

# How to Pray for People Around the World

“Prayer” is just a fancy word for talking with God. We talk to lots of people every day, but talking to God is different because we can’t see him. It’s hard to know when he’s talking back to us because we don’t hear his voice the same way we do when we talk to our mom, dad, brothers and sisters or friends.

But prayer is important. And it’s really special that we can talk to God whenever we want! Plus, our prayers can really change things. God loves hearing our prayers, and he wants to answer them. Sometimes he answers them like we ask, and sometimes he answers differently — because he knows what we need better than we do!

Did you know that we can pray about anything and everything we want? It’s true! God loves us and cares about what’s important to us. We can pray for ourselves or for people we know, but we can also pray for people we don’t know — like people all around the world who need the Bible in their own language.

Mack and I thought we’d share three things you can pray for when you want to pray for people around the world. So are you ready?

**Let’s start  
praying!**



# You Can Pray for ...

## People to Understand God's Love

God made people — all different shapes, sizes, colors and personalities! He also made languages, and he knows every single one (and there are at least 7,000 of them!). So whether someone lives in the United States and speaks English or lives in Guatemala and speaks Cakchiquel, God knows all the languages. And he loves each and every one of us too!



Hebrew

Greek

Aramaic

So when you pray for people living around the world, ask God to help them learn about his great love — the Bible! — in their own language. When it's in a language that speaks to their heart (the language they think in, dream in and pray to God in), it'll make sense. That's an important thing to pray for!

## Communities to Believe in Jesus

When people understand God's love for them in the language that makes sense to their heart, they're able to believe in Jesus, God's one and only Son. When people believe in Jesus, they can tell others about him too — and before you know it, their friends, family and neighbors might hear about Jesus for the very first time.

You can pray that people all around the world would share about Jesus in their communities so that more and more people can learn about him. Because when people believe in Jesus, their whole lives change! And that's something we want to see happen in our own neighborhoods, communities, cities and countries too.



KATE, WHY WAS JESUS PUT INTO A BOX WHEN HE WAS BORN? THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

OH, THAT MEANS "BOX" IN YOUR LANGUAGE? JESUS WAS PUT IN A MANGER! CAN YOU HELP ME FIND A WORD IN YOUR LANGUAGE THAT WOULD MAKE SENSE, MOSES?

## The Bible to Be Translated

It's important for people to understand God's love and believe in Jesus. But it's also important for them to have the Bible in their own language! When people are able to read verses and stories from the Bible in their language, it makes sense to them!



It's like when people read John 3:16 (you know what that says, right? Let's see if you do!):

**“God wen get so plenny love an aloha fo da peopo inside da world, dat he wen send me, his one an only Boy, so dat everybody dat trus me no get cut off from God, but get da real kine life dat stay to da max foeva.”**

Wait, that was John 3:16? Yes it was! But not in English — it's in a language called Hawaiian Pidgin! It probably made a little bit of sense to you because after all, some of the words are in English. But it wouldn't speak to your heart because it's not clear to you.

Let's try John 3:16 again: **“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life” (NLT).**

That probably makes more sense! And that's because it's in a language that speaks to your heart.

You can ask God to help more and more people around the world to have access to the Bible in their own language. That way they can understand exactly what he's saying in a way that makes sense to them.

