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ASKing Point

is a bi-monthly communication on behalf of ASK Network International. It is an invitation to join the network of prayer throughout the nations, ASKing and agreeing regarding key issues on God's heart. It is a tool for prayer, a place for testimony to God's faithfulness in answering, and a gift of worship to the Living God.

Learning to ASK

EMBRACING THE VISION OF ASK INTERNATIONAL — *The Call to Strategy in Prayer*

God raises people and ministries in given times and seasons to fulfill a given cause, and afterwards He raises others to do different works. Over the ages there have been different challenges which required different champions and different approaches. That is why God continues to raise new ministries and new works to respond to emerging challenges and needs. People have a tendency to do things in the same old ways even when God is giving a new direction. This is what Jesus described in “putting new wine into old wineskins.”

God has raised ASK Network with a unique and specific call which is defined in the vision statement. With new vision comes the need for change in our mindsets and ways. This vision can only be achieved through the change process. The future of ASK will be determined by how much we are determined to change and embrace the vision. Our vision has four parts:

Gathering all generations to pray for all nations asking God to do what only He can do and doing whatever He asks of us

GATHERING ALL GENERATIONS

Where and how do we gather the generations? What strategic plans do we have to gather the generations? Have we begun? What have we done this year to gather the generations in our territories? Is there urgency? Is this a priority to us or is it a side business?

Consider Gathering:

- IN THE CHURCH — at the center of the spiritual war against the kingdom of darkness. The more people praying in an area, the more godly influence there will be
- WITH PASTORS AND MINISTERS — so that they can be aware and mobilizers of prayer in the congregation
- MEN — in Islam, men are the ones praying, but in Christianity there are more women praying.
- NEXT GENERATION — What strategies will welcome them into the place of prayer?

There is a need of stirring an appetite for prayer within church and community. Jesus called His disciples, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” They didn’t just come, they were called. As leaders we need to call people to prayer, and journey with them in the “making” of faith-filled ASKers. This is our task.

... TO PRAY FOR ALL NATIONS

Should we be proactive or reactive in prayer? Much of the time we seem to be fire fighting in our prayer life. Listening to God will cause us to be ahead of the enemy.

Sometimes we seem to be caught in our own political inclinations but not on God's agenda in our prayers. Which kingdom do we represent? Intercessors need only to take sides with God to be effective in prayer. Seeking God to know WHAT to pray is key. Different wars require different strategy and approach.

I believe we need to increase volume (quantity) and quality of prayer in the world. What about raising women, men and children in nations to pray for their nations? This is an approach we are using in Africa.

... ASKING GOD TO DO WHAT ONLY HE CAN DO

- Having FAITH in the God we are ASKing. Eph 3:20
- Knowing GOD'S WILL through His word. Jer. 1:9-10
- Understanding of the TIMES and SEASONS. 1 Chr 12:32
- Moving in COMPASSION. Matt. 9:35-36
- TEACHING others on prayer. Luke 11:1-4

... DOING WHATEVER HE ASKS OF US

Surrender and obedience to God's instruction is paramount in prayer. As we pray, God will speak to us and require us to walk in obedience.

Action — This part of the vision calls for action. It is the doing part. God may want us to be part of the answer to the prayer we are making. It may involve reaching out to stand with a given community and raise God's work there. It may involve coming along other ministries and partnering with them to raise God's work. It may involve finances or even provision of resources, including skills in training, encouragement of the teams in mission, etc.

How do we measure our success in each area of the vision? Are we planning to grow? Are we building strong relationships? Prayer is more about relationship than anything else. ASK Network International is all about God and it is all about people, and we must be involved with both. Let's make this vision a reality in our generation!

By Charles Kaloki, ASK Africa Director

ASK Network News



Pastors Charles and Miriam Kaloki

Pastors Charles and Miriam Kaloki have served in leadership with ASK Network since 2004. Miriam began as coordinator for Kenya, but soon stepped into oversight of East Africa. Today they serve together as Continental Directors for all Africa where the work is established (or being pioneered) in twelve nations. They will soon set regional directors in place for East, North, South and Central Africa; Jackson and Victoria Weah are already in place for West Africa. Charles & Miriam have a vision to see all of Africa on fire for God and believe that this will only be accomplished through prayer.

In addition to their responsibilities with ASK Network, they pastor Eternity Gospel Church and Bible College, a transitional safe home for women rescued from sex-trafficking, and several other projects. Pray for their family (children Lena, Paul & Rose), strength, wisdom and health to finish all that the Lord ASKs of them.

*My eyes will be on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me;
the one whose walk is blameless will minister to me. — Psalm 101:6*

*May your priests be clothed with your righteousness;
may your faithful people sing for joy. — Psalm 132:9* 

ASKing for the Nations



Jamaica

Unreached People Groups:

JEWS OF JAMAICA

Population: 200
Primary Religion: Judaism
Language: English

Background

Jews first arrived in Jamaica in 1530, from Portugal and Spain. Many of them were *Conversos*, Jews who had converted to Catholicism in Europe to avoid persecution. They fled to Jamaica to openly practice Judaism. During the 18th and 19th centuries, drawn by the prospect of economic prosperity, more Jews immigrated to Jamaica from Curacao, Germany, Egypt and Syria. As prosperity declined in the 20th century, numerous Jews left for the United States and England. Today, roughly 200 Jews remain, predominately in Kingston. One synagogue, Shaare Shalom, is active. In 2012, Shaare Shalom welcomed its first ordained rabbi in forty years, Rabbi Dana Evans Kaplan.

