



# LOOK ON THE FIELDS

## ITEMS FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE

With Daily Scripture Readings

**1<sup>ST</sup>** Numbers 11:4-35

**INDIA Pop. 1,370 Mil. UK 3 Bangalore**

As a direct result of Covid19, it is sadly true that many of our brethren are now jobless and are deprived of even one meal a day due to the present lockdown. Our hearts are gravely burdened at the plight of these distressed families and their want of basic food. To coordinate help, we have initiated 'Project Hunger'. The initial aim was to provide 2,000 families in Andhra Pradesh with a supply of sweetcorn and vegetables that would feed them for one month. After this successful distribution, the aim was to reach many more in other parts of India. Please pray for these needy fellow believers.

25/4/20

RAJU KOSHY

**2<sup>ND</sup>** Numbers 12 & 13

**INDIA Pop. 1,370 Mil. UK 3 Bangalore**

In response to the desperate food shortages in many areas, 'Project Hunger' has now provided almost 5,000 food parcels to believer's homes (after receiving the necessary Governmental permissions). We are very grateful to the believers who have volunteered to help with this difficult task of reaching the starving thousands. In doing so, they have been risking their own lives. The need is greatest in the northern States, but is now widespread. Pray that this work can continue until the current pandemic restrictions are eased.

25/4/20

RAJU KOSHY

**3<sup>RD</sup>** Numbers 14

**SCOTLAND Pop. 5.5 Mil. Aberdeenshire**

With the UK currently self isolating, I am thankful to the Lord for all the copies of the Bible given out over the years to the primary 7 school leavers that are now in local homes. Pray that those shut inside homes may experience true freedom through reading His word for themselves. Prior to the lockdown, I presented the Bible Alive children's series to over 260 primary 6 pupils. There were many searching questions about the character of God, the 'afterlife' and Salvation. Pray that God will continue to work in their young hearts.

24/4/20

GRAEME/FIONA SMITH

**4<sup>TH</sup>** Numbers 15

**SRI LANKA Pop. 21 Mil. Colombo**

In mid-March, suddenly and without much notice, a nationwide curfew was imposed by the Government to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. Many of the believers are working in daily paid jobs which pays just enough to feed their family each day. These poor saints do not have bank accounts or savings and so were totally unprepared. This has caused tremendous difficulties on the island. Many are now facing a bleak future without jobs and food. District to district travel is also banned. We are trying to help local believers buy sufficient food for those in need but it is a logistical challenge. However, we are encouraged to know that 'God is our refuge'.

C. 2005 (USA) 20/4/20

RAJEEV NICHOLAS

**5<sup>TH</sup>** Numbers 16:1-40

**FRANCE Pop. 67 Mil. UK 40 Nantes**

Our normal routine has been overtaken by a new routine – which may become our new 'normal'. We need your prayers every bit as much now as before. Pray that we remain motivated for the tasks we can do. We are trying to call people and keep in contact. Also, pray that we don't waste our time! We are still preaching regularly, but now from our dining room table via social media. Our family are well. We all have dinner together, via Skype, each Sunday. That's a moment we look forward to.

C. 1985/88 10/4/20

GERRY/DOROTHY SEED

**6<sup>TH</sup>**

**BRAZIL Pop. 214 Mil. UK 20 Santa Maria**

Since January I have been able to spend eleven weeks back in Brazil. This included six weeks of gospel meetings in Santa Maria. We were encouraged when a young man in his early thirties trusted Christ. His mother and elderly grandmother are in fellowship in Sao Gabriel. We had to cut our visit short and return home due to the pandemic. However, God is speaking in these days. Pray for Dona Katiele, a young married woman from Cachoeira. Previous interest waned due to the influence of her ungodly husband. However a recent message shows that she is once again seeking salvation.

