



Speaking

Hope

to the  
**World**

TWR CANADA PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL GUIDE FOR  
JANUARY 1 - MARCH 4, 2023

# HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

*“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” (Jeremiah 29:11-13)*

Jeremiah 29:11 is one of the most quoted verses in the Bible. In this passage, Jeremiah is writing on behalf of the LORD to the people of God who were exiles in Babylon. The people had lost their home, their freedom, and their identity as their own nation. They had lost their hope.

In these verses, God speaks to his people through Jeremiah, offering them hope for their future. Though things looked bleak, God had not forsaken his people.

Although today we find ourselves in different situations, so many of us can relate to those feelings of hopelessness. Sometimes we may feel overwhelmed when looking ahead at the days, months, and

years to come. At the beginning of a new year with new goals, we may grow discouraged when things don't play out the way we planned.

Even so, in the same way that God had good plans for the future of his people in the days of Jeremiah, God has good plans for the future of his people today. God offers us hope for the future no matter what our days may hold. It may be a long road and we may not always understand, but we can trust that God works all things for the good of those who love him (Rom. 8:28).

As we step into the New Year, let us go forward with hope for the future, trusting that God's plans are for our welfare and not for our harm.

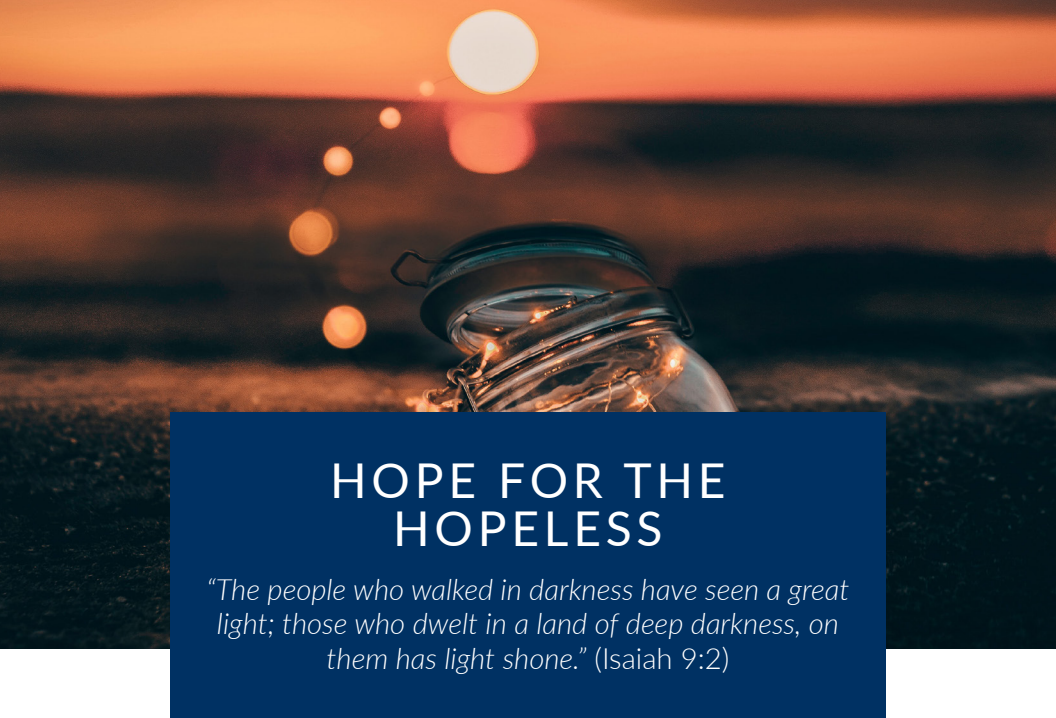
## Ministry in Asia

Across Asia, the message of hope is being shared through radio home groups, radio broadcasts and follow-up ministries. God is changing lives!