Pray...that God's Holy Spirit would indwell Rabbi Kaplan and the congregants of Shaare Shalom Synagogue... that they would know Yeshua as Messiah, and find hope, restoration and completion in Him. (Matthew 5:17-20, John 8:31-36)

This Caribbean island nation was first populated by the Arawak and Taino peoples migrating north from South America. In 1492, Christopher Columbus claimed Jamaica for Spain, but Britain took the country by force in 1655. By this time, Jamaica had become a refuge for Jews in the New World. In future years, it would experience great success in the sugar trade and become saturated with slavery. Since celebrating her 50th anniversary of independence from Britain in 2012, Jamaica has been a democracy. The new Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller (Jamaica's first female leader) is determined to rid the nation of violent crime and poverty.

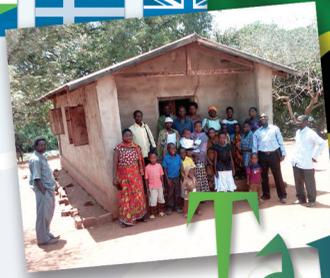
This impoverished area of the Caribbean supports some of the highest murder rates in the world, and with a mere 5% conviction rate. Reform of the judiciary and police is needed. Minister of Justice, Senator Golding, wants to ensure a "more peaceful and harmonious society" and is suggesting a method of "restorative justice," dealing with trivial things before they can escalate. This is a process where all parties with a stake in the dispute come together to resolve how to deal with the result of the offence.

With one half of the population considered poor and an unemployment rate of 14%, Jamaica's economic growth could be increased by tourism and foreign investments but nurtured in a climate that is free of drugs and violence, and by the blessing of the Lord.

ASK God for:

- Government leaders who will govern fairly and do what is right. That they would be merciful, unselfish, and sensitive to the people's needs. That they will be humble and realize that they will have to give an account to God. *Micah 6:8*
- The homicide rate to decrease rapidly and the violent would come into repentance. "Open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Him." *Acts 26:18*
- Reform in the justice system. "You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in his lawsuit. Keep far from a false charge and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked." *Exodus 23:6-7*
- God to increase the economic welfare of the Jamaicans and bring about His peace in the nation. "The blessing of the Lord makes one rich and He adds no sorrow with it." *Proverbs 10:22* 

ASKing for the Nations



Tanzania

Unreached People Groups:

SHIRAZI

Population: 706,000

Primary Religion: Islam

Language: Swahili

Background

Muslim Shirazi live on the Tanzanian coast, primarily on the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba. They claim descent from the Persian prince of Shiraz, Iran. Around 975, Prince Ali ben Sultan Hasan dreamt that a giant rat with jaws of iron was devouring the foundation of his palace. Interpreting the dream as an omen of evil, the prince took his family and close associates and fled Shiraz on seven dhows. Caught in a violent storm, the boats were separated and landed at seven different locations off the Tanzanian coast. In these locations, Shirazi communities were established.

Pray...that God would open the eyes, minds and hearts of the Shirazi people to know Him. Ask for dreams, visions and supernatural revelations to reveal the love and rescuing power of Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:17-18)

Tanzania, on the east coast of Africa, is bordered by 8 nations and the Indian Ocean. Her offshore islands of Zanzibar and Pemba (and several smaller islands) are semi-autonomous with their own president and parliament and populated by a mixed Arab/African descent peoples who are almost all Muslims. This region of Africa is one of the oldest-known inhabited areas on earth, traversed by merchants from India and the Persian Gulf in the first millenium, and the practise of Islam instituted by the 9th century AD.

Unlike many neighboring nations, Tanzania has been mostly free of internal strife in its 40-year history. With the population one-third Christian, Muslim (99.9% in Zanzibar) and other religions, there have been clashes between the more militant Muslims and Christians mainly in Zanzibar. There is growing concern also about the influence of al.Qaeda and radical Islamic ideology, and persecution is on the rise with the recent murder of Christians.

President Jakaya Kikwete promises to generate economic growth and reform in this poor nation where most citizens live in poverty. With their main export being gold (recently rising in price) and the discovery of offshore gas, there is reason to hope. It is also a nation devastated by HIV/AIDS with about 2 million individuals missing from the work force and more than one million children orphaned.

There has been growth in the mainline churches since 1980 with renewal movements bringing life to many congregations, and an emphasis of church planting partnerships formed between missionaries and nationals. This has resulted in the reaching of the unevangelized peoples with much fruit among the animist and Muslim populations.

ASK God for:

- Removal of the militant Muslim ideology that results in violence. "In my distress I cried to the Lord and He heard me. I am for peace but when I speak they are for war." *Psalm 120:1,7*
- Wisdom for President Kikwete to lead the nation into greater economic growth with a reduced poverty for the citizens. "Counsel and sound judgment are mine; By me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just. With me are riches and honor." *Proverbs 8:14,15,18*
- The victims of AIDS, and the effect on Tanzania's social framework and economics. "In You the orphan finds mercy." Hosea 14:3 "He executes justice for the fatherless." *Deuteronomy 10:18*
- Increase in the number of evangelists and church planters to facilitate bringing many unreached Tanzanians to Christ. Luke 10:2 "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." *Psalm 68:11* 