C. 1988 4/4/20

JOHN/CHRISTINE McCANN

**7<sup>TH</sup>**

Numbers 18

**SCOTLAND Pop. 5.5 Mil. Lanarkshire**

Unfortunately as a consequence of the current lockdown in Scotland I have had to cancel 120 school visits that were planned between now and June. We were also due to have children's meetings in Wick, Carstairs, Glenmavis and Shetland – all unable to take place. Summer camp work has also been cancelled, together with the John 3:16 bag distribution at the Edinburgh Tattoo. However, in such surreal circumstances, God can still speak. Over 1,000 people are watching an online gospel message each Sunday. I have also arranged an online Lockdown Bible Club each week for children. I have also been asked to record some RE lessons for schools, which is a recent development. Please continue to pray for us.

(A few weeks after this update, Graeme's father Jim Paterson was called Home after a long illness).

3/4/20

GRAEME/ANNA PATERSON

**8<sup>TH</sup>**

Numbers 19

**SOUTH AFRICA Pop. 58 Mil. UK 7 Cape Town**

We were thankful to welcome Mabano back into fellowship. After getting away from the Lord and struggling with a drinking problem, he has now been restored to the Lord and His people. In spite of the current Coronavirus restrictions, he seems to be doing well. The virus has curtailed planned trips to Namibia for a Seed Sowers outreach and to Botswana for their Easter conference. It has also severely restricted life in general. Yesterday we were able to attend the burial of Hans van Stormbroek, Joy's brother-in-law. He and his wife Ruth had served the Lord faithfully for many years in prison ministry in South Africa. Please remember Ruth and the wider family (see separate entry from Ruth).

C. 2001 9/4/20

RODNEY/JOY BROWN

**9<sup>TH</sup>**

Numbers 20

**AUSTRALIA Pop. 25 Mil. Strathalbyn, S Australia**

Here in South Australia our lockdown is not as severe as in other parts of the country. Before restrictions started to bite, we were able to print and distribute two tracts we wrote especially for the current times – 'What next?' and 'Comfort in Crisis'. My son Jack and I have started Gospel meetings nightly. These are live streamed on our website. We are pleased that 70 have viewed locally and several hundred nationwide. Some of my unsaved cousins have also listened to the Word of God preached. Some have never heard the Gospel, or have heard and turned away from it. Please pray for them – Eddie, Andrew, Michelle, Hannah, Jenny and Rachael.

C. 2015 20/4/20

BRYAN/DAWN STEWART

**10<sup>TH</sup>**

Numbers 21

**N. IRELAND Pop. 1.8 Mil.**

March started off as a busy month but how that has changed! The Bible Exhibition was in Magherafelt at the start of the month, followed by two days in a primary school, where it was open to the public after school. There was also opportunity to go back into St Benedict's College. Good conversations were had in all these venues. Now in lockdown, I have been able to email Postal Bible School lessons, which have received a positive response. We pray that children will still be able to hear messages from God's Word.

C. 1996 4/4/20

ROBERT/RUTH ARMSTRONG

11<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 22:1-38

**HONG KONG Pop. 7.5 Mil.**

The worldwide pandemic has provided a moment for introspection and evaluation. During this time we have been considering the future of the Christian Book Room ministry. CBR is China's oldest, having over 100 years of unbroken operation in missionary and gospel literature ministry in China. We are hoping that someone will be exercised to take on the responsibility for CBR and maintain its legacy. In the meantime we have just printed and distributed a further 5,000 copies of 'The Challenge of John's Gospel' into 7 of China's provinces. Please pray for God's blessing and guidance.  
C. 1975 (Aust) 4/20 JOHN/KAREN SHORT

12<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 22:39 to 23:26

**TANZANIA Pop. 58 Mil. UK 6 Writing from the UK**

We returned to the UK on 11<sup>th</sup> March for the funeral of Gill's dad Derek, who was called Home and is now in the presence of the Lord. We had expected to return to Tanzania soon afterwards but are now in lockdown in the UK. We are currently helping as home schoolteachers to our grandchildren in Bracknell and Bognor. Back in Tanzania, the Coronavirus will be devastating if it takes hold in the country. Pray that in the Lord's mercy, it will be kept at bay. For believers, 'going online' is not feasible, so they face a difficult time of isolation.  
C. 2002 26/3/20 STEPHEN/GILL DAVIES

