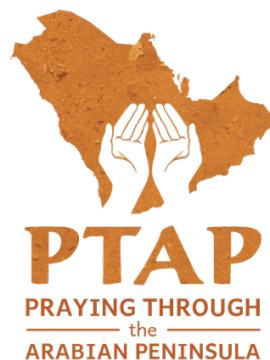


# Ramadan Prayer Guide for the Arabian Peninsula



**I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved.... (John 10:9)**



# The Arabian Peninsula



## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Ramadan prayer guide for the Arabian Peninsula! We are joining millions of Christians from around the world to pray for Muslims for 30 days during this very critical time of the year in the Islamic calendar. We love Muslims, and thus we want to plead with God that they will come to a saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fasting during the month of Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. It is considered a holy month that honors the time when Allah, via the angel Gabriel, revealed the first verses of the Qur'an, the holy book of Islam, to a caravan trader named Muhammad. Almost all Muslims of age will fast during the daylight hours for 30 days until the end of Ramadan.

We will pray primarily for the local Arabs of the Arabian Peninsula (AP) which consists of seven countries: Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

This prayer guide is based on the Book of Colossians (ESV). This for four reasons. First, it is a wonderful exercise to combine scripture with prayer. There is nothing better than praying God's word back to him. Second, since an entire epistle will be read, there will be consistency and unity of thought which will be applied to our prayers. Third, Ramadan lasts for four weeks and Colossians is divided into four chapters. We will pray through one chapter per week. And fourth, the Apostle Paul, the author of Colossians, wrote it to combat various heresies that were influencing the church in the first century AD. Five hundred years later, Islam was born, and so we will combat this spirit of the age with the weapons of prayer and the word for 30 days (Ephesians 6:10-20).

As you read each day's entry, you can lift up the main points to the Father. The prayer written for each day is simply a guide to help your prayers. Pray as you like and as the Spirit leads.

May our Lord bless our prayers and answer them according to his will so that the local church will multiply in the AP for his glory and for the joy of all Muslim people groups in the AP!

*"The potency of prayer has subdued the strength of fire. It has bridled the rage of lions, hushed anarchy to rest, extinguished wars, appeased the elements, expelled demons, burst the chains of death, expanded the fates of heaven, assuaged diseases, dispelled frauds, rescued cities from destruction, stayed the sun in its course, and arrested the progress of the thunderbolt. There is (in it) an all-sufficient panoply, a treasure undiminished, a mine which is never exhausted, a sky unobscured by clouds, a heaven unruffled by the storm. It is the root, the fountain, the mother of a thousand blessings."*

Chrysostom

## WEEK 1 – COLOSSIANS 1

### **Day 1 – Pray for the Word to guide our prayers**

*Col 1:1–2 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.*

The Apostle Paul wrote Colossians to the church in Colossae around 60 AD. Letters at that time usually began with a greeting from the author to the recipient. Here, Paul introduces himself as an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God. He does not come on his own authority but on the authority of God himself in Christ.

Prayer: O God our Father, we thank you that you are our Heavenly Father who gives us grace and peace through Christ Jesus your Son. Thank you that you have given him all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18). Therefore, we pray in his name on this first day of Ramadan that the teaching of the apostles as found in scripture would be the foundation of our prayers and also the foundation of the local church in the AP. Grant us wisdom, knowledge, and insight in order to understand Colossians and to pray it faithfully on behalf of the AP and the entire Muslim world. O Holy Spirit, would you illumine our minds and guide us into all truth (John 16:13-15). Amen.

“Oh, my brothers and sisters, you will not do better, after all, than to quote scripture, especially in prayer! There are no prayers so good as those that are full of the Word of God. May all our speech be flavored with texts.” – Charles Spurgeon

*Brothers and sisters, please also pray today for the city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia. It is the holiest city in Islam. Visiting Mecca for the Hajj is an obligation upon all able Muslims. In the central courtyard of the Great Mosque of Mecca there is a black cubic-shaped building, the Kabbah, which is known as the “House of God” and is the most sacred site in Islam. Mecca is the direction Muslims face when they pray five times a day. Pray and that “light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ” would shine in the hearts of the people living in Mecca and pilgrims visiting Mecca, and that the forces of spiritual darkness in Mecca would be completely overcome by the Light of the World.*

### **Day 2 – Pray for a love for the Trinity**

*Col 1:3–4 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,*

Muslims deny the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and accuse Christians of the grave sin of “shirk”, namely, assigning idolatrous partners to Allah. This violates the Islamic doctrine of “tawheed” that proclaims the indivisible oneness of Allah. Many Muslims believe that

Christians worship three gods, that the Father had relations with Mary and Jesus was thus born. They also believe that the Holy Spirit is just an angel.

Prayer: O Blessed Trinity, we praise you that you are a precious unity in diversity. We thank you Father for giving us your Son Jesus as the Lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world. And we thank you Holy Spirit for applying this salvation to our lives through faith. May the local Arabs in the AP acknowledge and worship you as One God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Break down all barriers Muslims have against you so that they will come to love the glory, brilliance, power, and love found within yourself. Blessed are you forever and ever! Amen.

