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ASK and You Will Receive

I am thankful to have been part of a prayer work that has granted us permission to “be still” in the place of prayer. In fact, we are part of a movement that not only grants permission, but invites and instructs us to become increasingly skilled, increasingly at home in this very place.

BEING STILL is by no means passive or unproductive. Rather, it is filled with purpose and intention as we choose to:

- Listen — in humility, to Someone else
- Expect — developing a trust in God who never fails to speak
- Depend — exchanging my own “take” on what is a good, right and just action — for His!
- Receive — an ever deepening understanding and right(eous) perspective

When I was first drawn into the place of ASKing prayer, I had no idea how deep a longing there was in me for this very place. Yet as I have listened, received and responded to Him, He has been at work changing me. For it is in this very place, we receive from Him something that was not resident in us. We come into the work of prayer affected by our histories. Our stories take every imaginable shape and form. We bring broken perspectives and behaviors into prayer that result from our past. God is not only after our service in the place of prayer, He is drawing us near to change, renew and heal us.

“Break up your uncultivated ground, for it is time to seek the Lord, to inquire for and of Him, and to require His favor, till He comes and teaches you righteousness and rains His righteous gift of salvation upon you.” Hosea 10:12

Show me the right path, O Lord; point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you. Psalm 25:4-5

His presence is nurturing, bringing to life something that was sick or dead. All nurture comes from Him. Nurture (to feed [nourish] and protect, support, encourage,

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.

www.ASKnetwork.net

train, educate) only happens in a safe place. A nurturing relationship will always include:

- LOVE — both giving & receiving
- FREE WILL — freedom to make choices for myself
- TIME and SPACE — boundaries: time to relax and enjoy; space (room) to grow, to change, to do new things, to let go (repent!) of old things

These are all gifts we are receiving from Him in this place of ASKing. And as we ourselves are being changed, we can offer an increasingly safe (nurturing) place to others. God has ASKed us not only to faithfully pray for communities, the Church, generations and nations, but also to engage: to embrace generations, ethnicities and cultures different than our own. This has/is requiring considerable change and adjustment on our part. Inviting us to re-think our own culture and environment.

Praying “in context” of deepening relationship removes our tendency toward performance and fleshly, dead works. We are being changed in the presence of God. I believe He is also making us aware of this change so that we can be a nurturing prayer environment. To offer respite to all nations, generations and cultures seeking healing, solace—a place to meet with this God Of All Hope. A place to be still and know (Psalm 46:10).

*Isaiah 56:7 says: All these I will bring to My holy mountain and **make them joyful** in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for ALL the peoples.”* The Message Bible says it this way “the outsiders will be accepted just as the insiders.”

- **As we WORSHIP — let’s linger. We NEED to see who He really is.**
- **As we WAIT to hear Him speak — let’s be patient, slow to rush to our own words.**
- **As we CONSIDER what He is saying — let the Spirit of Revelation reveal God’s insights, wisdom, and character, His very PERSON!**
- **As we ASK — let’s joyfully trust Him for all the answers no one else can supply.**

Lord! We acknowledge our own need to be changed. Thank you that you will be faithful — both to us, and to all who are the focus of our intercessions.

by Lisa Otis, Washington State ASK

A testimony of how ASKing together takes us deeper into a place of attachment to God

In the midst of a prayer assignment our ASK prayer team came face to face with the Jezebel spirit. Because I am a therapist, it got me thinking of the psychological dynamics involved with that spirit. We are all familiar with Jezebel’s patterns of power, control, manipulation, and attention-seeking — leading to division. These patterns are very similar to the ones involved with certain personality disorders, namely Borderline Personality Disorder and Narcissistic Personality Disorder. It is commonly believed that these disorders are developed in early childhood through the experience of abandonment, abuse, and neglect. Experts in Attachment theory tell us that the adage, “you have to love yourself before you can love others” isn’t exactly true. They say we are loved FIRST and then after we are loved, we can love others. We know this to be a spiritual truth as well. “It is not that we loved God, but that he first loved us.” Jesus offers us all that we need so that we can offer to others what we have received from him. We learn to trust him and our attachment becomes secure. The more secure we are in that love, the more security we offer to those around us and the less vulnerable we are to Jezebel or any other evil for that matter.

