

Praying for the Lost in the 10/40 Window

It is God's will that all people in the 10/40 Window be saved and come to a knowledge of Him, for Scripture says that God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:4). "All men" means all of the human race—men from "every nation, tribe, tongue, and people" (Rev. 14:6).

by Billy Joe Daugherty

John 3:16 reveals God's love for the people in the 10/40 Window: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." 2 Peter 3:9 says it clearly, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

Not everyone is going to be saved, but that does not change the will of God. The purpose of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection was to provide the way of salvation for every person—for every boy, girl, man, and woman—to become a new creation in Him. According to the Greek sense, salvation encompasses not only being born again, but healing, preservation, soundness and safety.

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are co-laborers together with Him. Romans 8:17 (KJV) says we are "joint-heirs with Christ." We have an inheritance in Him that is abundant and powerful. It is time to take hold of it by faith. Part of our inheritance is to use the authority that has been invested in us to pray for people all over the world to get saved.

Our Responsibility

Sinners everywhere—in the 10/40 Window as well as in other nations of the world—have not believed because either they have been blinded to the truth, or they have never heard a bold effective witness of the truth of the Gospel.

Proverbs 28:1 says, "The righteous are bold as a lion." Every believer has a responsibility to pull the lost from the rubble of sin by sharing with them the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People all over the world were shocked at the news of the April 19, 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. One positive aspect of this senseless devastation and loss of innocent lives was the tremendous outpouring of the love of God. Many acts of compassion, heroism and sacrifice occurred.

Imagine a rescue worker coming on the scene of the Murrah Federal Building a few minutes after the bombing. He hears the cries of the people, but he keeps on walking down the street, ignoring the cries. Such a scene is unimaginable!

Yet, in real way this is an accurate picture of many Christians. While people in the 10/40 Window, and in other places of the world, are buried under the explosion of sin, many Christians are just walking down the

streets, oblivious to the people who are lost and in desperate need of deliverance from the world of darkness.

Can you imagine what the world would be like if the compassion that was turned loose in Oklahoma City was turned loose in the 10/40 Window? People in Oklahoma City stood in line for seven hours or more to give blood. They waited for hours in a traffic jam on the interstate to take a coat or a sweatshirts to a rescue worker who needed one. Many gave all the food they had so the rescue workers would be fed. Whatever was needed, people gave.

We must be awakened to the fact that there is something we can do to become "rescue workers" of the lost around the world. Every believer can pray for the salvation and deliverance of the lost. Also, many Christians can give financially to support the missions outreaches into the 10/40 Window. Others as the Lord calls them can personally go to this area of the world and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

I pray that we will begin to see the people in the 10/40 Window with X-ray like eyes of revelation knowledge by the Spirit of God. I pray that we will move quickly to pull people everywhere from the rubble of sin and bring them into the Kingdom of God's safety and light. In Jesus' name may it be.

Jesus said, "We must work the works of Him Who sent Me and be busy with His business while it is daylight; night is coming when no man can work" (John 9:4 AMP).

Standing in the Gap

God is seeking for those who will stand in the gap and make up the hedge for the lost through prayer and intercession. Ezekiel said, "And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none" (Ezekiel 22:30).

In Bible times, a hedge was built around an area where the sheep were kept to protect them. If there was a breach in the hedge, a shepherd would guard the opening to protect the sheep and keep the enemy out. This is a picture of the protection offered by intercessors who stand in the gap and pray for the salvation of the lost. In this hour, God is seeking those who will be "gap standers" in prayer for the lost in the 10/40 Window. Will you be one of them?

Guidelines for Effective Prayer

To insure effective fervent prayer for the lost in the 10/40 Window we need to follow some basic guidelines :

1. *Pray that spiritual blindness would be removed* from each person so he/she can see the truth of God's Word. 2 Corinthians 4:3,4 says that the Gospel "...is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of

this age [Satan] has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

In praying for the church at Ephesus, Paul said, "I pray for the eyes of your understanding to be enlightened" (Ephesians 1:18). As believers in Jesus Christ, we have authority to pray and command the wicked spirits that have held people captive to be removed. Jesus said, "...how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house" (Matthew 12:29).

On one of our flights into Albania

We call the leaders and the citizens of every country, province and village in the 10/40 Window saved, filled with the Holy Spirit and submitted to Your will, Father, in Jesus' name.

a young man sitting beside me began to talk to me in another language. He couldn't speak English, so it was rather amusing as we tried to communicate with each other. He wanted to give me his address, and I was trying to talk to him about Jesus. I went through all of the Russian and Spanish I knew, and he finally got it. He said, "No, Moslem, Moslem."

On our second day in Albania, we went to a little Moslem village of 600 families thirty minutes from the capital city of Tirana. The mayor gave us permission to preach the Gospel to the people because of the free food that we would distribute.

As I stood there, up walked the young man who sat by me on the plane. This was his village. I had something to tell him now, because I had an interpreter! I said, "God's got your number!" He said, "I am Mos-

lem." I said, "That's all right. You can still receive Jesus." Moslems and Hindus can receive Jesus Christ, because when you get the real thing, you won't want the counterfeit. After our drama presentation, this young man gave his life to Christ.

You can pray for and over the lost in the 10/40 Window: "I bind the strong man who has tried to hold the people in the 10/40 Window captive, and I bind the devil's power off of these precious people. Holy Spirit, I loose Your power upon each person in the 10/40 Window, in Jesus' name. Open their eyes to know You, Jesus."

2. *Loose a spirit of repentance for the people, tribes and nations.* 2 Timothy 2:24-26 says: "And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, and be patient. In humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, And that they may come to their senses and

escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will." You can pray, "Father, I loose a spirit of repentance and a hunger and thirst for righteousness over each unsaved person in the 10/40 Window, in Jesus' name."

3. *Pray that Jesus would be lifted up.* Jesus said, "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself" (John 12:32). Although initially Jesus was speaking of His death on the cross, many people have never had Jesus Christ lifted up in their minds. They have seen religion, denominationalism, cult activities, ideas and hypocrisy. There is good reason to believe that when they see the real Jesus lifted up above the fog of what man has said about Him, they will accept Him.

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