Worship God as a blessed Trinity by singing “Holy, Holy, Holy”:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9SIHGTys74>

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

### **Day 3 – Pray for the different people groups in the AP**

*Col 1:5–8 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing - as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.*

Praise God for the local believers in the AP! Although the numbers are small, it is growing as God has promised. The Arab people are the main indigenous group in the AP. They are the original Arab Bedouins of the desert. Mohammad, the founder of Islam, was one of them. However, there are minority people groups as well. Here is a sample:

Zanzibari Omanis: Swahili-speaking Omanis who have roots in Zanzibar, Tanzania since Oman ruled East Africa during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Baluchi people: The Baluchi people come from Pakistan and surrounding areas. Some have mixed in with the local Arabs of the AP and have been there for generations.

Khawlan people: In the Sarawat Mountains of southwest Saudi Arabia and northwest Yemen, the Khawlan people speak their own Semitic language that pre-dates the introduction of Arabic to the region.

Razihi people: In the far northwestern corner of Yemen people of the small Razihi tribe live in the vicinity of Mount Razih and speak the Razihi language.

Mahri (or Mehri) people: They live in Yemen and Oman, straddling areas near the border of the two countries. They speak their own language which is distinct from Arabic.

Soqotri people: The island of Socotra off the southeast coast of Yemen is home to the Soqotri people who speak the endangered language of Soqotri.

Jebeli people: They are mountain peoples from the mountains of Salalah, Oman. They too have their own distinct language and culture.

Shuhoooh Arabs: The Shuhoooh are one of the Arab tribes in the UAE and the Musandam Peninsula, Oman. They are known as mountain peoples who speak a distinct dialect of Arabic.

Prayer: O Lord of the nations, we thank you for your promise that all nations will be gathered to worship you as one church! Thank you for the hope we have laid up for us in heaven as brothers and sisters in one family. We pray that the word of truth, the gospel, would go to all the people groups of the AP. May it transform lives among the Zanzibari Omanis, the Baluchi, the Mahri, the Jebeli, and the Shuhoooh. We also ask for Ephraphas's to come out of these people groups to reach their own people, to be faithful ministers of Christ. May your church in the AP among these peoples bear much fruit and grow as it is in the whole world. Amen.

Pray for the Shuhoooh in the UAE:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHItSsv7r30>

#### **Day 4 – A prayer for all local, AP believers**

*Col 1:9–12 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*

Col 1:9-12 is a wonderful and powerful prayer by Paul. Simply pray the same prayer for all the local believers in the AP. Change the pronoun “you” to “they”. Or if you know of a local believer, say his or her name. Pray this prayer for our brothers and sisters and rest assured that the Lord will bless the AP church out of his knowledge, wisdom, understanding, joy, patience, and glorious might. And pray this prayer for “Harry” below.



Here is the testimony of one Yemeni believer which also reveals the costs of being a local believer in the AP.

“Harry” was raised in a fundamentalist family in a small village in Yemen. He always went to the mosque with his father. When he was five years old, he was sent away to Quranic school. He was taught that Christians are to be hated. Even though he was a sensitive and friendly boy, he learned to hate. When he had the chance to move to Europe, he moved.

He tried to integrate and study. He knew how to hide his feelings of hate and had a European girlfriend. Soon she took him to church. He was touched by the friendliness of the people and by the things he had heard. He then started to have dreams about Jesus, but it took him a long time to get over his prejudices against Christians.

Harry finally decided to follow Christ and decided to go back to his home country because he wanted his people to know the truth. He knew their culture and their language. He knew that he was called to his own people even though the circumstances were difficult. He wanted to obey God and serve him even though he knew it might cost him his life.

His family threatened him when they realized that Harry was a “kaafir” (an infidel). They wanted him to become a Muslim again. His life became complicated because they treated him like an animal. However, he felt peace and he knew that Jesus was with him. God gave him courage and a supernatural joy. He didn’t want to go back to his old life.

Soon, one of his friends became a believer. Not long after that, one of his brothers and a sister followed his example. He rejoiced, but his father and his oldest brother put him into prison to get rid of him. Even in prison, he told others of Jesus and sang worship songs with them.

Be encouraged by this testimony of a Saudi woman:

<https://vimeo.com/200606089>

## **Day 5 – Praise Jesus for his supremacy and preeminence**

*Col 1:13–20 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him, all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*

During Paul’s time, various theories about Jesus were circulating and being promoted. For instance, heresies which mixed astrology and Judaism produced a doctrine claiming that

Jesus was merely an angelic being. Very concerned, Paul wrote this letter to combat these false teachings. Muslims today believe in Jesus but only as a human being. They believe that he is only a prophet of Allah who received the Injil (the gospels) from Allah. Although he did miracles and is even called the “Word of God” in the Qu’ran, Muslims deny his deity, incarnation, atonement, and resurrection. In contrast, Colossians praises Jesus as the supreme God, the Creator, the Savior, the One preeminent over all things!

*Prayer:* O Beloved Son of God, we praise you now for who you are, as God himself, the very image of the invisible God who has delivered us from the domain of darkness and into your kingdom of light! You created all things and rule over all things. We lift up the Muslims of the AP to you. Please open their eyes so that they can see your kingdom, redemption, fullness, and forgiveness. Grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth and free them from the snare of the devil (2 Timothy 2:25,26) so that they can bow down before you and worship you as the one who is the very fullness of God. Reconcile them to yourself. Make peace with them by the blood of your cross. Amen.

