

Whether this is new or old to you, you will be greatly enriched by working through these lessons.

Prayer points for Vision and Growth in serving the Lord:

- Set aside some time to seek the Lord, with fasting as led. *And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.* Hebrews 11:6
- Evaluate all that you have been doing for the Lord, noting what has been most fruitful, praying for increase. *So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.* 1 Corinthians 3:7-9
- ASK God whether there are new things you should be doing. So Jesus said to them, *"When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him."* John 8:28-29
- Write a list of the things you are going to try to accomplish for the Lord in 2015. Pray for the Lord's favour on all of this. *Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!* Psalm 90:17

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU WITH A YEAR OF VISION AND GROWTH! 

by Celia McAlpine, International Director

ASK Network belongs to the nations!

In November Cheryl & Billy Cannon, Stuart & Celia McAlpine were privileged to travel to Australia where we were hosted by the wonderful staff of Ellel Australia at Gilbulla — a picturesque base not far west of Sydney where God is doing great things. Their welcome to us was humbling. The first weekend gathering titled *'Just ASKing and ASKing Justly'*, focused on ASKing. The base director, Paul Ryan, invited those in attendance to staying connected with ASK Network by email. He graciously repeated the same invitation at the two subsequent Ellel events we attended the following week. It was remarkable how many folk entrusted their information to us. Not only did we receive this as a trust, but a sign that there are those in Australia with a heart to call upon God for their nation. We are sure they are already in the place of intercession. If ASK can bless and support their efforts in any way going forward, we will be privileged. Meanwhile please take this nation into your hearts. Although their shores are a long way from the roots of terrorism, they felt its terrible effect just recently inside their own great city of Sydney. We join them in their grief and concern.

In another of the world's large and needy nations, Canada, we have seen a "deep calling unto deep". Rob and Fran Parker, leaders at the National House of Prayer in Ottawa, have opened their hearts and doors to ASK Network. As Graeme and Beverley Coad, North American Continental Directors, have begun building relationship, we have seen wonderful fruit, including a new National Director for ASK Network in Canada — Sue Huston. There will be a gathering at the NHOP in late January 2015 with some of the ASK International Team, by invitation of the Parkers and Sue Huston. Watch this spot!

ASK Network does not have an international headquarters — it belongs in the nations of the earth. At the beginning of 2015 may we offer it back to Jesus, the Hope of the Nations, as an instrument in his hands for His Kingdom's purposes. Amen! 

ASKing for the Nations



Unreached People Group:

GUJARATI OF ZAMBIA

Population: 25,200

Primary Religion: Hinduism

Language: Gujarati

Background

Indians from Gujarat began arriving in Zambia in 1905. Attracted by opportunities for business and trade, their numbers continued to increase throughout the 20th century. When Zambia gained independence in 1964, the government looked to India for support, and since that time the Indian Gujarati community has played an important role in Zambian economy. The majority of Gujarati practice Hinduism, a religion of hundreds of millions of gods. Gujarati Hindus believe in reincarnation and karma, and are driven by these beliefs to live good lives. There is a small group of known Christians among Zambia's Gujarati.

ASK... that Gujarati Hindus would powerfully encounter the God of love and grace, and that all other gods would pale in comparison. Ask that Jesus would be revealed as the path to true life. Ask that God would give courage and bold witness to Gujarati Christians as they share their faith with friends and family. (Psalm 96)

ZAMBIA

Zambia is a land-locked nation with extensive forests surrounded by eight other nations located in south-central Africa. The area was colonized and ruled by Britain as Northern Rhodesia but gained a peaceful independence in 1964. Due to popular pressure, in 1991 a new Christian based constitution introduced a multi-party democracy ending the one-party socialism of the former leader.

Copper mining and refining is the major source of income in Zambia. Opening the industry to foreign investment and privatization has increased the nation's revenue. This increase has attracted at least 100,000 Chinese immigrants to the nation. Labor relations with many of the Chinese owned companies have been tense at times with some Zambians feeling exploited.

