

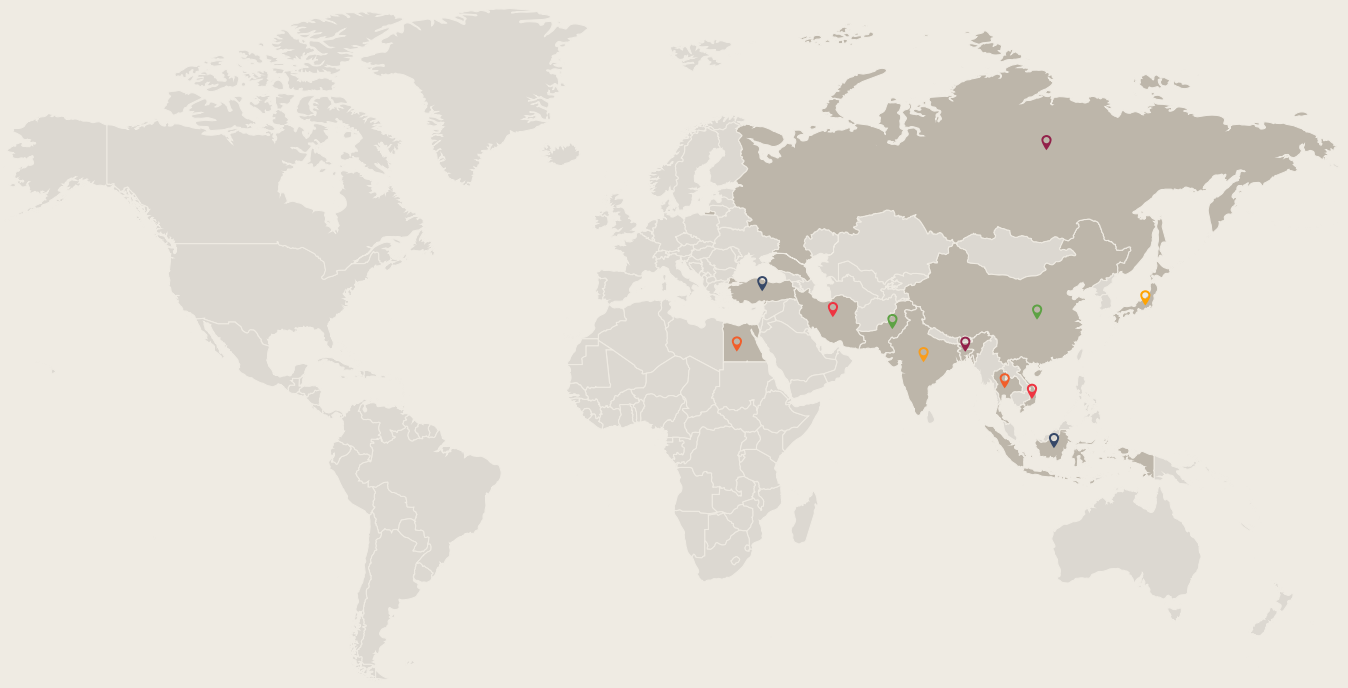
Family Guide

June 2023
Pakistan



"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 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 with you. Let’s get started by learning about this month’s country.

WELCOME TO Pakistan!



From the shores of the Arabian Sea to the heights of the Himalayas, from arid deserts to the fertile farmland in between, the vast country and people of Pakistan are our prayer focus this month. Pakistan means “the land of the pure.” Let’s pray that countless Pakistanis get to know the pure, abundant life that He offers.



Fun Facts About Pakistan



A very popular breakfast in Pakistan is Halwa Puri. Puri is a fried flatbread and halwa is a sweet paste made of sesame seeds, sugar syrup, and egg whites. What does your family usually eat for breakfast?



Shalwar Kameez is the national dress for Pakistan. It's a colorful shirt and pants worn by both men and women. What kinds of clothes do you wear in your family when you want to celebrate something?



The snow leopard is a popular animal in Pakistan.



The national drink of Pakistan is a sugarcane juice called "roh." The juice is sold by roadside vendors throughout the country. What is your favorite juice?



Pakistani Malala Yousafzai is the youngest person to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize. This prize is a special award for people who work to make the world a better place. Malala created the Malala Fund, which helps young girls have a chance to learn and receive an education in school, as well as pursue their dreams. What do you want to be when you grow up?