Worship Jesus as supreme!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1wih-qtzTk>

### **Day 6 – Pray for the leaders of Kuwait**

*Col 1:21–23 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.*

“First of all then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

The Apostle Paul urges God’s people to pray for leaders of nations here in 1 Timothy. Therefore, let’s pray for the leaders of Kuwait. Although Emir Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah is the monarch and head of state of Kuwait, the entire government is more in the public eye. Kuwait is keen to point out its “religious freedom”. Pray that both the Emir and the government will be committed to ensuring that this applies to the entire country.

*Prayer:* Almighty God, you are our ultimate leader and guide. We thank you that a king’s heart is in your hand and you turn it wherever you will (Proverbs 21:1). Please turn the heart of Emir Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the Kuwaiti government towards you so that they will no longer be alienated and hostile in mind towards the gospel. Lord, we thank you



that you desire Emirs and Sheikhs and Kings to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. Would you save Emir Nawaf! Would you reconcile him to yourself so that he would be presented to you as holy and blameless in Christ alone. Would you bring justice, righteousness, and peace to Kuwait through its leaders. Cause them to apply true religious freedom for the entire country, for all of its citizens and expat workers. Cause your gospel to go forth and be proclaimed to all in Kuwait. Amen.

Watch this video of how one Kuwaiti man came to know Jesus:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFCTW46wLas&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFCTW46wLas&feature=emb_logo)

### **Day 7 – Pray for the persecuted church**

*Col 1:24–26 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.*

Fatima Al-Mutairi was a woman from Saudi Arabia who was killed by her brother in 2008 for being a follower of Christ. Her case was widely publicized at the time. Although death is the exception and not the rule, the cost of turning away from Islam to Christ is enormous. Many have lost families, friends, communities, jobs, reputations, and freedom. They have been imprisoned and killed in honor killings as in the case of Fatima. Jesus even predicted this (Matthew 10:21-22). Since the AP is the very heartland of Islam, persecution is a reality.

*Prayer:* O God of all comfort, we pray for our dear brothers and sisters who are currently being persecuted in the AP because of their faith in you. Comfort them in all of their afflictions. May they abundantly share in your comfort as they share in your sufferings (2 Corinthians 1:3-7). O Father of mercies, have mercy upon them and cause them to rejoice in their sufferings and fill up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of the church in the AP. And we pray specifically for the family of Fatima Al-Mutairi, that you would convict them of their sins, that they would repent, and believe in the gospel (Mark 1:15). Bring them into your kingdom. Give them dreams and visions of yourself. Do not let them go until they surrender their lives to you. Make the word of God fully known to them, O Lord. They have done great evil, but you are a God of forgiveness. Forgive them and reconcile them to yourself through Christ your Son. Amen.

Fatima's story YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBQ1D29959I>

Click on this link to read a poem by Fatima Al-Mutairi before her execution:

<http://www.apinfo.eu/fatimapoem.pdf>

## **Day 8 – Pray for university students in the AP**

*Col 1:27–29 To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.*

Young adults are often considering life's biggest questions and are open to the gospel. Thousands of them from all over the world are moving to the AP to study at universities, joining the thousands of local, Arab students. In this setting, disciples of Jesus can participate in campus life as professors, staff, and students. As God opens these doors, local young adults in the AP have unprecedented opportunities to develop friendships with Christians and hear the good news for the first time.

*Prayer: Father, thank you for opening doors for Christian professors and students to come to universities in the AP. We pray that you would help them live a holy life that causes students to ask questions. We ask that you would fill them with love for students and staff, to serve them, and speak the good news of Jesus to them so that they can present everyone mature in Christ. Please give local students ears to hear and eyes to see the riches of the glory of the gospel, Christ in us, the hope of glory! Amen.*

Watch this testimony of how one Saudi international student came to faith:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkb09G2RKow>

Read this article about student ministry on the AP:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/3-factors-flourishing-student-ministry-arabian-peninsula/>

## **WEEK 2 - COLOSSIANS 2**

## **Day 9 – Pray for expat churches in the AP**

*Col 2:1–5 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.*

The Gulf countries have opened their doors to foreigners from all over the world to come and work (The Gulf countries are the six AP countries minus Yemen). Some have even given official permission for international churches to meet. These international churches are

gathering in many languages, worshiping Jesus, and shining his light in the AP. These churches are full of engineers, teachers, maids, construction workers, embassy workers, and other professionals who come from around the world. Each of these believers have unique opportunities to start relationships with local co-workers and neighbors. Praise God that there are over one million expat Christians in the Gulf today!

*Prayer:* Father, please fill these believers with your Holy Spirit to speak your word with boldness (Acts 4:31). Empower them to make the most of every opportunity, speaking with wisdom to give answers to each person who asks about the hope that they have (Colossians 4:6). Protect the pastors as they shepherd these believers from all over the world and equip them to minister the gospel in the AP. Encourage them as they bear the burdens of their people. Help them to faithfully proclaim Christ, that in him only are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Use the churches to bring firm faith to those who don't know you yet. Make the church a bastion of truth and good order against false and plausible arguments against you. Amen.

Here's an article on some international churches in the UAE:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/growing-reformed-churches-arabian-peninsula/>

### **Day 10 – Pray for second generation believers**

*Col 2:6–7 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

Second generation believers in the AP are very few, but God is doing amazing things in the lives of AP Arab families, in both the parents and the children. Here is one answer to many of our prayers for the AP. This is the testimony of one local woman:

I started to think about why are there so many wars in the Muslim world today. I started to think about religion much more than before. Then, Jesus came to me in a dream and spoke to me about eternity. I asked many questions to Jesus and he answered them very clearly. I woke up in the morning full of peace. I then spoke with my husband and he was shocked. However, he understood due to the clear details of the conversation between Jesus and me. In the end, he was satisfied and we both started to search the internet for more answers. We also watched Christian TV programs.

