

Grace Ashram Prayer Guide 2018

Team Members: *Anita Alexander, Jen Bischoff, Mika Burks, Riley Burks, Karen Christophersen, Joel Kaehler, Shelly Luthi, Paul Moffett.*

Sunday, 1/28/18

We will be packing all the luggage to take with us. Pray that we will be able to fit all the Bibles, books, balls, pencils, pens, tape, glue, crafts, pumps, balloons, and child gifts into eight 50. Lb. bags. Each one of us can only take an additional 50 lbs. Pray that all the supplies and luggage do not weigh more than 400 lbs.!

Pray that God will protect our health and prepare our hearts for the trip ahead.

Saturday, 2/3/18

The team will meet at the church at 1:30 to load, pray and say farewell to family and friends. Our flight is at 5:10 p.m. We connect through Dubai with just a few-hour layover in Dubai. We depart Dubai at 10:00 pm. And arrive in Delhi on Sunday, 2/5. We have a longer layover in Delhi (~7 hours), but we will need to gather all our luggage and then move terminals to Domestic flights, and check back in for our flight to Bagdogra.

Many prayers needed these travel days! The long flights and long layovers begin to mess with sleep cycles, health and attitudes, especially for those who have never flown this long before and are unable to sleep on planes. But it is also where many of the longer conversations and personal connections among the team are forged. Pray that each person will be able to rest; that God would protect our health; for smooth and successful connections; that we will memorize the names and faces of all the children; and even learn some conversational Hindi!

Note: India is 13.5 hours ahead of Puyallup time. Would you be willing to pray at the times below for our agenda a day ahead of you?

Saturday, 2/3 (5:00 a.m. PST)

The team arrives in Jaigon at 5:30 p.m. on our Sunday. Pray for a great night's rest!

Sunday, 2/4 (7:00 p.m. PST)

It is now Monday morning for us. Today will be a day to adjust, build relationships and just hang out with the children. Paul will be spending time with Binny and Bobby to review the 2018 goals for the Grace Ashram home, the Grace School and S.A.I.L. (South Asia Institute of Leadership.) We always enjoy playing volleyball with the children, playing other games, individual conversations, music, and laughter. Paul, Anita, Karen, Jen, and Shelly have been multiple times and always enjoy reconnecting and seeing the growth (academic, spiritual and physical) in the children. The evening will end with a bonfire where we will be teaching some campfire songs, bringing glow sticks to lay the foundation for our VBS teaching on "the light of the world," and making S'Mores – a new experience for them! Simply pray for cooperative weather and great connections in Jesus!

Monday, 2/5 (7:00 p.m. PST)

*It is now Tuesday morning. Many prayers needed today as Paul and the young men will be participating in a Pastor's Conference for all the local churches. Many pastors will be coming from Nepal, West Bengal as well. We will be feeding the pastors and many women at the compound today. The women will be hosting a Women's Conference. Our main emphasis will be on Discipleship. Whereas discipleship may look different in each culture, and carry with it different obstacles, we believe that both Scripture and Jesus' model provides principles for us to utilize today. Please pray not only that our teaching will be inspired and true by God's Spirit, but that we may **learn** much from our brothers and sisters in this part of world. Pastor Paul's specific prayer for this day is that God would use this time for us to truly fellowship in the Spirit to learn from one another, to edify one another, to strengthen the world-wide church, to inspire the hearts and lay a foundation of discipleship in the hearts of the young men (from both nations) and that God would be glorified. Please also pray for our women as they each present aspects of discipleship. Pray that they, too, will love one another, encourage one another and learn from one another. In short – may today's time reflect the Kingdom with cross-cultural, cross-gender, and intergenerational edification!*

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 2/6-2/8 (7:00 p.m. PST)

Today, Wednesday, through Friday our schedule will be the same. We will be teaching in SAIL and doing a VBS every day.

Day 1 VBS will be the Gospel message and Jesus is the Light (John 8:12); Day 2 VBS will be the parable of the sower and the seeds (Matt. 13:1-9; 18-23; and Matt. 5:8); and Day 3 VBS will be Salt and Light, and bringing the light to others (Matt. 5:13-16; 7:12). Paul will be teaching first thing in the morning at SAIL, along with Riley and Joel. Main topics will include discipleship, preaching, and the urgency of the spreading of the Gospel in the 10/40 window – right where we are! The women will be working at the school and partnering with teachers there in education. In the afternoons we will be doing VBS (we have no idea for how many children!) 😊

Pray for a FUN time with the kids! What a joy to see them come to know who Jesus is, to receive them into their hearts, and to love one another. Pray that many children will hear and respond to the gospel. Pray for anointed teaching, learning. Pray for all of the logistics for games, crafts, lessons, and for bonding with the children.

Friday, 2/9 (7:00 p.m. PST)

Today, Saturday, is graduation day for 4 of the SAIL graduates! We will be participating in the graduation ceremony, as well as making many connections with the visiting evangelists from the tea plantations who are previous graduates. Our team will take the graduates shopping for a nice Corta (Indian dress shirt and pants). The rest of the day is open for visits, evangelism, fellowship and rest. Please pray specifically for God's anointing on these young men who are graduating and going out into the field. Many have families and ALL will face huge opposition, persecution and trials. Pray that the Lord will be their strength and for courage and boldness in the witness.

Saturday, 2/10 (7:00 p.m. PST)

Today is the Lord's Day! We will be participating in two worship services. The first will be in English and Pastor Paul will preach. The second will be in Hindi and Nepali. Some from the team may be asked to share our testimonies.

Pray for the joy we will experience as we worship the One Creator of all the world! Pray for no confusion in translation. Pray for Pastor Paul's message and that we will bring encouragement and be encouraged in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

In the afternoon, the team will be presenting the children with their sponsor gifts.

Sunday, 2/11 (7:00 p.m. PST)

Open schedule.

Monday, 2/12 (7:00 p.m. PST)

This morning (Tuesday, 2/13) we begin the long journey home. We will drive 4 hours to Bagdogra and then take a plane to Delhi (with a LOT less luggage!) We leave from Delhi to Dubai, and due to a long layover, we will sleep at a hotel in the airport in Dubai (we hope this will help alleviate some jet lag on the return.) We leave Dubai at 8:05 on Tuesday 2/14 and arrive in Seattle at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday the 14th (PST).

Please continue to pray for God's health and rest. Pray for weeks after the team returns that we will adjust to the time difference, going back to work, and that the God sightings experienced will be guarded in our hearts and flow as a testimony from our lips!

God bless you for your faithfulness to pray!!