Ready to pray for the people of Pakistan?

John 3:16 says “For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son. God gave His Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life” (International Children’s Bible). This includes me, you, each of your family members and each person in Pakistan. We want everyone to know about it. That is why it is important to make time each day to pray the prayers in this packet for the people of Pakistan.

Do you have a Bible? Is it in the form of a book or is it on your phone or tablet? Whichever one you use, please turn to Psalm 136. The book of Psalms is one of the longest books in the Bible—150 chapters. I’ll write just the first five verses of Psalm 136 here:

“Give thanks to the Lord because He is good.

His love continues forever.

Give thanks to the God over all gods.

His love continues forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of all lords.

His love continues forever.

Only He can do great miracles.

His love continues forever.

With His wisdom He made the skies.

His love continues forever” (ICB).

Two things stand out to me:

1. Every verse includes: **“His love continues forever.”** If you read the full chapter that’s a total of 26 times the writer of this psalm says: “His love continues forever.” Repeating something is a sure way to help you, and me, remember something. Do you think God wants you to know that “His love continues forever”? Who can you tell about this wonderful truth? We can certainly pray that every Pakistani will understand the truth that God’s love continues forever and that Jesus died so they could have new life.
2. Look at the first line in each verse (2–5) above. **“God over all gods,” “Lord of all lords,” “Only He can do great miracles,”** and **“He made the skies.”** The psalm continues with lines that speak of God’s ultimate power. Remember the word “omnipotent” from March’s family guide? Our all-powerful God is strong enough to break through the darkness that keeps many people in Pakistan from hearing about His love. Let’s pray for God’s breakthrough to happen.

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



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

— Psalm 145:18, ICB



Week 1 Prayers



■ Day 1

Let's say you live next door to someone your age who speaks a different language. You would really like to talk to them, but how? By learning what their words mean, one word at a time, and speaking them back you probably could. That's what translating a language is all about. It means learning enough words to put those words in another language—like the words of Jesus from the Bible for a movie, for example. It's hard work and takes time. Many groups in Pakistan speak a different language. Pray for more Christians willing to pray and others who can help translate movies and Bibles so that unreached people can have God's words in their heart language.

■ Day 2

Being a leader is an important job, and leading others can be a lot of hard work. Pray for safety for Pakistan'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 3

Christians who live in Pakistan are praying for the big, important city of Karachi. The business they do there affects all of Pakistan. Pray that God would grow His family of Jesus-followers in Karachi so that they will act like Jesus—who often spent time with and cared for the poor, the sick and homeless.

■ Day 4

Pray for comfort and healing for Pakistanis who are sick or injured. Ask God to provide them with essential things like medicine and medical supplies when they need it most.

■ Day 5

Some not-yet-believers have deep questions about Christianity, like: Is the Bible trustworthy? Does God exist? If God does exist, how can we know He is good? Apologetics is a big word used to describe the process of looking through resources to provide answers to these types of questions. Pray for apologetic resources to be translated and printed in Urdu, the official language of Pakistan. These would be great tools for answering common questions about Christianity for those who are seeking answers to questions about God, Jesus and the Bible.