During this time, we knew we had to be baptized. And we thought that a safe place to be baptized would be in a western country. We thought we could go to a western country and knock on the door of any church and the pastor would baptize us. We eventually went to a western country.

We have several children in university in this country. We found out that it wasn't a good time to visit our kids because it was exam time. The kids were not happy at all with this visit! They thought something bad happened in the family. They thought that maybe our parents are sick. Maybe our mother has cancer and they came for a check-up in the

hospital. But I talked specifically with one of my sons and said that I need to tell you something important. I shared my story about my dream of Jesus. Suddenly, he started to jump up and down shouting "Hallelujah"! I was shocked and surprised. He told me that last year, all of us (all the children) came to the Lord through the Christian groups here at the university. We (the children) then started to attend church and the church has been praying for you and dad since last year.

*Prayer:* O Heavenly Father, we praise you that you have worked through families in every generation since Adam and Eve. We pray specifically for the second generation of believers in the AP. We thank you for the children and teenagers who have professed faith. As they have received Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior, give them power to walk in you. Give them even firmer roots and continue to build them up in you. Establish them in the faith and train them to abound in thanksgiving in all things. Especially bless this family that came to faith on two different continents. Lord, we ask you for more families to come to faith for your promise is for us and our children (Acts 2:39). Amen.

### **Day 11 – Pray against the human tradition of Islam**

*Col 2:8* See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. The church around the world needs to have compassion on Muslims because they suffer from fear, anger, condemnation, and constant attacks from the devil and elemental spirits. They have been taken captive by philosophy and empty deceit according to human tradition and not according to Christ who is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes (Romans 10:4).

*Prayer:* O Christ, have mercy on our dear Muslim friends. We love them, but the evil one has blinded and enslaved them. Please have mercy on them and break the bondage of empty deceit. Destroy the elemental spirits which rule in their hearts. May they experience freedom in you, freedom from fear, anger, and punishment. Pour out your grace and love so that they will be refreshed like drinking water in the Arabian desert. Bring real joy and freedom to their hearts for the first time in their lives! Amen.

Worship God as the One who destroys our fears because He is the One who holds the future!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LwBqG7uXbY>

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because he lives, all fear is gone!  
Because I know he holds the future,  
And life is worth the living, just because he lives.

## **Day 12 – Pray for justification by faith alone**

*Col 2:9–14 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of the flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.*

When we know Jesus Christ, there is no need to seek meaning in life through religion, philosophy, or cults as the Colossians did. Christ is the meaning of life because he is life itself! We don't need to add anything to what Christ has achieved for us to be saved. We are complete in him. Muslims believe that one must do good works to accrue favor with Allah. One's good deeds and bad deeds are literally recorded by angels and measured on a scale. However, for Christians, God has cancelled the record of debt that stood against us, nailing it to the cross of Christ. There is no record of wrongdoing! We have been completely forgiven in Christ, buried, and raised with him through faith through the powerful working of God's grace. Sermons in mosques always urge Muslims to become better Muslims, to be more obedient to the tenants of Islam. In contrast, our God's ultimate goal is not to make bad people more religious, but to make dead people come alive!

*Prayer:* O Savior and Lord, if you kept a record of sins, who could stand? We thank you that there is forgiveness with you so that we can serve you (Psalm 130:3,4). We constantly wait for you and put our hope in your unfailing love. May Arab Muslims in the AP experience the grace of your forgiveness in Christ alone. Show them that their deeds are worthless in gaining salvation, that physical circumcision and religious rituals cannot earn your favor. Circumcise their hearts and make them alive together with Christ! Baptize them in Christ's death and resurrection so that they may be spiritually united to Christ, the head of all rule and authority. Amen.

Watch this video about some of these Islamic beliefs:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PO5sTO4ERMw>

## **Day 13 – Pray to fight against spiritual evil**

*Col 2:15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.*

The city of Bahla in Oman is the center of black magic in Oman and arguably for the entire AP. The occult is alive and well in the AP despite the fact that orthodox Islam forbids it. Stories abound of humans being turned into animals, people being transported to anywhere in the world by stepping over a line drawn on the ground, demons speaking through family

members, witches casting curses upon their opponents, etc. Muslims are like the rest of us, weak people who seek relief and practical answers to life. Because Islam does not satisfy the inner being, some Muslims go elsewhere to find answers.

*Prayer:* O Lord of hosts, God of armies, you are a powerful warrior who fights for us in the heavenly places! Thank you Lord that you defeated Satan on the cross and that your kingdom and righteousness are growing and will not be stopped. Thank you that you have disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame by triumphing over them in Christ. We pray the same for Muslims in the AP, that you would free them from the evil spirits that rule their lives through black magic in particular. We pray especially for Bahla. Put the evil authorities in Bahla to shame so that they may no longer oppress the Omani people! Have mercy on them, O God, and build your church in Bahla. Also, may local believers in the AP put on the full armor of God because Satan is enraged that they are in a different kingdom now. Protect them from the evil one and give them victory over all evil rulers and authorities. Amen.

