

ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

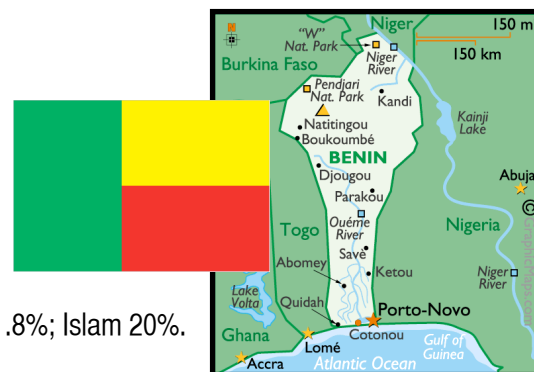
Hope of the Nations

In His name the nations will put their hope. Matthew 12:21

BENIN

President: Thomas Yayi Boni

Religions: Traditional (Voodoo) 47.7%; Christianity 31.8%; Islam 20%.



President Yayi, who won the electoral vote by 74.5% in 2006, is an evangelical Christian, from a Muslim family. He encourages Christian ministry work in one of the world's poorest nations.

Voodoo continues to hold many occult prisoners. Annually, Voodoo Day is attended by thousands. Youth comprise the core membership of the church.

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The World from God's Perspective

I have longed to gather. Matthew 23:37

"Those In Authority"

We are charged as intercessors to faithfully "pray for those in authority." (1 Timothy 2) More often than not, we find ourselves praying for leaders (within communities or over nations) who exhibit too few godly interests or qualities. We petition God to stir up their desire for righteousness and justice, to draw them to Himself and to add His blessing to their lives. But perhaps even our own level of expectation has been eroded over the years as so few leaders have truly humbled themselves before Almighty God.

In Psalm 101, David penned an extraordinary prayer list of the pursuits that preoccupied his own heart. Joshua, Josiah and Daniel (to name just a few) were leaders in their day who chose the same pursuits: humility, integrity, purity and utter dependence upon God. Such leaders not only pleased God, they were a blessing to the people. They fulfilled God's desire that people, wherever in the world they lived, should be cared for.

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God in Community

I come in the Name of the Lord Almighty. 1 Samuel 17:45

The Military Community

*"This I recall to my mind,
Therefore I have hope.
The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease,
For His compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness."*

Lamentations 3:21-23

"Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!"

If we were to look at a military outpost ...
what would we see?

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**...receive from Him
anything we ask, because we obey
His commands and do what pleases Him...**

1 John 3:22

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Benin continued ...

ASK for:

- **Corruption to be cleaned up and development of a stable economy.**

"Even the hotheads will be full of sense and understanding. Those who stammer will speak out plainly. In that day ungodly fools will not be heroes. Scoundrels will not be respected. For fools speak foolishness and make evil plans... They deprive the hungry of food and give no water to the thirsty. The smooth tricks of scoundrels are evil. They plot crooked schemes. They lie to convict the poor, even when the cause of the poor is just. But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity." Isaiah 32:4-8

"In that day he will be your sure foundation, providing a rich store of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge. The fear of the Lord will be your treasure." Isaiah 33:6

- **A pure Church with no mixture of spiritualism.**

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds." Titus 2:11-14

- **ASK prayer leaders to reach out to youth.**

"Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe. Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching. Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery." 1 Timothy 4:12-16



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Those in Authority continued ...

Pray Psalm 101 for those leaders God is positioning today and preparing for tomorrow. Their lives will testify of the One from whom all authority flows.

Psalm 101 (NLT)

1. *I will sing of your love and justice, Lord.
I will praise you with songs.*
2. *I will be careful to live a blameless life—
when will you come to help me?
I will lead a life of integrity
in my own home.*
3. *I will refuse to look at
anything vile and vulgar.
I hate all who deal crookedly;
I will have nothing to do with them.*
4. *I will reject perverse ideas
and stay away from every evil.*
5. *I will not tolerate people who slander their neighbors.
I will not endure conceit and pride.*
6. *I will search for faithful people
to be my companions.
Only those who are above reproach
will be allowed to serve me.*
7. *I will not allow deceivers to serve in my house,
and liars will not stay in my presence.*
8. *My daily task will be to ferret out the wicked
and free the city of the Lord from their grip.*

One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.

ASKing Psalm 145:4

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military continued ...

Would we see the overwhelming sea of humanity, mostly men, mostly 18-25 years of age? Would we see the spouses left behind for long periods of time, raising their families alone? Would we see the colliding cultures and the apathy of tolerance? But more importantly, what would we hear? Would we hear the anxious longing of their heart that only the Father can satisfy? Would we hear His longing as He broods over them?

- The majority of young people join the military to "save" others and/or bring justice. **meditate and pray: 2 Samuel 22**

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Being overwhelmed with the atrocities of war, many are unable to return "home." Even so, they are not beyond God's ability to redeem, recover and restore. Our Father, sparing no expense, goes to search for them, to bring them home. **meditate and pray: Psalm 130; Luke 15**

- Most chaplains have been reduced to a tolerance mantra, "All faiths are good."

Military outposts are a haven of spiritual activity ... false gods are worshipped openly alongside the living God. **meditate and pray: Ezekiel 34**

- Military families often live on the fringe, yet, like the woman at the well, they are potential urban missionaries ... Jesus transforms them and then their entire community. **meditate and pray: John 4**

May all the military engage the Warrior with the sword coming out of His mouth.