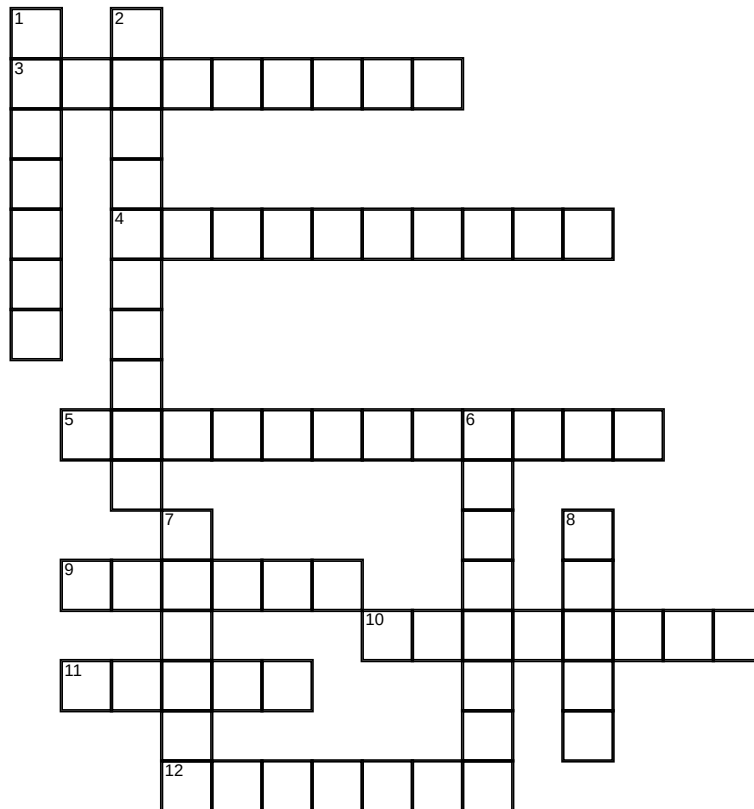
■ Day 6

When someone looks, acts or believes differently from someone else, they are sometimes treated unkindly or unfairly by others. Pray for Christians in Pakistan who are treated unkindly, and pray that those who are unkind encounter Jesus and that He changes their hearts. May they be loving toward others instead!

■ Day 7

Pakistan continues to recover from the terrible flooding from last year's monsoon rains that caused many deaths and loss of homes. Communities are rebuilding. Christian churches have been able to share food and clothing, and this has opened the door to sharing the gospel of Jesus as well. Ask God to continue comforting those in Pakistan who have suffered great losses. Pray He will equip Christians to help meet physical and spiritual needs.

Week 1 Activity: Crossword



Across

- 3** Mountain range that is in Pakistan and four other countries.
- 4** A great resource for a prayer video on every country. See Resource section.
- 5** Popular animal in Pakistan. See coloring page.
- 9** We are to "give _ to the Lord".
- 10** "_ continues forever." Phrase repeated 26 times in the Psalm 136.
- 11** _136: The Bible book written about in the beginning of this family guide.
- 12** _Sea: borders Pakistan, India and other countries.

Down

- 1** _Kameez: the national clothing of Pakistan worn by men and women.
- 2** All powerful.
- 6** This month's country, which means "land of the pure."
- 7** First name of youngest person to win a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 8** _Puri: A very popular breakfast in Pakistan made of a fried flatbread and a sweet paste.

WORD LIST:

ARABIAN
HALWA
HIMALAYAS

HIS_LOVE
MALALA
OMNIPOTENT

PAKISTAN
PRAYERCAST
PSALM

SHALWAR
SNOW_LEOPARD
THANKS

*“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 2 Prayers



■ Day 8

Pakistan is the fifth most populated country in the world. That means there are only four countries in the whole world that have more people than Pakistan. Pakistan also holds a whopping 832 people groups! They're called people groups because each group can have their own traditions, foods, dances, languages, games, music and art. Ask God to send many of His workers to this country to show all 832 people groups the love of Jesus.

■ Day 9

There aren't very many churches or Christians in Pakistan, but these few believers believe that many Pakistanis would invite Jesus into their hearts if only they knew about Him. May God send more workers to join these believers in getting the message out to those who don't yet know about Jesus.

■ Day 10

“He (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

In this Bible verse Jesus says there are many people to harvest. He means that there are many people ready right now to say “Yes!” to His invitation to receive Him into their hearts! More Christians and Christian workers are needed who will take the message of Jesus to those who are ready in Pakistan.

■ Day 11

Islamabad is the capital city of Pakistan. It sits up against the mountainous part of the country where many people groups live. Pray for the country's leaders—many of whom live in Islamabad—to lead all its people well, including people groups who live in the mountains, and to encourage peace and friendship among all.

■ Day 12

If a Christian wants people to hear and understand the gospel message, it really helps for them to know the culture of the group—things like their interests, traditions and values. These cultural things are important to people. Pray that Christians can use their knowledge of Pakistani culture to help explain the gospel message well and in a way that's easy to understand.