Pray for Bahla, Oman:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTQoMDKJjfg>

#### **Day 14 – Pray during Ramadan, a new moon festival**

*Col 2:16–18 Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,*

Paul had to respond to doctrinal errors affecting the church. He had to deal with issues regarding food, drink, festivals, and new moons. Ramadan is a type of new moon festival based on the lunar calendar. Sightings of the moon mark the beginning and the end of the month of Ramadan. Ramadan also deals with food and drink since a Muslim cannot eat or drink anything from sunrise to sunset. And verse 18 could describe Mohammad, someone who insisted on asceticism during Ramadan and also claimed that the angel Gabriel came to him in visions with the words of the Qur'an. On the contrary, Paul continues to exalt Christ as preeminent. Christ is the substance, not the shadow!

*Prayer:* Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you with humility that you have freed us from unnecessary rituals and religious piety that cannot save us. The substance belongs to Christ. Thank you for qualifying us in him alone! Please have mercy on Muslims in the AP who try to justify themselves through asceticism and religious rites. Help them, O God, to discover that Christ is all in all. Save many during Ramadan when they are more aware of spiritual matters. May they know that on the cross, “it is finished”! Amen.

Worship God! In Christ alone! [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AjR\\_A2pGPrY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AjR_A2pGPrY)



## **Day 15 – Pray for the United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

*Col 2:19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.*

The UAE is unique in that it has the most expat churches and the largest number of expat Christians in all of the AP. The city of Dubai has over 1000 expat fellowships! There is more freedom here for Christians than anywhere else in the AP relatively speaking. However, we need to pray that God would sustain and protect the growth of his church in the UAE and that He would plant churches of local, Emirati believers. The UAE has just handfuls of local believers now. There is no viable, local church yet. Pray that God would break through and plant local churches made up of whole Emirati families and tribes!

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, thank you that you are the Head of the church from whom the whole body grows. Therefore, we ask you to please cause your church to grow in the UAE, especially for local, Emirati churches to be planted for your glory and for their joy! Amen.

Watch this video and pray specifically for the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah. God has answered many prayers to send laborers to this harvest field in the last eight years and the number is growing. Pray for even more laborers to reach the Emirati people.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=43d7VzxRErQ>

## **Day 16 – Pray for the Shi’a Muslims in Bahrain**

*Col 2:20–23 If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations – “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” (referring to things that all perish as they are used) – according to human precepts and teachings? These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.*

Col 2:20–23 is an apt description of Islam as a religion. Do not taste pork and alcohol. Do not wear silk (for men). Do not touch the Qur’an if you are ritually impure (applicable to a menstruating woman for instance). These regulations have an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion but have no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh. In addition, although the majority of Muslims in the AP are Sunni, there is a large minority of Shi’a Muslims as well. One controversial Shi’a ritual called “zanjeer zani” encourages its followers to slash themselves with chains in remembrance of Hussein who was killed as a martyr in Shi’a Islam. This is done as a way to mourn the anniversary of his death known as the Day of Ashurah. However, this bloody practice is far from universal among Shi’a Muslims and is condemned by the majority of Shi’a Muslims. Nevertheless, it is an example of asceticism that causes much severity to the body.

*Prayer:* O God, we thank you for the grace which saves us apart from our own moral performance. We don't deserve your goodness. We actually deserve hell, but thank you that your Son Jesus lived the perfect life we should have lived giving us his very righteousness as a result. Thank you for a real relationship with you that will last into all eternity. As you have regenerated our spirits, regenerate the souls of our Muslim friends in the AP, particularly the Shi'a Muslims in Bahrain who make up the majority of the Muslim population. Pour out your Spirit on them through your Son, so that being justified by your grace, they might become heirs with us according to the hope of eternal life (Titus 3:5-7). Amen.

Pray for the Shi'a Muslims in Bahrain:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKxIh8yqQd4>

Watch the testimony of a believer from Bahrain. She persecuted Christians and later became the persecuted:

<https://vimeo.com/63468966>

### WEEK 3 – COLOSSIANS 3

#### **Day 17 – Pray against materialism**

*Col 3:1-4 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

Materialism and the idolatry of high status that results from the pursuit of material goods are all too common in the oil-rich countries in the AP. Gulf Arabs do not suffer like their fellow Arabs in Yemen where there is massive poverty, suffering, and death due to a civil war which began in 2015. When you have money, possessions, family, religion, peace, and strong traditions, why would you need anything else, including the gospel? This is a challenge indeed, but nothing is impossible with God, especially for the rich (Matthew 19:23-26). Let's pray for the Holy Spirit to shake up the Gulf nations!

*Prayer:* O God, we pray against materialism which is destroying the soul of the Gulf nations. Release them from the idolatries associated with wealth and status. Grant them repentance and faith so that they can seek the things above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. May they set their minds on heavenly things above, not on the things that are on the earth. Save them and hide them in Christ your Son so that when He appears again, they will also appear with Him in glory! Amen.

*Brothers and sisters, please also pray today for the city of Doha, the capital of Qatar. The Qatari people are affluent due to the country's vast reserves of natural gas. Qataris comprise only about 12% of the population of Qatar. The vast majority of those living in Qatar are expatriate workers. Isolated and prosperous, the Qataris are difficult to reach with the Gospel. Please pray that they would heed the words of the Lord Jesus, "For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see." Rev 3: 17-18 ESV*

### **Day 18 – Pray for purity and healing in families**

Col 3:5-7 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.