13<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 23:27 to 24:25

**BRAZIL Pop. 214 Mil. UK 20 Lagoa Dourada**

We have now moved from Descalvado to Lagoa Dourada. We recently visited Maria Eduarda and her parents. Her father Jovino is not usually present but was on this occasion. He is the local priest's right hand man but is beginning to see things in the Catholic Church that don't agree with the Bible. If he got saved it would have a huge impact on the village and surrounding area. Although there are no cases of Covid19 just now, we are under lockdown. We have been offered an hour every Monday to preach the Gospel on our local radio station. Our Hall has external loudspeakers, so one brother goes and preaches the Gospel when we would normally meet, so that it may be relayed to the neighbours.  
C. 1998 (Brazil) 1/4/20 MARCO/JANICE GEBARA

14<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 25:1 to 26:51

**VENEZUELA Pop. 28.5 Mil. UK 7 Los Altos**

Just before the virus restrictions were imposed, we accompanied the brethren in San Pedrito for Gospel meetings. The assembly in San Pedrito was established last year and has 25 in fellowship, but there has been work going on there for over 30 years. Brother Noel McKeown helped us during the first two weeks. Attendance was encouraging as it is a small town with a lot of sectarian influence, which often hinders the work. We had the joy of hearing that two individuals trusted the Saviour; Maria Rivas, a 39 year old mother and Mr 'Chuchu', a 72 year old man. Pray for these recent converts and the work in their area.  
C. 2018 (Ven) 5/4/20 PEDRO/LOIS MALAVE

15<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 26:52 to 27:23

**ANGOLA Pop. 32 Mil. UK 4 Beulah**

Angola is braced for the impact of the Coronavirus, although there are relatively few cases at present. The country has had many outbreaks, including yellow fever, measles and malaria, which is a seasonal killer. Infant and maternal mortality are among the highest in the world. For every 10,000 population, Italy has 250 doctors – Angola has only 2! Our regular Bible studies and reading classes have had to stop meantime. It is interesting to hear politicians and village leaders (mostly non-believers) acknowledge that their main recourse is to pray to God.  
C. 2012 (Can) 10/4/20 SAM/ELIZABETH SIMONE-GINDELE

16<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 28

**ZAMBIA Pop. 18 Mil. UK 40 Chitokoloki**

Due to the Coronavirus, I have been advised to 'isolate myself' due to my age and health. So from the beginning of April I am staying in my house. Unfortunately I have had to cancel my Monday and Tuesday Bible study groups. I managed to get two months of medication to my most chronic patients before I was 'locked up'. God is still in control, even as this pandemic runs rampant throughout the world.  
C. (USA) 6/4/20 DOROTHY WOODSIDE

17<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 29

**BOTSWANA Pop. 2.4 Mil. UK 8 Francistown**

In this landlocked country, many are worried. A significant number are already sick with weak or compromised immune systems. The health system could be easily overwhelmed. We look to the Lord for His continued care and protection. Assembly gatherings are sadly no longer possible as no more than 10 are allowed to meet together. In Francistown at our last meeting we sang together 'God be with you till we meet again'. Our 3 children continue with schooling at home using material supplied by the school. Please pray for us.  
C. 1999 30/3/20 JOHN/ONTY BANDY

18<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 30 &amp; 31

**ANGOLA Pop. 32 Mil. UK 4 Camundambala**

Please remember Angola in your prayers. A State of Emergency is now in place, curtailing movement and prohibiting all religious gatherings. Social distancing is almost impossible as people live hand to mouth every day and the markets are packed. People are anxious because they know that the hospitals are not equipped to cope with the most basic illnesses. We have a container in port waiting to be cleared. It has 10,000 bibles plus other much needed supplies. Pray that this gets released quickly. Hard local currency is in short supply and food prices are going through the roof. It is an increasingly desperate situation as many people are very hungry.  
C. 1993 26/3/20 BRIAN/DEBBIE HOWDEN

