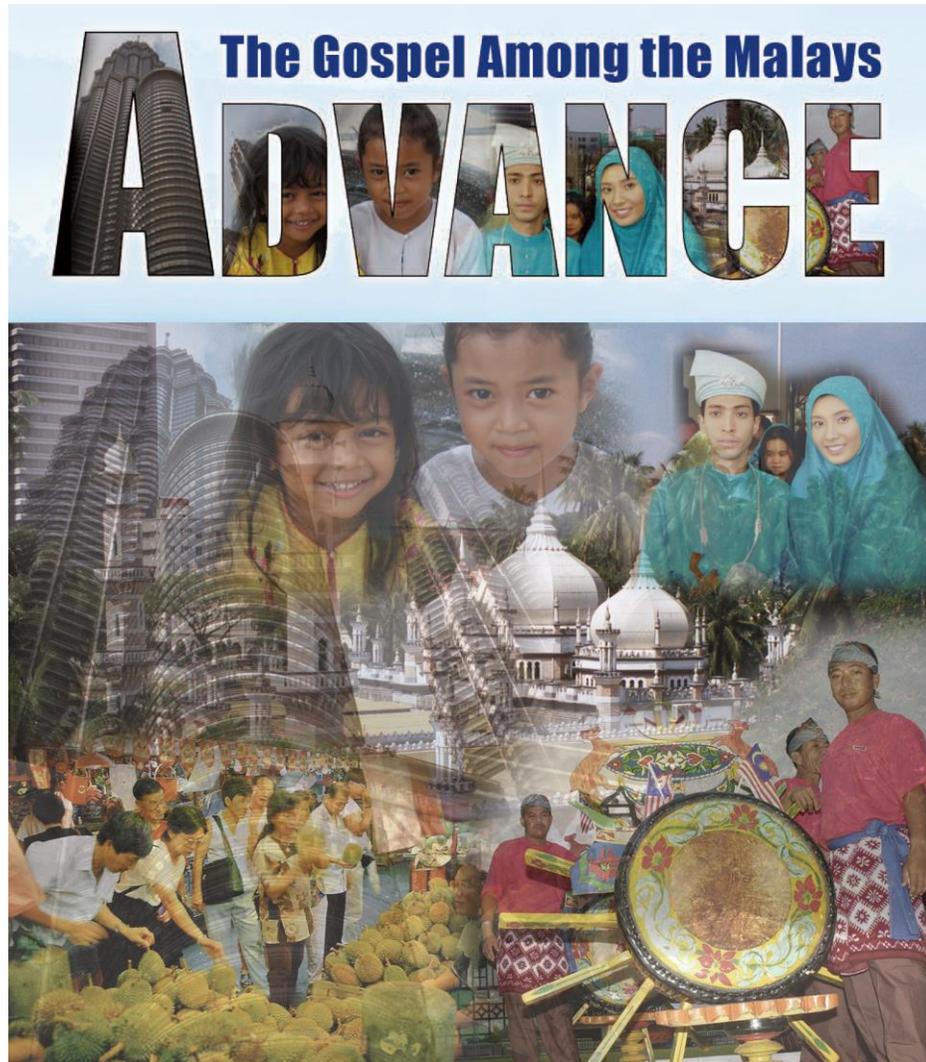


Lenten Prayer Guide for the Malay of Malaysia



**And they sang a new song, saying:
“You are worthy to take the scroll and
to open its seals, because you were
slain, and with your blood you
purchased for God persons from every
tribe and language and people and nation.”
Revelation 5:9**

Extraordinary prayer opportunities for Malay:

Friday, March 8 & Friday, April 12, 8-10 pm at Scott & Carol Hoag’s home.

Please contact Carol cahoag@gmail.com if you need directions.

Neighbors, A People God Remembers and Loves

Although the Christian community has a tendency to look past hard to reach people, God doesn't. Jesus told the story about the shepherd who celebrates the recovery of his one lost sheep. The Neighbors among us may be hard to reach by our own appraisal, but there is nothing too difficult for God. Dare we say, there is nothing difficult, full stop. He can soften any heart, bring life to a criminal worthy of crucifixion, a chief tax collector, a "woman of sin" and so on. Nothing is too difficult for our Lord Jesus. As we pray for Neighbors over the next 40 days, let us pray with faith like Joshua and Caleb, the faith of a mustard seed, the faith of David facing Goliath.

For those outside of Singapore, we have added some parenthetical explanations.

Here are some basic facts to consider while praying:

- There are roughly 600,000 "Neighbors" in Singapore.
- There are over 70 mosques.
- There are only a small number of Neighbor believers in Singapore and most of those have lost their Malay identity and thus have even fewer "intra-cultural" discipleship opportunities among these people.
- Roughly 70% of male prisoners and homeless shelters in our city are comprised of the Neighbor ethnic group.
- Neighbors are vastly overrepresented in rental flat blocks (public, subsidized housing) scattered throughout the city, and are frequent recipients of family service center (quasi-governmental social service centers) help, alternative secondary schools like Assumption Pathways and other remedial institutions, and ITE (an alternative educational track).
- Neighbors follow the teachings of an Abrahamic faith and their holy book encourages obedience to Isa al Masih (Jesus the Messiah) and that readers of the Quran would also look to the previous "Holy Books". For Muslims the previous Holy Books are the Gospels, the Psalms, and the Torah. For those working with Neighbors here in Singapore, the text of the Zabur (Psalms) and Injil (Gospels) and the rest of the New Testament are found [here](#) (or download the Android apps ([Injil](#) and [Zabur](#))).