### January

1. Happy New Year! Praise God for the more than 15,000 radio home groups across South Asia. Pray that members would grow in faith together as they listen and discuss God's Word.
2. Please pray for SOTA students across China as they implement what they are learning into their ministries. Pray that what they learn would assist them in leading and discipling.
3. Pray that the Sri Lankan listeners of *God's Unique Book* would have the opportunity to listen every week. May these listeners be comforted and encouraged by the love of Christ.
4. Please pray for the ongoing partnerships with several organizations to reach out with the hope of the gospel across Pakistan.
5. Japan is the second-largest unreached people group in the world. Pray for a new initiative to share the gospel to this nation through a series of audio dramas based on stories from the Gospels.
6. In India and Bangladesh, radio home group leaders are trained using Discipleship Essentials. Praise God that those who have been trained report being better able to disciple their group members.
7. Across the Philippines, there are over 7,800 small groups using Discipleship Essentials. Pray that each person studying the material would grow in faith.





# HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS

*“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.” (Isaiah 9:2)*

Have you ever felt hopeless and alone in the dark? Have you ever been weighed down by suffering, shame, or loneliness? Sometimes life feels far too dark and hopeless and we find ourselves stuck in a slump and crushed by the cares of the world.

And yet, for all those who have found themselves in this kind of darkness, there is light. God shines his light to the world through Jesus his Son, who is our hope.

This truth may not immediately pull us out of our dark and sorrowful state, but it does offer great encouragement.

Christ stepped down from his heavenly home into our darkness and he walks with us. Throughout the shadow of the valley of death, he is with us and he comforts us. He holds our hands and our hearts through it all and slowly but surely pulls us out of that darkness.

There is hope for the hopeless and his name is Jesus! He is the light of the world who gives new life and who heals our broken hearts.

Let us ask that God would open our eyes to that light and give us strength to hold fast to him as he holds fast to us.

## Persian Ministry

For more than 40 years, we have been reaching the Persian-speaking world with the hope of the gospel. Through web radio, social media, training conferences and more, we continue to see believers strengthened in their faith and new disciples being made.

8. Many Persian-speaking believers are isolated from other believers. Pray that they would be encouraged as they attend training conferences, speak with Tony, and listen to the web radio station.
9. Pray for our Persian ministry leader, Tony, as he encourages and mentors believers throughout the Persian-speaking world.
10. Pray for the development of youth and short programs and for those who will listen to these programs. May the faith of younger generations and those who do not yet know Christ be built up.
11. Pray for those listening to the Persian web radio station and interacting on our Persian social media channels. Many are asking about Jesus and Christianity. Pray that they would find the answers they seek.
12. Pray for all those who have attended conferences over the last several months. Pray that this time of fellowship and teaching would strengthen them as they return home to challenging circumstances.
13. Praise God for the more than 20 people who professed faith at conferences over the past year! Pray that many more Persian speakers would come to know the hope of the gospel.
14. Pray for those across the Persian-speaking world who receive resources such as SD cards, Bibles and other resources. Pray that they would grow in faith.




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## HOPE FOR THE HOPEFUL

*“To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.” (Psalm 25:1-3)*

None who wait for God will be put to shame. What a beautiful truth! Those whose hope is in the LORD and whose hearts trust in him will never look back and be ashamed of having hope. Of all the things that this world offers us to put our hope in, only God is a firm place for our hope.

Hope in wealth will fail. Hope in family and friends will fail. Hope in our own good works will fail. But hope in God? Hope in God will never fail. Though we may be ridiculed by others for putting our trust in someone who cannot be

seen with human eyes, we know and believe that God hears us and is strong to save. This life will come with many challenges and trials, but God cares for us. Even if things don't go according to our plans or if God's answer to our prayers isn't what we wanted, we can trust that all God's ways are righteous and that we will not be put to shame if our hope is in him.

Let us be hopeful in the LORD knowing that he alone is strong to save, and he is our firm foundation.

### Missionaries

Our missionaries serve in a variety of countries, including here in Canada! Using their God-given skills and passion, they are the on-the-ground workers in the field.