19<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 32

**INDIA Pop. 1,370 Mil. UK 3**

The only constant here is a God who never changes. The hospital is now ready to admit Covid19 patients. The Lord has really helped us make many infrastructure changes. The new annexe wing has been converted to house 25 patients with 15 ICU beds. Vijay is responsible for our Coronavirus response. Please pray for wisdom, strength and safety. Also remember the entire staff and their families that they may be protected. Protective equipment is in short supply, as it is in many hospitals worldwide. Finally, pray that those who come for healing will receive a spiritual blessing too.  
11/4/20 STEPHEN ALFRED

20<sup>TH</sup>

Numbers 33

**ITALY Pop. 59 Mil. UK 16 Naples**

We are all well and very thankful to the Lord for His care and protection at this time. We are now in our fourth week of lockdown and the entire family is with us, which is a blessing. The whole situation nationally seems almost apocalyptic. The streets are deserted, coffins are being stored as they cannot cremate them quickly enough. The suffering cannot be visited and no funerals can be held. Many believers who are doctors and nurses, some personally known, are becoming sick and dying as they care for others. We are using social networking to try and spread the Gospel meantime and keep in fellowship with each other. Please pray for Italy at this traumatic time.  
C. 1995 15/4/20 ALEX/PATRIZIA CATCHPOLE

21<sup>ST</sup>

Numbers 34:1 to 35:8

**SOUTH AFRICA Pop. 58 Mil. UK 7 Cape Town**

My husband Hans, who had been very ill for almost 9 months, was called Home on 3 April. We had just completed working with a dear group of men at the Paardeberg prison, where we have worked since 1997, when he took ill. I have managed to continue to visit the State Rehab – Kensington Treatment Centre for women. Pray that this opportunity to testify to these women is a blessing to them. I would also value your prayers for future guidance. I am going to miss Hans so much. We were happily married for over 43 years and best friends for far longer. We loved the last 24 years of prison work and keep in contact with some who came to know the Lord more than 15 years ago and are still going on well. We thank the Lord for these Treasures.  
C. 14/4/20 RUTH VAN STORMBROEK

**ETHIOPIA Pop. 112 Mil. UK 4 Writing from Scotland**

I had to cut short by a few weeks my recent visit to Ethiopia due to travel restrictions linked to the Coronavirus pandemic. I managed to get my ticket changed and left on the 28 March. Shortly afterward virtually all flights were stopped, so I got out just in time. It was encouraging to learn that in the last year, the believers have had the joy of seeing 15 new assemblies formed, mainly as a result of outreach from existing assemblies. Please remember the local evangelists who often work in very primitive conditions.

C. 1969 31/3/20

ROBERT REVIE

Deuteronomy 1

**VENEZUELA Pop. 28.5 Mil. UK 7 Writing from Mexico**

The dramatic changes in our world and also in our daily circumstances help us realise more than ever our dependence upon God. When we got back to Venezuela, Veronica had many medical tests and was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia. This was difficult news to take in. Given the difficulties in Venezuela, the Lord opened the way to come to Mexico for treatment. Both of us have now been in Tijuana, Mexico since 28 February. We are grateful for your continued prayers. Please also remember our 3 boys who are staying with their uncle Alan and aunt Sandra in Barrancas.

C. 2014 (Ven) 9/4/20

WILLIAM/VERONICA TURKINGTON

Deuteronomy 2

**BRAZIL Pop. 214 Mil. UK 20 Vitoria**

We have been instructed to stay indoors, possibly for many months. The streets and roads are deserted. It is an entirely new experience for everyone. We are not even allowed to leave our flat to go to a fine bakery below us – although we can still smell the aroma of freshly baked bread! Greater Vitoria has over two thousand street dwellers, who have no running water or soap – and are at great risk. Their normal source of food has gone, as kind people who have pity on them no longer walk the streets. Please remember these individuals and others like them who are in great physical and spiritual need.

C. 1966 1/4/20

WALTER/ELIZABETH ALEXANDER

Deuteronomy 3

**SRI LANKA Pop. 21 Mil. Colombo**

In January we visited several schools. Local brethren had managed to get permission to speak to the children during morning assemblies. Gordon McCracken (Scotland) was with us for just over a week, visiting mostly Hindu schools and a couple of Buddhist ones as well. Many of the Principals, although initially cautious, were very impressed and have asked him to return. In Alamkulam, we have been offered a weekly slot to speak to all the children – if we are able to help re-plaster and paint an old classroom. We were delighted to meet this condition and regular lessons are now in progress.