The Apostle Paul has laid out his arguments for Christ's supremacy and our need to surrender our lives to him by faith. On that basis, he now gets into more practical details of how we should conduct our lives as followers of Christ. It is no accident that Paul mentions sexual sins first in this list of earthly sins. He does the same in his other epistles as well. There is a gravity to sexual sin that causes tremendous damage. Unfortunately, there is well-known sexual immorality among Gulf Arab men. One Omani woman admitted that she doesn't want to marry an Omani man because she knows what they do in secret. However, let's not become self-righteous! The west is hypersexualized compared to the conservative and traditional culture of the AP. The good news is that God can free us from any sin in any cultural context so that we can confidently say, "I once walked in these ways, but no more!" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). Praise God that his wrath is no longer upon us in Christ our propitiation, the one who exhausted the wrath of God upon himself (1 John 2:2).

*Prayer:* Lord God, we recognize that we need your saving grace like everyone else. We know how much we deserve your wrath for our sins. We are all fallen human beings and come before you simply as spiritual beggars hungry for bread. And so we pray for AP Arabs to find that Living Bread, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life! You are the great physician too. Come and heal the wounds that immorality, covetousness, and idolatry produce. Heal AP families that have been torn apart due to immorality. May the people of the AP rejoice and celebrate the freedom from bondage and the new life that can be theirs in Christ!

Pray for Omani Men:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O696l4dLkwY>

## **Day 19 – Pray against ISIS and other Islamic groups**

*Col 3:8–11 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.*

The Bible is very honest. It reveals how anger, malice, and slander can be found in the church since Paul is writing his letter to the church! Praise God for the new self. He continuously sanctifies us by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:13). The old self in its worst form can be found in Jihadist groups like ISIS and Boko Haram that are filled with anger, hatred, lies, malice, slander, and obscene talk that lead to the senseless murder of thousands of innocent people, especially Christians. But the good news is that there is no Greek or Jew, barbarian, slave, free, but Christ is all in all. In other words, anyone can be saved!

*Prayer:* Almighty God, if you can save a persecutor of the church like Paul, you can certainly save members of terrorist groups. Bring them to yourself. Unchain their hearts from all evil so that they can be free from anger and hatred and the lies which are so strong among them. Take off their old selves and put on brand new lives changed for the glory of God and his kingdom purposes. Renew them in knowledge after the image of Jesus, and then give them new purpose and passion for their new Master, Christ, who is all in all. Raise up new missionaries from among them like Paul! Amen.

Here is a testimony about an ISIS member coming to faith:

<https://vomcanada.com/mideast-2017-05-04.htm>

## **Day 20 – Pray for unity among local believers**

*Col 3:12–15 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which you were indeed called in one body. And be thankful.*

God calls Christians to be united despite our differences of opinion. This requires believers to love and respect one another. Distrust, fear, and unforgiveness are common problems among Muslim background believers in the Arab World. Like the rest of us, AP believers have trouble getting along with each other at times and need to learn how to forgive one another as God has commanded us to do. God loves unity and so we must work towards it and pray for it.

*Prayer:* O God of Peace, we pray for our precious brothers and sisters in the AP. Thank you for choosing them and making them holy and beloved. Thank you that some of them have the courage to meet together in small groups. Help them to put on compassionate hearts of kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. May they bear with one another, forgiving one another as you have forgiven them. And above all, may they put on love that there may be perfect harmony and unity for the sake of Jesus' name in the AP. Use their unity to be a strong witness to unbelievers. Let the peace of Christ rule in their hearts so that they may be united as one body, giving thanks together for your ever constant and unfailing love for them. Amen.

The Gospel is the foundation of Christian unity:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/video/gospel-foundation-christian-unity/>

### **Day 21 – Pray for indigenous worship**

*Col 3:16–17 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Praise God that Yemeni and Saudi believers have already composed worship songs in Arabic! Praise God that they have also developed websites and apps that contain worship songs, poems, and Bible teaching. Local worship is an incredible and beautiful creation that delights the heart of God.

*Prayer:* Heavenly Father, we thank you that we are one church and that your word dwells richly in our hearts which enables us to teach and admonish in all wisdom. We ask you for more psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to be written by local believers in the AP that we may all give thanks to you as one body. Help them to exalt you through worship and may they find unspeakable joy as they sing and worship together. Thank you for songs from Yemen and Saudi Arabia, but we also want to see Christian songs from Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE, and Oman. By the Holy Spirit, would you raise up talented musicians and composers to glorify you in everything they do. Amen.

Listen to some Saudi worship songs:

[https://www.maarifa.org/index.php?option=com\\_audiovisual&view=playlist&catid=656&Itemid=202](https://www.maarifa.org/index.php?option=com_audiovisual&view=playlist&catid=656&Itemid=202)

## **Day 22 – Pray for the children of Yemen and the Gulf**

*Col 3:18–21 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.*

“He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.’” (John 9:36-37)

Children are a gift from the Lord and parents want the best for their children. Thankfully, the wealth of the oil rich countries in the Arabian Peninsula has helped children not to be in want. Unfortunately, it has also created a generation of boys and girls who struggle with health issues due to unhealthy “fast foods” and a sedentary lifestyle. Childhood obesity and diabetes are on the rise at an alarming rate. In contrast, children in Yemen are starving because of the effects of war. The organization, Save the Children, reports that about 130 children could easily die each day from starvation and illness.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, we pray for the children in the AP who are suffering because of the excesses in their lives. Pray that they will get the help that they need to be physically disciplined with exercise and healthy eating. We pray for the children of Yemen who need food and medicine. Oh God, have mercy on them. More importantly, we pray for the salvation of these children because the Kingdom of God belongs to them (Luke 18:16). And we need the prayers of children as well! Raise up a new army of intercessors who are children for we know you delight to answer the prayers of all believers! Amen.