- 15. Pray for the Clarke family as they continue to serve in Eswatini. Pray for God's intervention to supply new antennas that will reach further areas such as Somalia, Chad, Ethiopia and Sudan.
- 16. Carol Hawkins works in the London office calling donors to thank them for their gifts to the ministry and to invite them to events. Pray for Carol as she makes these calls.
- 17. Pray that God would stir up new missionaries from Canada to go out and support the work of TWR around the world.
- 18. Pray for McDaniel Phillips as he works with our Discipleship Essentials partners around the world to launch spiritual movements using DE in their ministries.
- 19. Stephen and Teresa Murray have now been in South Africa for a year! Pray for them as they expand God's kingdom across Africa through the ministry of TWR.
- 20. Pray for the Dunlop family in South Africa. Nathan is working on several audio and video production projects for TWR globally, and Megan continues her role of social and relational facilitator in the office. Praise God their three children are so actively involved in church activities!
- 21. Pray for Julia Schindeler as she works with diaspora communities in Toronto and looks at new ways of partnership for TWR Canada with these people groups.




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## CONFIDENT HOPE

*“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.” (Hebrews 10:23)*

All too often, hope is seen as nothing more than wishful thinking. “I hope the weather holds out for the picnic.” “I hope we can travel for our holidays.” “I hope I get over this cold soon.”

We tend to use the word ‘hope’ without considering the weight of the biblical meaning. As believers in a faithful and sovereign God, our hope in him must not look the same as this weak hope we often speak of.

Our hope is meant to be a confident hope based on the

fact that God is faithful. The faithful God who promises salvation to those who trust in him would not lie to us or fail to meet his promises. We can confidently hold fast to our confession with unshakeable hope because he who promised to save, forgive, and redeem is faithful.

Let us not hope in God as a weak or last-ditch effort for encouragement but with confidence in the truth of who he is! He is faithful and unfailing. We can confidently put our hope in him.

## Digital Ministry

Our digital ministry allows anyone, anywhere, at any time to gain access to a wide range of resources in their heart language.

22. Praise God for the ways digital technology allows people to find gospel resources on their computers and phones. Pray that those seeking the truth of the gospel online would find the messages they need to hear.
23. In places where it is dangerous to be a Christian, we need discreet ways of sharing the gospel. One of the ways we do this is by distributing SD cards. Pray that those who receive an SD card would come to know and believe the good news of Jesus Christ.
24. TWR Canada’s Persian web radio station shares the hope and truth of the gospel with the Persian-speaking world. Praise God for the changed lives we have seen and pray for many more to come to faith.
25. Pray for those accessing content on our Android and iOS apps. Pray that these apps would be a beneficial resource to many around the world as they grow in their faith.
26. TWR360 includes a wide range of resources in more than 100 languages. Pray for those accessing resources online or on the TWR360 app.
27. Many TWR radio stations around the world also stream their broadcasts online. Pray for those listening in this way from all around the globe.
28. With digital technology, we have the opportunity to reach people at any time all around the world. Pray for those who discover these digital resources and that they would come to know God through them.



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## HOPE FROM GOD

*"I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him from all his troubles."  
(Psalm 34:4-6)*

Our hope in God isn't something that we have the strength to create or sustain on our own. God himself provides hope for us. When we cry out to God for help, we are doing so with an acknowledgment of our need and of his ability to fulfill that need. He is the God who answers and delivers us. He is the God who washes us clean and makes us radiant. He is the God who hears our cries and saves us from despair.

He is the God of hope, and he gives us hope in abundance. When we feel shaken, he is our steady ground. When we are lost, he is the light to our path. When we are in hopeless places, he is our everlasting hope.

Let us thank God for the hope he has given us and ask that he would continue to fill us with hope and strengthen our trust in him every day.

## Ministry to Children

Our ministry to children includes *Bible Stories Alive*, a series of stories chronicling the lives of people in the Bible, such as Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus, in a way that brings the stories to life and makes the listener feel like they are there.

- 29. Please pray for the translation and production of the *Bible Stories Alive* programs in Arabic, Spanish, Persian, Swahili, Somali, Hindi, Gujarati, and Mandarin.
- 30. We praise God for the infrastructure to share *Bible Stories Alive*, including on four FM stations in Kenya, on TWR360, and on the Speak Hope and Bible Stories Alive Android and iOS apps. Praise God for the infrastructure to meet growing needs!
- 31. Pray for Dr. Griffiths and his team at Bible Stories Alive as they edit the English stories for translation into other languages.