If we need to be loved first before we can love others, we may worry that because of our early wounds, we will never be able to love. But God is always at work to provide our every need, including our emotional needs. This is usually Jesus in the form of a loving brother or sister. So often I receive Jesus’ love through ASK. Our ASK group is like a love bomb. Every time I go, love is spilled so generously to all involved that it would seem that the fears of our childhoods were a long distant memory. The meeting has become a place where I am reminded that I have a deep attachment to God and to my sisters. Every encounter leads me to shed another layer of fear and build another layer of trust. In attachment theory, this is called the “Circle of Security.” Just like a toddler leaves her mother’s lap to play with a toy and returns again to know she’s safe, we come and go to ASK. We find it the place where we are loved and embraced and our connection with God and each other is deepened. Love truly is all that matters. It is the genesis of every victory. But we have to receive it first. ASK connects us to a deep well where it can be received again and again.

by Gloria Sandford, Washington State ASK

ASK Network News

Transition of North American Continental Leadership

Several years ago, Beverley and Graeme Coad accepted the call to be the first ASK Directors for the North American Continent. In 2012 they set north to visit Canada and began to receive a download of direction from the Lord. They returned together twice more to seek the Lord for all He wanted for this continent. In 2015, Graeme went home to be with the Lord and Beverley pressed on to fulfill the vision they had received together: the vision to see ASK grow from north to south, to see ASK Canada and ASK USA working together, to see a Continental Gathering take place as it did in St. Augustine this January, and to see the clear call to prayer reach into Mexico and Central America. Beverley's desire was to pass on her current responsibilities to one who caught the vision, and to set her face toward other areas of fruitfulness in ASK International. While we were gathered in St. Augustine the Lord confirmed to Ray Borg and those of us praying with Beverley, that he was the one to take on this new role. We are very grateful to Ray and Arlene for their agreement and acknowledgment of this call. They have been longstanding friends of ASK and participants in several ASK gatherings, and on the board of ASK Network Canada. They and their family live in Ottawa. We welcome Ray and Arlene into this new role. Please pray for them as they seek the Lord for the outworking of this call.



Roy & Arlene Borg

Thank you for praying for the ASK North America Continental Gathering!

Renaissance, the name of the hotel where we stayed, is the French word for "rebirth." In many ways we saw a rebirth or reawakening of ASK on this continent. We received fresh manna from the Word, fresh vision through prophetic words, dreams and visions, and inspiration through worship, prayer, the speakers, and fellowship. We also had a wonderful time of prayer walking in St Augustine, Florida — the oldest city in the United States.

Asking the Lord of the Harvest — Beginning Friday, March 9

ASK Network is committed to the final frontiers of the advance of the kingdom of God on earth. Psalm 22:27-28 prophesies "*all the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nation will bow down before Him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and He rules over the nations.*" Habakkuk 2:14 holds another promise. "*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*" So how can we help fulfill the promises? How can we step into the truth of Acts 1:8 which tells us "*you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*" Within ASK Network we want the Holy Spirit to empower us to press through to pray for "persons from every tribe and language and people and nation", who will all be gathered around God's throne for all eternity.

Responding to the promises above, we are offering a new opportunity to gather each week and ASK for those in the Muslim world and Unreached People Groups via FreeConferenceCall.com. JOIN US IN ASKING FOR THE ENDS OF THE EARTH. We will gather from 7am-9am Pacific Standard Time (USA) on March 9th. Email Nga Dang, nga231@yahoo.com for further details. Each week we will focus our intercession on a specific UPG from Joshua Project (joshuaproject.net).

Directions:

- Dial Into the Conference: Dial-in #: 1(641) 715-3580 - United States Access Code: **551830**. For international Dial-in Numbers: <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/wall/nga1048/#international>

At the scheduled date and time of the meeting, dial in to the conference line. When prompted, enter the access code followed by hash (#).

OR:

- Join the Online Meeting: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/nga1048> — Online Meeting ID: **nga1048**

To join the online meeting, click on the meeting link listed above and follow the prompts to join the meeting. Or for 24/7 customer service please call (844) 844-1322

In memoriam: On January 14, 2018, Pastor Niko, ASK Network's representative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, went home to be with the Lord suddenly after an incident of severe food poisoning. We grieve his passing with his wife, family and church, Please pray for them, ASKing the Lord to take care of them and meet their every need "through the riches of Christ Jesus". Although many of us had not met Pastor Niko, we were so grateful that he had accepted the invitation from Charles & Miriam Kaloki, ASK Directors of Africa, to take up the position of leadership until ASK Network DRC could be fully launched. We mourn his loss and pray for the comfort of our brethren in Africa.



Honduras



Unreached People Group:

TURKS OF HONDURAS

Population: **1,600**
 Primary Religion: **Islam**
 Language: **Turkish**

Background

The Turks are a Muslim people group indigenous to the nation of Turkey. It is unclear how or why a small group of Turks arrived in Honduras. Some research suggests that the Turks of today's Honduras may be descended from Palestinian Arabs who fled the Ottoman Empire's control of Palestine in the early 20th century. These Arabs arrived in Honduras using Ottoman passports, thus gaining the designation of "Turkos." The Joshua Project reports that the Turks are the only remaining unreached people group among the 22 mostly Christian people groups of Honduras. There are no known Christians among the Turks of Honduras.