Yemen war: The boy who shocked the world – BBC News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kn1iFDvgViw>

## **Day 23 – Pray for expat migrant workers**

*Col 3: 22 - Col 4:1 Slaves, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality. Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.*

A large percentage of the 86 million people in the AP are expat workers, mostly from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Egypt, and the Philippines. At best, these migrant workers are seen as employees, at worst, they are treated like slaves. There is some exploitation. Some are not



paid their wages and are forced to work outside in 45 C (113 F) temperatures. There are millions of Filipina and other Asian maids who work in the households of local Arab families. Sometimes they are mistreated and sexually assaulted. Many of these workers are born-again Christians.

*Prayer:* O Gracious and Merciful Father, please have mercy on these millions of migrant workers who sacrifice so much by coming to the Gulf to work. We ask that you would cause their Arab employers to treat them fairly and justly knowing that there is a God in heaven watching them. Please fortify your people among these workers, that they would be strong witnesses for you, working with integrity for you. Assure them that they will receive a great inheritance as their reward. Give them much joy in serving the Lord Christ regardless of their circumstances. Make them shine as bright witnesses to local AP families and may these families turn from their sins and put their hope in you as a result of these faithful servants whom you have placed in their homes! May they serve you with sincerity of heart always fearing you. Amen.

## WEEK 4 - COLOSSIANS 4

### **Day 24 – Pray for Christian workers in the AP**

*Col 4:2–6 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison – that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom towards outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.*

The Apostle Paul wrote Colossians in a Roman prison. One remarkable thing to recognize in this passage is that he does not directly ask for prayer to be released! Instead, he asks for opportunities to declare the mystery of Christ clearly and graciously. Christian workers who want to obey the great commission have left their homelands to serve in a difficult region of the world.

*Prayer:* O Lord, we pray for your servants in the AP who are intentional about reaching the local AP Arabs. We pray specifically that you would open a door for the word so that they may declare the mystery of Christ. Give them many divine appointments. Bless their mouths so that they are able to make the gospel message clear and comprehensible in AP culture. We pray for their Arabic abilities. Give them much favor to learn Arabic well. In addition, help them to be continuously steadfast in prayer, always being watchful in it with thanksgiving, praying for all the saints. Cause them to walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of their time. Let their speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt,

so that they may know how they ought to answer every person they encounter. And we pray specifically for the Omani man above. Save him O Lord! Open more doors of opportunity for this man to encounter you. Amen.

Watch this video about the need for workers:

<https://www.imb.org/2016/08/27/20160827limitless-opportunity-limitless-sending/>

### **Day 25 – Pray for the end of the civil war in Yemen**

*Col 4:7–9 Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here.*

From Col 4:7 on, the Apostle Paul conveys final greetings from various individuals in his life. The first persons he acknowledges are Tychicus and Onesimus.

Prayer: Almighty God, we thank you that you have already raised up Tychicus's in Yemen as faithful ministers and fellow servants in the Lord – Yemeni believers who are on the frontlines providing spiritual and humanitarian aid among the Yemeni people. Raise up more! We pray for the end of the war in Yemen, one of the worst humanitarian disasters in the world today. Provide food, water, medicine, shelter, and jobs, especially for the believers. Provide and protect them so that they can help their Muslim neighbors too. Send more Onesimus's to them to encourage their hearts in the Lord. We plead with you O Lord to end the killing, the famine, the diseases, and the lack of stability and peace. Amen.

Pray for Yemen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VifL7Y54H8>

*Brothers and sisters, please also pray today for the city of Sanna, the largest city and capital of Yemen. Sanna was occupied by the Houthis in 2014 and has suffered from the resulting civil war ever since. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Hope for Sanna. The warring sides in this long-running conflict in Yemen have a number of times committed to steps towards a ceasefire and engage in a United Nations-led peace process. Please pray that the Prince of Peace will bring peace to Sanna and all of Yemen. "For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight." (Psalm 72: 12-14) Please pray that the mercy Lord Jesus Christ will be poured out on the people of Sanna and His glorious Name will be praised.*

## **Day 26 – Pray for prisoners and believers who fail**

*Col 4:10 Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions – if he comes to you, welcome him),*

Aristarchus was a fellow prisoner with Paul, and Mark was the disciple who abandoned Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey (Acts 15:36-41). And yet, Paul welcomes Mark back into fellowship and remarks that he is useful for ministry (2 Timothy 4:11). Paul gives him a second chance. Some Muslim background believers are imprisoned for their faith. This can do much harm to them, or it can fortify their faith by taking away the fear of future persecution. Sadly, some professing believers revert back to Islam due to the pressure of persecution. Others backslide, leaving their believing friends bewildered and wondering what to do (Mark 4:17).

*Prayer:* Heavenly Father, we pray for prisoners in the AP who are in prison for your Name's sake. Give them grace in their severe trials. Grant them strength to stand firm in their faith and courage to resist temptations. Manifest your love and comfort to them. Assure them of your presence as you did with Daniel's three friends in the fiery furnace. And we pray for the John Marks of the world. We thank you that you are a God of second chances. Encourage AP believers to bring backsliding believers back into fellowship in order to give them a second chance. Let a spirit of forgiveness and restoration reign in the local church in the AP. Amen.