## February

- 1. Pray for those listening to *Bible Stories Alive* broadcast in Spanish across the TWR Latin America FM network.
- 2. Praise God that the SOTA team has finished producing *Bible Stories Alive*. Pray that God will use these stories to nurture the children of China.
- 3. Pray for the distribution of the Mandarin stories on tablets and online through TWR Canada's Chinese ministry. Pray that the children and families who read and listen to these stories would grow in their faith together.
- 4. Please pray that God would instill in children all over the world a curiosity to know him and develop a strong foundation rooted in his truth and goodness.



## SPEAKING HOPE TO OTHERS

*“For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” (Acts 2:39)*

Through Jesus, God has spoken hope into our hearts. He has given us new life and a new place to start, and now he calls us to speak hope to others. We are not the only ones who need hope. The whole world is in great need of hope and God is the answer! He has given himself for us and shines his light through us to the world. God does not rely on us to give hope to others, but he does use us and work through us for the hope, encouragement and salvation of others.

God has called us to be his hands and feet and to share the hope that we have with

the world! What a blessing! As daunting a task as this may be, it is good to know that God works through us and uses us for his own glory. Whether it is to your children, relatives, neighbours, coworkers, or even complete strangers, and whether it is in your home, your city, or on the other side of the world, we are called to speak hope to others.

Let us boldly proclaim the hope of God’s Word to others, trusting that he will work through us in the hearts of everyone he has called to himself.

### Europe and CAMENA

While Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa are diverse in culture and language, one commonality is the need to hear the gospel. Radio programming, training conferences and missionaries are all part of our ministry in this region of the world.

5. Praise God that many who listen to *Voice of Truth* in North Macedonia have begun to see themselves in the light of God’s Word. Pray for Pastor Edijan as he produces the program and receives an influx of calls.
6. In partnership with the team in Europe, we have released an app for Macedonian speakers containing programming such as *Voice of Truth*, *InTouch* and *Life of Jesus*. Pray for those accessing this content on the app.
7. Please continue to pray for Ukraine. As the war continues, we praise God that our programming through social media has created a new audience. Pray that those who are suffering will be healed through the good news of salvation.
8. Across the Middle East and North Africa, our partner, Together Network, trains believers to lead small groups and disciple others using *Discipleship Essentials*. Pray for those who have received this training and are discipling believers across the region.
9. We are creating a series of biblical songs and videos for Roma children in Serbia. Pray that these songs and videos would speak into the lives of children.
10. Across Central Asia, we are distributing media players with several SD cards of biblical content. This is especially helpful for those living in remote areas without a church. Pray for those who receive a player.
11. Please pray for Vincent and Trina Collet as they balance responsibilities at the radio station in Lyon and family life with four young children.



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## WHEN HOPE IS HARD

*“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.” (Psalm 147:3)*

Hope doesn't always come very naturally to us. We may look at others around us and think that they have it all. Perhaps it seems that no one has it quite as hard as you do and that while others are thriving you continue to be knocked down.

This is a hard place to be but know that Jesus is in that place with you. In Matthew 5:4 Jesus says, *“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”*

Life can be hard. Although there is much beauty and joy, there is often also much pain and suffering. Things don't always go the way we plan and sometimes it all feels like too much.

God doesn't promise us an easy life, but he does promise to heal the brokenhearted and to bind up their wounds. He promises to comfort those who mourn and to never leave or forsake us in our sorrow. We may not experience a full recovery from our painful circumstances or perfect clarity from the fogginess of depression in this lifetime, but in all of our pain and sorrow, Jesus our Comforter is with us.

When hope is hard, let us cling to the One who comforts those who mourn, and when we feel that we don't have the strength to cling to him, let us trust that he is holding fast to us.

## Radio Broadcasting

Radio broadcasting allows listeners from hard-to-reach places to urban centres, and everywhere in between, to access the gospel. From FM stations in countries like Burundi and Nepal to high-powered radio from Bonaire, Eswatini and more, radio broadcasting shares the hope of the gospel around the world.

12. Our two Cuban programs, *Messages of Faith and Hope* and *Our Home*, are broadcast from the Bonaire transmitter. Pray for those listening across Cuba.

13. The Burundian programs *Good News for All* and *Jesus is the Answer* continue to be well loved across the country. Pray that these programs would draw people to Christ.

14. In West Africa, the Discipleship Essentials radio program is changing lives! Pray for all those tuning in and growing in faith.

