

South Asian Peoples

The greatest concentration of lostness on Earth



Praying for:

Sri Lanka

“As He was walking along the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea, since they were fishermen. ‘Follow me,’ He told them, ‘and I will make you fish for people!’ Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.” – Matthew 4:18-10 (HCSB)

Sri Lanka is an island nation off the southeast coast of India. Because of the abundance of water, fishing is a common occupation among Sri Lankans. Unfortunately, the 2004 tsunami destroyed not only fishing vessels, but miles of coastline as well. Many Sri Lankans are still struggling to recover from that devastation.

Since 1972, Sri Lanka has been in a civil war between government forces and ethnic Tamils fighting for an independent state in the north of the country. The fighting has caused the deaths of tens of thousands of people in this ongoing conflict. An official cease-fire was declared in 2002 and remains in effect, though periodic violence still occurs.



Prayer points:

Jesus, You have called us to be fishers of men. When the 2004 tsunami destroyed fishing vessels and miles of coastline in Sri Lanka, the fishermen there were devastated. Lord, send Your fishermen throughout Sri Lanka to offer hope for eternity in place of despair over worldly setbacks.

God of all nations, the government of Sri Lanka has declared that Buddhism is their national religion. Too many people believe that gives them the right to persecute Your disciples. I pray that Sri Lankan Christians will remember that You have not given them “a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline” (2 Tim 1:7 NASB). Help them to boldly declare their faith in Jesus.

All-seeing God, You know Sri Lanka’s Tamil people struggle with identity and are often treated as outcasts. Open their hearts to receive Your compassion and to know that they have great value in Your sight. Reveal Jesus as the One who gave Himself so their sin-price would be paid.

Loving Father, I pray for those who persecute Your church in Sri Lanka. May they see and hear the testimony of Christ’s followers and realize that these believers have a power, peace

and joy found only in Christ. May the believers’ lives cause their persecutors to want to know Jesus.

Lord, Sri Lankans believe strongly in *karma* – that whatever befalls them, good or bad, is just their lot in life and they cannot change it. Flood their hearts and minds with the Gospel until they accept Your grace and their belief in karma is replaced with faith and obedience to Your Word.

Holy Spirit, too many pastors in Sri Lanka want to build bigger churches rather than build God’s Kingdom. We pray today that Sri Lankan pastors will begin to see themselves as bridge builders – helping connect the lost of their country to our loving Heavenly Father through the Gospel. Help them find a true sense of unity as they study Your Word and fellowship together.

Holy God, I pray today that You will give Your people the courage to testify as Paul did, “For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords, yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him” (1 Cor. 8:5-6, NASB). Send Your Holy Spirit to prepare the way for the cleansing and salvation of the people of Sri Lanka.