The tourist industry has thrived in Zambia, in part to its peaceful culture, relatively stable government, large game parks and many natural attractions. Dr. David Livingstone, the Christian missionary, explored much of south-central Africa including Zambia and spent his final days there.

On October 29th President Sata became the second sitting president in Zambia to die while in office. Seeking to replace him is Sata's wife and their son who are prominent Patriotic Front politicians. The election is to take place by January 20, 2015.

During this time of transition the economy is being adversely affected. With poverty widespread and life expectancy among the lowest in the world, it is a difficult time for Zambia.

ASK FOR:

- Peace and tranquility to prevail during the transition period. *The work of righteousness will be peace...My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation and quiet resting places.* Isaiah 32:17-18
- Leaders would lead by example and all parties not allow their differences to adversely affect the nation. *...For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. ...a servant is not greater than his master... if you know these things blessed are you if you do them.* John 13:13-17
- Pray that foreign investors not withdraw from the nation bringing greater poverty to the poor. *A faithful man... who gives to the poor will not lack, but he who hides his eyes will have many curses.* Proverbs 28:20,22,27 

ASKing for the Nations



Zimbabwe

Unreached People Group:

VADOMA OF ZIMBABWE

Population: 16,000

Primary Religion: Ethnic Religions

Language: Shona

Background

The Vadoma tribe lives deep in the heart of Western Zimbabwe. They are derogatorily known as the "ostrich people" due to a rare genetic condition called ectrodactyly. In 25% of the Vadoma tribe, the three middle toes are missing, and the two outer toes are turned inward. This condition is prevalent due to strict tribal laws forbidding marriage outside the tribe. The Vadoma speak a dialect of the Shona language, but are said to be ashamed of identifying with it because of negative stereotypes from surrounding dominant tribes. In 2007, a gathering of Tonga Christians committed to reach the Vadoma, their near neighbors, with the gospel. To date, there are very few Christians among the Vadoma people.

ASK... that God would restore a sense of value and worth to the Vadoma people. Ask that God would give the Tonga people creative insights for expressing God's love to their near neighbors. (Psalm 33, Philippians 2:1-4)

Zimbabwe is a land-locked nation located in Southern Africa, between South Africa and Zambia. It was known as Rhodesia, prior to becoming independent from the UK in 1980. Since then, Robert Mugabe has been the dominant leader of the parliamentary ruling party, Zanu-PF, and has been re-elected to another 5-year term.

The Mugabe leadership has been marked by control, corruption and chaos. His policies on land re-distribution have led to extreme poverty, hyper-inflation and soil erosion. They rely upon other nations for their food, as much of what was once fertile land is now occupied by squatters.

The President has recently made allegations that Vice-President, Joice Mujuru, has plotted his removal from office through assassination, and he endorsed his 49 year old wife, Grace, as head of the influential Zanu-PF Women's League, thus, ensuring the Mugabe clan as successor, when the 90 year old leader dies.

Religion plays a very important role in their culture, with Shona religion being prominent, as well as a mixture of Shona and Christianity. The Shona religion is based upon witchcraft and belief in Mwari, a god and other spirits that provide protection, prosperity and health.

Trafficking in persons for forced labor and sex trafficking is common. Young girls are sometimes sold by their parents into prostitution, and both men and women are often lured into other countries with false job offers.

ASK FOR:

- A change of heart and mind for the governing leadership or to put into place leaders who will govern with justice and righteousness. *He changes times and seasons; He deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.* Daniel 2:21; Ezekiel 36:26; Proverbs 29:4
- Believers to know and be guided by the Holy Spirit as they seek Truth and answers, rather than a belief in gods and other spirits for their needs. *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.* John 14:6, 16:13
- Justice for the oppressed and those faced with exploitation. *Many seek an audience with a ruler, but it is from the LORD that one gets justice.* Proverbs 29:26; Psalm 146:5, 7-9; Matthew 5:3-6 