ASK ... that God would use the cultural affinity shared between 27,000 Christian Arabs and 1,600 Muslim Arabs in Honduras as a bridge for the Gospel.
 (Psalm 24:7-10,
 Ephesians 2:11-22)

Honduras, with a population of over 7 million, is a mountainous land with rain forests and fertile coastal plains on the Caribbean and Pacific coasts. Founded in 1502 by Christopher Columbus, the official language is Spanish but English is also spoken along its northern coast.

Honduras' colonial past and military rule mean that democratic structures and mentalities need to be nurtured. The government faces an uphill battle in establishing stability and order. Rampant crime and impunity for human rights abuses continue to abound. Despite a recent downward trend, Honduras is known for having the highest murder rate in the world due in part to the notorious MS-13 gang that controls broad areas of territory across Central America in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. Corruption within the government, preferential treatment of the rich minority, and widespread poverty make the nation vulnerable to crime. Over the years, efforts to reform the institutions responsible for providing public security have made little advancement. Many urban areas offer few safe places for children who face malnutrition, domestic violence and a lack of access to adequate education.

Juan Orlando Hernandez first won the office of president in January 2014, promising a zero tolerance approach towards organized crime and pledging to bring down the high levels of drug-related violence. He was declared winner of the November 2017 presidential election, which was disputed by his main rival. Several people died in protests against the election outcome.

Let's ASK For:

- Wise and righteous governance by Juan Hernandez, and that he would be faithful to institute his campaign promises. That he would *speak ... excellent things and from the opening of (his) lips will come right things. For his mouth will speak truth. Wickedness (would be) an abomination to (his) lips and all the words of (his) mouth (would be) with righteousness; nothing crooked or perverse in them. Proverbs 8:6-8*
- The high murder rate would continue to fall and the MS-13 gang would lose its influence over the people of Honduras and other nations. *He will rescue the poor when they cry to him. He will help the oppressed that have no one to defend them. He feels pity for the weak and the needy and He will rescue them. He will redeem them from oppression and violence, for their lives are precious to Him. Psalm 72:12-14*
- The word of God will begin to change believer's lives thereby affecting the culture around them (97% of the people of Honduras consider themselves to be believers.) *For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord, so live as people of light! For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true. Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. Ephesians 5:8-11*





MONGOLIA



Mongolia is a landlocked nation north of China and south of Russia. Its geography includes grasslands, forests in north, three major mountain ranges and the great Gobi Desert in the east and south. Mongolia's population is just over 3 million with 1.3 million living in the capitol city of Ulaanbaatar originally planned to accommodate 400,000 residents. Around half of the residents live in gers (round white felt-lined tents with lattice-work frames). People in gers burn mostly coal to keep warm in the horrendously freezing winters resulting in Ulaanbaatar being one of the most polluted cities in the world.

Mining is the biggest industry, but about half of the population are still herders raising large flocks of animals over the vast steppes. The very feasibility of this traditional nomadic life-style is now under threat leaving a very difficult economic situation. This is a major challenge for the government and deeply affects every aspect of life leaving many in gripping poverty. Failing to address these issues adequately has already caused the collapse of one government.

Buddhism and shamanism, the largest religions, are often quite intertwined making up 35% of the population while Christians make up 1.7%. By 1987 there were only two known Mongolian believers. Atheism, from the Socialist era that ended in 1990, still remains, but today there are thousands of believers and around 400 churches. However, the church and its leaders are generally not strong in the Word of God.

Let's ASK For:

- For the Mongolian church to be built on Christ, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against the young and still immature congregations; for Scripture to become their foundation and guide. *Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God ... Jesus answered, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. Matthew 16:16-18*
- For a church who love the Lord with all their hearts that will be refined in righteousness, quickly matured, and fully dedicated to the Lord; for leaders not desiring selfish gain and power but be true servants ... *just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:25-27*
- For godly governmental and community leaders with wisdom to guide and encourage peaceful and fruitful transition in the nation's economy. *The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom and his tongue talks of justice. Psalm 37:30*

Unreached People Group:

KHALKA MONGOLS OF MONGOLIA

Population: **2,036,000**
 Primary Religion: **Ethnic Religions**
 Language: **Halh**

Background

The Khalka are the majority indigenous people group of Mongolia. They are considered direct descendants of the empire-building conqueror, Genghis Khan, and feel a responsibility to preserve the Mongol culture. Many Khalka are nomads, migrating with their herds throughout Mongolia and neighboring nations. Most Khalka practice a mixture of Shamanism and Tibetan Buddhism. In recent years, in part through the faithfulness of Christian mission agencies, Jesus is being introduced to the Khalka, often through dreams, visions and physical healing. Today there is a small movement toward Christ among nomadic Khalka.

ASK ... that Jesus would continue to be magnified among the nomads of Mongolia and that God would use the easy access they have into China, Russia and North Korea as a opportunity to grow His Kingdom. (Genesis 12:1-3, Matthew 28:19-20)