15. The program *Men Alive* is broadcast in South Africa. Pray that this program would encourage the men who listen.

16. Praise God for the Quebec FM station! Pray for those listening in Brownsburg, Quebec, and online at [radioespoir.ca](http://radioespoir.ca).

17. *Against the Current* is a program for young adults in Uruguay, encouraging them to live a life of obedience to God rather than following the culture. Pray that this program would encourage listeners.

18. Through radio broadcasting, TWR has a potential reach of over four billion listeners. Pray for all those who are hearing the gospel preached in their heart language.



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## HOPE IN SUFFERING

*“Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.” (Romans 5:3-5)*

In this passage, Paul paints a triumphant picture of hope. This is a hope that is steadfast even in the midst of suffering. We can see in these verses that the victory and triumph isn't that suffering has gone away, but that through suffering we gain endurance, character, and shameless hope. We are able to have this kind of hope because God has poured his love into our hearts through his Spirit. This hope and this love are what carry us through every trial and storm.

Being joyful in the middle of suffering is not an easy or natural thing for us, but with the knowledge of the love of God close in our minds and heart, we will find the strength for every hardship.

When we are faced with suffering, let us hope in the love of God knowing that that hope will never put us to shame.

### Canada

TWR Canada provides resources for the Canadian Church, as well as tools to help share the hope of Jesus in the heart languages of our neighbours.

19. Praise God for the increase in responses from younger viewers in Quebec! Pray for the team at Aujourd'hui l'Espoir as they share the gospel with a younger audience.
20. Pray that the installation of the FM repeater stations will be smooth and successfully reach a new audience across the province of Quebec.
21. Praise God for the intern at the Quebec FM station who is providing assistance with program production.
22. To supplement the topical episodes of the TV show *La Parole Vivante*, we are creating a series based on the TTB series of Genesis. Please pray for the production of this series and for all who will view it.
23. Please pray for the production of the video components of CultureCross. This resource is designed to help people share the gospel with those of a different culture.
24. TWR Canada offers media players to believers to use as an evangelism tool in reaching new Canadians with the gospel. Pray for those who will receive a player in their heart language.
25. Pray for the creation of a new audio series for media players designed specifically for new Canadians.




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## HOPE TO THE WORLD

*“And he who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”*  
(Revelation 21:5)

The hope that God provides is not only hope for us individually but also hope for the redemption and restoration of the world.

Often when we look at the news or even at the people we encounter on a day-to-day basis, we might shake our heads and ask ourselves, “What is this world coming to?” Things all around us seem to be falling apart, which can be hard to watch. But God says that he is making all things new! We may need to endure the suffering and chaos of this world for a

very long time, but a day is coming when all will be made right.

When we ask ourselves what the world is coming to, our answer is found in the confident hope that God is in the process of making everything new. We may not see it in this lifetime, but we will see it one day.

Until that day comes, let us hope in the sovereign hand of God throughout all the world and trust that he is making all things new.

### 50 Years of Ministry

TWR Canada is celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year! From our early days of missionary sending and radio broadcasting to an expansive ministry around the globe, we are praising God for the many ways we have seen him speak hope to the world!

- 26. Praise God for the ways he has allowed our means of communicating the hope of the gospel to grow - from radio to digital platforms to other forms of technology!
- 27. Praise God for the ways he has used Discipleship Essentials to multiply believers, plant churches and build up faith.
- 28. Praise God for the many missionaries who have been sent out from Canada over the past 50 years. Pray for all those who are called to missions and for those who will consider this in the years to come.



### March

- 1. Praise God for on-the-ground partnerships around the world that enable us to share the gospel and disciple believers.
- 2. TWR Canada’s Persian ministry is our longest-running ministry. Praise God for the over 40 years we have been speaking hope to the Persian-speaking world.
- 3. Praise God for how he enables us to share his Word with the world in heart languages. What a blessing it is to hear from listeners, “I didn’t know God spoke my language!”
- 4. As we mark 50 years of TWR Canada’s ministry today, join us in praising God for his faithfulness!

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## About Us:

Using media, we partner with churches around the world to share the message of salvation among the nations.



**Media  
Content**



**Training  
Believers**



**Digital  
& Media  
Technology**



**Missionaries  
and  
Mobilization**

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