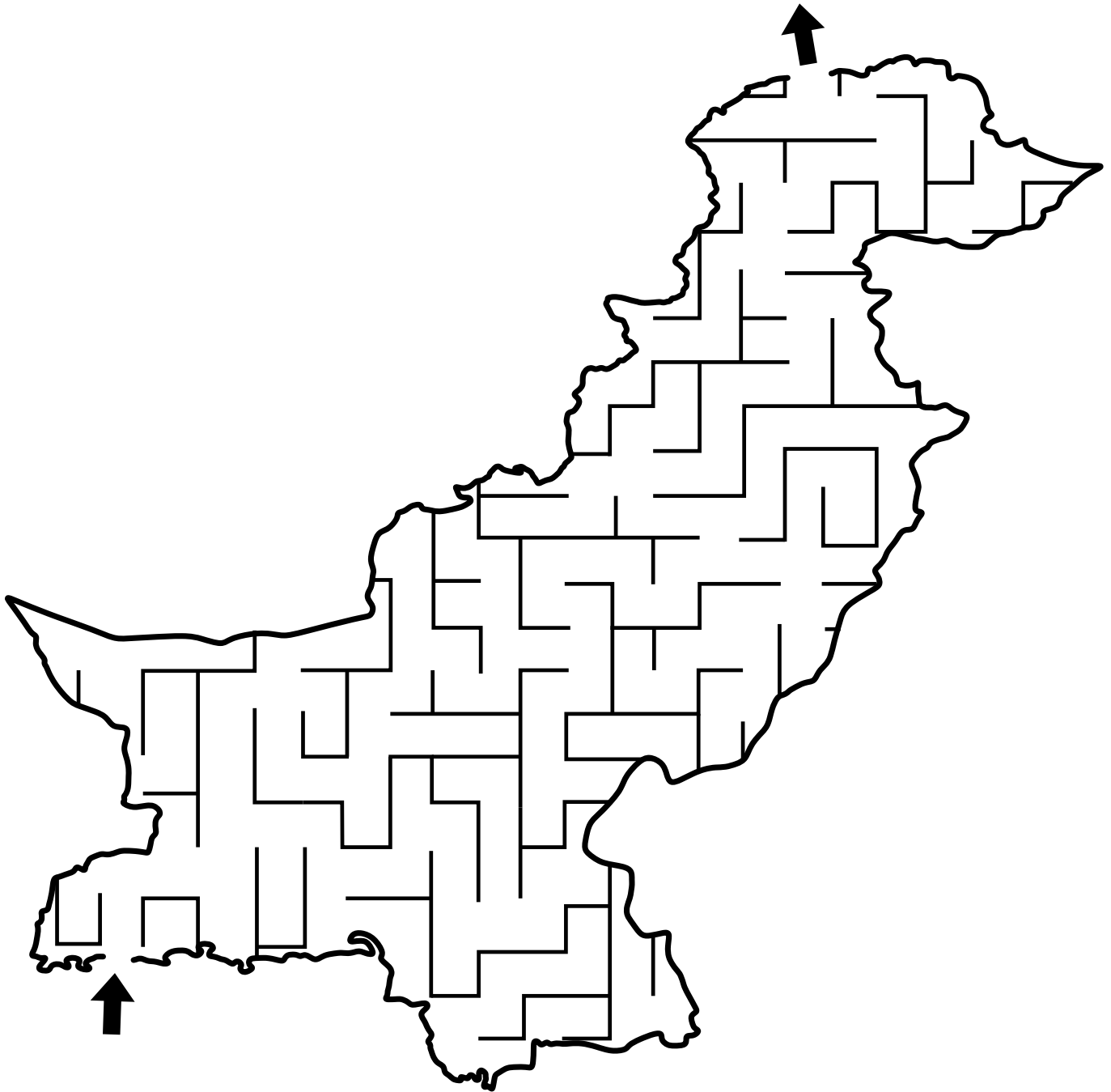
■ Day 13

Did you know that having Jesus-follower parents doesn't make you a Jesus-follower too? Jesus invites each person, young or old, to decide for themselves if they will choose to follow Him. Following Jesus means trusting Him to forgive your sins, obeying His Word and representing Him to others well. So, have you decided to follow Jesus? Be sure to tell your mom or dad. And don't forget to pray that each Pakistani will decide to follow Him too.

■ Day 14

Some Christians in Pakistan want their neighbors to know how much Jesus loves them. They want to invite them to watch short films and videos about who Jesus is. Ask God to bless the movie showings by providing all that is needed and to prompt many neighbors to come.

