

Intr The Twenty

A prayer initiative of Wycliffe Bible Translators

What is The Twenty?

Many of the world's remaining translation needs are located in nations considered "hard to reach." Often, Wycliffe cannot even mention these language communities by name for fear of jeopardizing the safety of translators and their work. For intercessors, these challenges can make the call to prayer daunting, to say the least. Wycliffe's new prayer initiative, The Twenty, addresses these challenges, encouraging U.S. churches to pray for sensitive areas of the world with general and specific requests. We firmly believe that, by bathing each country in prayer, the gospel will go forth, the scriptures will be translated and nations will be transformed. Therefore, we're recruiting committed prayer partners who will stand in the gap for these sensitive countries.

What are The Twenty countries?

From areas with the greatest remaining translation needs, the countries selected for this prayer project are: Indonesia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, India, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Malaysia, Tanzania, Nepal, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Sudan, Iran, Myanmar, Chad, Central African Republic, Mexico, Russia and Pakistan.

Who will pray for The Twenty?

We are recruiting a total of three local church congregations to pray for each country. The guiding Scripture for this initiative is Ecclesiastes 4:12 (from the NLT version). It says, "*A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.*"

Do churches get to pick which country they will pray for?

The selection of countries will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Will churches be coached on how to integrate this prayer project into their programming?

As coordinator of The Twenty, Wycliffe Bible Translators staff will be supporting the congregations in this endeavor. Once a church is identified as an official participant, they will receive an orientation packet offering programming suggestions. Churches are being asked to make a two-year commitment.

What kind of communication will the churches receive?

We will use email as our regular form of communication. A country-specific email will be sent on a monthly basis and will highlight three to five new prayer requests. In addition, all three churches that make up cord will receive a unique artifact or gift representing the assigned nation. The artifact is meant to serve as a constant reminder to pray.

Given the nature of the countries listed, what kind of prayer requests will be shared?

In collaboration with our colleagues around the world, we will include items that affect the quality of life, weather conditions, political environment, educational systems, and health concerns. We will pray for life transformation and the Church universal. In some rare instances, with approval from language workers, specific language communities may be named.

What if there is a tremendous response to The Twenty?

The initial development stage is to identify the first twenty churches, thus creating an “anchor” church for each country. The next phase will be to help the anchor churches recruit two additional local church partners, bringing total involvement to 60 congregations. We want to offer quality service to this group of 60 before considering further expansion.

So, are you interested? If so, please contact us at 407-852-3870.