C. 2005 (USA) 20/4/20

RAJEEV NICHOLAS

Deuteronomy 4

**ZAMBIA Pop. 18 Mil. UK 40 Lusaka**

As we look over our 39 years in Zambia, we have much to thank the Lord for, especially over the last 2 or 3 years. We sought the Lord's help, guidance and direction and although it was difficult to leave Kalene after 28 years, the Lord has abundantly blessed and reassured us. We have also sensed the Lord's clear leading to withdraw from mission aviation through Flight Services. Over 11,500 hours have been flown in the past 27 years. The Lord has been gracious in granting safety to our pilots in often challenging weather conditions. We would now like to focus our time and ministry at the Guest House in Lusaka, known as 'Flight House' and with the local assembly. Please continue to pray for us.

C. (Can)

BRUCE/MARILYN POIDEVIN

Deuteronomy 5

**DEM. REP. OF CONGO 86 Mil. UK 3 Ikelenge**

We have been busy sewing masks and making visors from laminating sheets ahead of any Covid19 cases. We have also been preparing and clearing some unused rooms in the hospital in readiness. There is effectively no government preparation being done and there are no testing kits in this area of Congo. I still had my scanning clinic this morning at the Maternity but fewer than usual turned up.

C. 1965 2/4/20

MARY RATTER

**ENGLAND Pop. 56 Mil. Hartlepool**

During this period, work in schools together with open-air witness and tracting around the doors has not been possible. However, we have been using technology to put messages on the assembly Facebook page. Remember Reuben and Raquel, brother and sister, who are asylum seekers from El Salvador. They started coming to the Hall about 10 months ago. It has taken a while to gain their confidence. On 8<sup>th</sup> March we had 17 from El Salvador at the gospel meeting, which was wonderful. That was the last time we were able to meet with them. We are hoping to have Spanish gospel meetings for them and also arrange English speaking lessons, teaching them verses from the Bible as a means of conveying the Gospel.

8/4/20

ALAN/PAULINE BARBER

Deuteronomy 7:11 to 8:20

**BRASS TACKS**

This year so far, Paul Dodds has completed managing a project at Hebron school in India. This was an enormous task, taking the roof off an old building, raising the level and putting on a new roof. As the work concluded there were 64 people on site to supervise.

C. 1997 23/4/20

ALAN/SHEILA PARK

Deuteronomy 9:1 to 10:11

**BRASS TACKS**

Just before Easter we had a team in Israel for a month, working on a large property which was recently purchased by Emmaus in Nazareth. They had a huge task of tiling, interspersed with some wonderful sight seeing trips. We have had to cancel the scheduled projects for the next few months. We know that the Lord is in control; do pray for guidance going forward.

C. 1997 23/4/20

ALAN/SHEILA PARK

Deuteronomy 10:12 to 11:32

**BOTSWANA Pop. 2.4 Mil. UK 8 Gaborone****A Tribute to Jim Legge from Clark Logan**

My dear friend Jim Legge was a **man of Conviction**. Jim and his beloved wife Irene had a strong conviction about God's call to Africa. They also had a great conviction about the gospel. Jim loved to preach it simply and clearly. He also had deep convictions about how Christians should gather together and live holy lives. He was a **man of Passion** in that he had a Christlike love for others. Jim was also a **man of Vision**. He and his dear wife were not satisfied with the status quo. They wanted to reach others. Jim was a gospel pioneer. His stated vision for Botswana was that 'every child hear (and believe in) the precious name of the Lord Jesus'. Finally, Jim was a **man of Stickability**. Both of them stayed with the work, through ups and downs. They were obedient to God's call and faithful to His will. They brought their hearts to Africa. Jim left his heart in the village of Serowe and has now gone Home to his reward.

C. 1982 27/4/20

CLARK/HAZEL LOGAN

C=Date of Commendation

UK=Missionaries (approx.)

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