The overview above provides not only prayer points but a window into the Neighbor community that obedient followers of Christ can respond to with acts of service and love that will open doors to the Gospel and to better enable Jesus' friends and co-workers to find people of peace among this beloved people group.

May the following pages of Scripture inform and shape our prayers so that we will be transformed and be able to discern how to move forward in making disciples who make disciples among Neighbors in Singapore.

Please do not share, post, or redistribute this in anyway without the permission of the authors. More information about how to pray and/or minister to this group can be found by emailing berdoasingapura@gmail.com.

Week 1, Monday March 11th

Isaiah 11:1-11 New International Version (NIV)

The Branch From Jesse

- 1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
- 2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the
Lord—
- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;
- 4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor
of the earth.
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the
wicked.
- 5 Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.
- 6 The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.
- 7 The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.
- 8 The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the
viper's nest.
- 9 They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of
the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.
- 10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his
resting place will be glorious. 11 In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the
surviving remnant of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam,
from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the Mediterranean.



Prayer Suggestions:

1. May more people from within the Malay community and within Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, and Southern Thailand would share our beloved Jesus, the root of Jesse, with Malay friends and family.
2. That wherever Malay live, they would be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Week 2, Monday March 18th

Ezekiel 36:19-24 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

19 I scattered them among the nations. I sent them to other countries. I judged them based on how they acted and on how they lived. 20 They treated my name as if it were not holy. They did it everywhere they



went among the nations. People said about them, 'They are the Lord's people. But they were forced to leave his land.' 21 I was concerned about my holy name. The people of Israel treated it as if it were not holy. They did it everywhere they went among the nations.

22 "So tell the Israelites, 'The Lord and King speaks. He says, "People of Israel, I will not take action for your benefit. Instead, **I will act for the honor of my holy name.** You have treated it as if it were not holy. You did it everywhere you went among the nations. 23 **But I will show everyone how holy my great name is.** You have treated it as if it were not holy. **So I will use you to prove to the nations how holy I am. Then they will know that I am the Lord," announces the Lord and King.**

24 " "I will take you out of the nations. I will gather you together from all the countries. I will bring you back into your own land.

Prayer suggestions:

May God's name receive the reverence and glory it deserves throughout the Neighbor community.

May the people of God repent and be drawn to God to hear His voice and feel the heart He has for these forgotten people.

Week 3, Monday March 25th

John 15:1-8 New International Version (NIV) The Vine and the Branches

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



Prayer suggestions:

May we, as disciples, be pruned, so we will bear much fruit for the glory of God.

May Neighbor believers abide deeply in Christ and may their fruit multiply into clusters, into fruit that remains.

Week 4, Monday April 1st

Prayer Hindrances

Isaiah 59:1-2

Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear.

2 But your iniquities have separated
you from your God;
your sins have hidden his face from
you,
so that he will not hear.

If I had cherished iniquity in my
heart, the Lord would not have
listened. Psalms 66:18 ESV

1 Peter 5:5-6

5 In the same way, you who are
younger, submit yourselves to your
elders. All of you, clothe yourselves
with humility toward one another,
because,

“God opposes the proud but shows
favor to the humble.”

6 Humble yourselves, therefore,
under God’s mighty hand, that he
may lift you up in due time.

Mark 11:22-25

22 “Have faith in God,” Jesus
answered. **23** “Truly I tell you, if
anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go,
throw yourself into the sea,’ and
does not doubt in their heart but
believes that what they say will
happen, it will be done for them. **24**
Therefore I tell you, whatever you
ask for in prayer, believe that you
have received it, and it will be yours.
25 And when you stand praying, if
you hold anything against anyone,
forgive them, so that your Father in
heaven may forgive you your sins.”



Prayer suggestions:

May we surrender fully to God, confessing
our iniquities, clothing ourselves with humility,
placing our full trust in the Lord.

That as millions of Neighbors pray daily,
that they would humble themselves and seek
the one, true, living God.

Week 5, Monday April 8th



Prayer suggestions:

May God show them His law (instruction and way) by writing the way, truth, and life onto the hearts of Neighbors throughout SE Asia.

May many Neighbors know of the enduring love of God, who forgives wickedness and remembers their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

31 "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.

32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord.

33 "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel

after that time," declares the Lord.

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,

and they will be my people.

34 No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord.

"For I will forgive their wickedness

and will remember their sins no more."

Week 6, Monday April 15th

Acts 26:16b-18

...I will appear to you, delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles - to whom I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

2 Corinthians 5:16-20

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



Prayer suggestions:

May the Gospel be announced and discovered by many Neighbors and may they turn to the light.

May God raise up many harvest workers to reconcile Neighbors to their Father.