Pray that God would raise up pastors among Muslim background believers regardless of their pasts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5zJ872BPZzw>

## **Day 27 – Pray during the Night of Power**

Today is the holiest day of Ramadan – the Night of Power or Destiny. Muslims believe that the Qur'an was first revealed to Mohammad during this last week of Ramadan. Many have chosen the 27<sup>th</sup> day as a special day to commemorate this event. Therefore, millions of and maybe over a billion Muslims around the world will be praying in mosques all night long for Allah's special favor. They pray extra prayers. They recite more of the Qur'an. They make special requests. They believe that their sins can be forgiven on this night.

*Prayer:* O Lord of all power and might, on this night of power, would you reveal yourself in dreams and visions to the millions who will be praying and seeking Allah. They want to experience your power but are looking in the wrong places. Lead them to Christian people and the Bible that can explain what they see. We ask for many conversions on this night! May we hear testimonies later of Muslims who first encountered you on this night. Show yourself as the resurrection power who raised Jesus from the dead (Ephesians 1:20)! Amen.

## **Day 28 – Pray for Qatar**

*Col 4:11–16 and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. For I bear witness that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas. Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans;*

Qatar is arguably the most unreached nation in the AP with the fewest number of local believers. It follows a form of Wahhabi Islam, one of the most conservative schools in Islam, and the Qatari people are extremely wealthy. This wealth has become a stumbling block to the gospel.

*Prayer:* O King of kings and Lord of lords, we lift up the nation of Qatar to you now. They are like those in Laodicea who were rich but were wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked (Revelation 3:17). But the good news is that there was a church in Laodicea! Bring Qatari men and women to faith in your Son so that they may gather in their own churches, fully assured of the will of God. Bring them into your sheepfold (John 10:16) as you did with the Laodiceans and make them powerful prayer warriors like Epaphras was. We need the prayers of the saints from the AP! Build your church in Qatar through prayer and mature disciples. May they work hard for you and be ambassadors of reconciliation outside of Qatar too (2 Corinthians 5:16-21). Amen.

Pray for Qatar:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXnhNWHtqlk>

## **Day 29 – Pray for Mecca, Saudi Arabia**

*Col 4:16–17 and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.”*

The city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia is the heartland of Islam. Mohammad founded Islam here. It is the holiest place in Islam, and it is the site of the annual Hajj pilgrimage. Pray that Mecca would join the thousands of cities in the world where there are gospel-centered, Christ-exalting churches!

“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear!” (Isaiah 59:1)

*Prayer:* O God, we remember Mecca. It is a dark place where evil never rests. We pray O Lord that you would break the arm of this evil and set the people of Mecca free in Christ! We pray for new believers to come from Mecca. We pray for house churches to be planted in Mecca in spite of the danger. We pray that we would read letters and reports from the church in Mecca, that they are fulfilling the ministry given to them by you! If there are secret believers there now, allow them the great joy of worshipping together as a local body of Christ. May they be a blessing to the whole world! Amen.

A highly significant event in the Islamic calendar is the Hajj pilgrimage, which is held every year in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Over 2 million Muslims go to fulfill this religious requirement, one of the five pillars of Islam. The date for Hajj differs each year according to the lunar calendar, but Hajj is always held approximately two months and 10 days after Ramadan. Pray the same prayers over the Hajj as for the Night of Power.

Click on the link below to find more information on how to pray during the Hajj:  
<http://prayforap.com/hajj.html>

Read about a Saudi woman who saw Jesus at the Hajj:  
<https://unchartedministries.com/2021/01/25/jesus-came-to-mecca/>

### **Day 30 – Pray that you would reach Muslims**

*Col 4:18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.*

Paul ends his letter with a greeting from his own hand. He asks the Colossians to remember his chains as he blesses them with the grace of God. Christian workers are expected to give reports to supporting churches when they return to their home countries. How are you doing in your own personal ministries? What would be your missions report? What would you write in your newsletters if you had to write them? May our Lord be gracious to us and give us the nations as we walk with him all the days of our lives. There are risks and there is danger. Paul wanted us to remember his chains. May we all go in confident obedience and make disciples of all the nations and receive God's commendation – "Well done, good and faithful servant".

*Prayer:* O gracious God, help me to reach out to the lost, especially Muslims. Give me a greater passion to win souls with you. May I be compelled by the love of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:14) to love my neighbor as myself. I am weak, but your grace is sufficient. Make your power perfect in my weakness (2 Corinthians 12:8-9). Amen.

## ***Thank you for joining us in prayer these past 30 days!***

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

For more prayer information on the Arabian Peninsula, check out more from PTAP (Praying Through the Arabian Peninsula):

PTAP's website for additional prayer information and prayer guides: [prayforap.com](http://prayforap.com)

Sign up for PTAP's regular prayer emails at: [prayforap.com](http://prayforap.com)

PTAP's Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PRAYTAP/>

PTAP's Prayermate mobile app: <http://praynow4.org/arabianpeninsula>

PTAP prayer videos on Youtube: [youtube.com/user/prayershorts](https://youtube.com/user/prayershorts)

Contact PTAP at: [pray4ptap@gmail.com](mailto:pray4ptap@gmail.com)