Week 2 Activity: Pakistan Maze



"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 3 Prayers



■ Day 15

God loves every human being He ever made. He loves them so much that He gave His son Jesus to die on the cross. That's a lot of love! No matter what a person does, God's love stays the same. People have a hard time loving like that. In fact, it's impossible. That's why we need the Holy Spirit, who lives inside us, to love through us. When people are mean to us, when they lie about us, when they harm us or our loved ones, we can still love them back. Jesus, love through us even when we are treated unfairly.

■ Day 16

What's in your toolbox? Most have a hammer, screwdrivers, a wrench and a few other things. Christian workers have toolboxes too, but with things like a Bible, perhaps also a heart-language Bible for others who speak a different language, movies about Jesus and the Bible, books that answer Bible questions, worship music, a list of partners and helpers, and maybe other things. All are "tools" Christian workers can use to help them reach people who don't yet know Jesus. Pray that God will equip Christian workers to have all the tools they need in their toolbox to tell everyone in Pakistan about Jesus.

■ Day 17

God wants certain members of His family to serve Him as full-time Christian workers. That usually means a worker gives up their job so they can give all of their time to the special work God wants them to do. It also means God provides the money they need to live through churches and generous Christians. Pray that these churches and generous Christians give money faithfully so Pakistani Christian workers can do God's work.

■ Day 18

The Pakistani city of Lahore makes lots of carpets and rugs for other countries to buy, but mostly they grow fruits and vegetables to feed people. However, sometimes when there is a drought (meaning it doesn't rain for a long time) or when the land floods from too much rain, people in cities like Lahore cannot easily grow food. Pray for these farmers, their land and the fruits and vegetables that grow there. May God stop the rain when it's too much and bring rain when it's desperately needed.

■ Day 19

It pleases and honors God when the members of His family get along and work together. But the devil sometimes gets in the middle and causes trouble between Christians. Pray they would seek God's way to work out any conflicts. If they do that, then they can get back to pleasing and honoring God by getting along and working together. Everybody wins except for the devil!

■ Day 20

Let's pray that people in Pakistan who don't yet know Jesus hear about Jesus, 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 21

Even in villages far away from cities, some villagers have TV sets. Those who do may be able to watch pastors teaching lessons from the Bible, or sharing with people how to invite Jesus into their hearts. They might be able to watch movies about Jesus—in a language they understand! Pray that many villagers would hear and accept the words of Jesus on TV and grow in their faith.

Week 3 Activity: Word Search

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

WORD LIST:

ARABIAN
HALWA
HIMALAYAS

HISLOVE
MALALA
OMNIPOTENT

PAKISTAN
PRAYERCAST
PSALM

SHALWAR
SNOWLEOPARD
THANKS

“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 4 Prayers



■ Day 22

Different groups of people in God’s family often work together as partners because they want the whole world to hear the message of Jesus. Just like different people have unique experiences, talents and backgrounds, different groups of Christians can have special strengths which they can use to help increase and encourage God’s family in unique ways. Together, they can have a greater impact on the world around them. Pray that God will bring more Christian groups together as partners in Pakistan so that more Pakistanis can hear the gospel.

■ Day 23

Earthquakes, flooding and landslides happen often in Pakistan, damaging or washing away homes and crops like fruits and vegetables. People tend to get injured and sometimes die. Pray that Christians will share the love of Jesus by helping their suffering neighbors.

■ Day 24

Christians and other minority groups in Pakistan are sometimes trapped into a form of slavery and unfair treatment they cannot easily get out of. Pray that pastors and believers plant churches in areas where this happens. Churches can sometimes help these families find a way out of slavery and help them stay out.

■ Day 25

Some Pakistani Christian pastors have been trained to form groups that can meet in different neighborhoods and grow into brand new churches. Pray that the pastors will coach the groups with wisdom from the Holy Spirit. May Jesus-followers multiply in the neighborhoods.

■ Day 26

Even after we tell Jesus that we want to accept His gift of forgiveness and follow Him with our lives, we might 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 Pakistan, 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 27

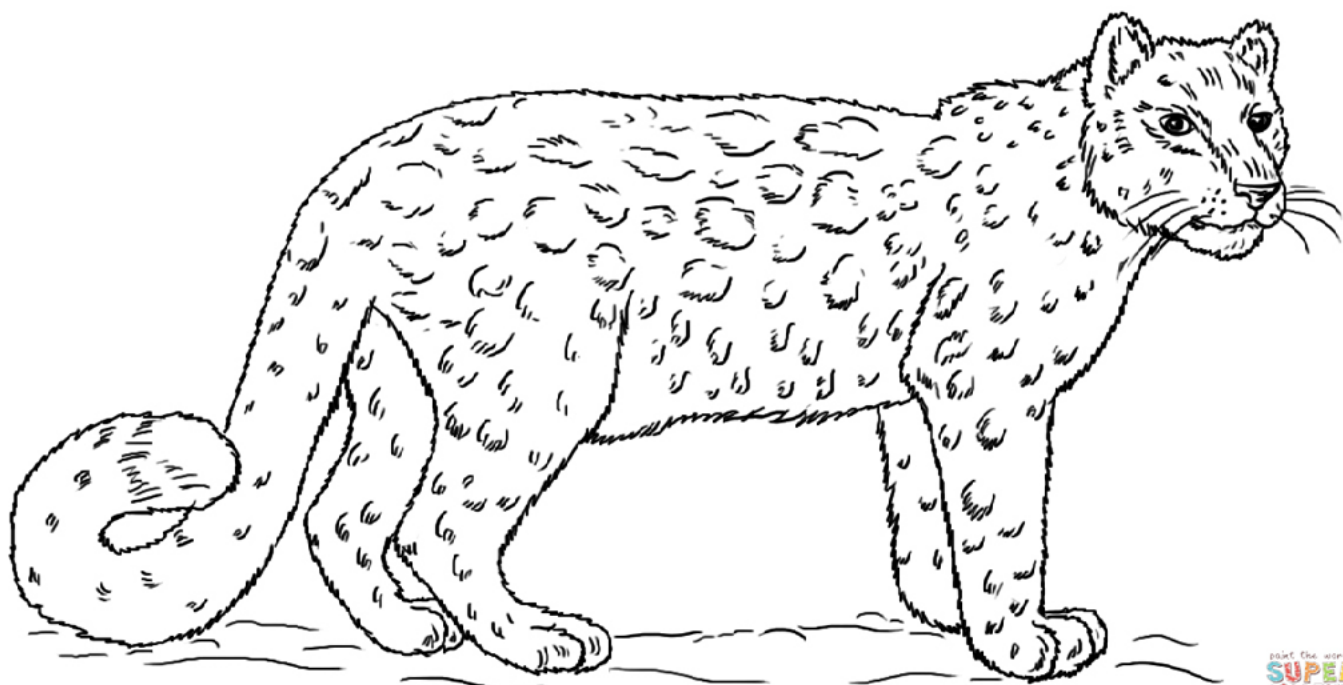
There are a few schools that train young adult Pakistani believers to become pastors. After training, they can lead Christian churches, form new churches, and help the people grow a stronger faith. Pray for these pastors, that God would give them courage to take the message of Jesus to their neighbors, even if the neighbors are unkind. May the pastors’ kindness and goodness shine for Jesus and convince their neighbors that Jesus is Lord over all.

■ Day 28

Have you ever dug a big hole in the ground and found rocks mixed in with the dirt? In some parts of the world, iron, copper, diamonds, salt and a whole lot more are dug (mined) out of the ground. Of course, it takes big equipment and a much deeper hole than we can dig. The people in and around the Pakistani city of Quetta are miners, mining metals and minerals from the ground. Ask God to bring the love of Jesus to the miners and all the people around Quetta.

Week 4 Activity: Coloring Page

Snow Leopard



paint the world
SUPER
COLORING

Downloaded from azcoloring.com



Week 5 Prayers



■ Day 29

When Christian groups work together as partners to do a job, they can get more done. Pray for those working together to be good listeners, patient and respectful, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide them. They all want Pakistanis to come to know the one true God through Jesus His son.

■ Day 30

Lord Jesus, we thank You for giving us a chance to pray for Pakistan 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 Pakistani 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 Japan.
<https://joshuaproject.net/countries/PK>
- ▶ Prayercast has great prayer videos.
<https://www.prayercast.com/pakistan.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



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.

