

tearfund

2025 Prayer Guide

Asking the Lord to do
what only he can do.



Dear Friend,

Thank you for praying with us.

Whether you're new to Tearfund or have known us for many years, you should know that we are an organization built on prayer. Prayer is absolutely essential not only for the work that we do, but for the world we want to see.

As you go through this guide, there are three things that we want you to remember:

- 1. Prayer can achieve the impossible:** Jesus tells us that with God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26). It is never the power of our prayer that changes the world, but the power of the one we pray to. Our actions are small and limited. God's are unlimited.
- 2. Prayer is indispensable:** not only can prayer achieve the impossible, it's necessary to do anything (John 15:5). If we are to be effective for Kingdom impact, we need you to join us in prayer, trusting God to do what only he can do.
- 3. Prayer is always available:** you may not always be able to contribute financially to our work worldwide—and that's okay. But you can always pray. We can't overemphasize how important your prayers are to the ministry of Tearfund and those we serve around the world. If you can't do anything else, please pray for us.

We understand prayer can be difficult! Life often gets busy and we always wish we prayed more. We hope that this booklet will help. Included are different ways you can pray for the countries we work in and the Church across the world. Keep it somewhere visible as a reminder to pray, such as on your bedside table, desk, or in your Bible.

If you would like more copies for yourself or your church, please let us know.

Thank you and God bless,

Tearfund Canada

More ways to get involved

Receive Monthly Prayer Emails

Sign-up here to receive the latest prayer points from Tearfund each and every month: www.tearfund.ca/pray.



Join Monthly Prayer Sessions

On the 3rd Tuesday of every month, you are invited to join us online to pray for the most vulnerable and for the world. To learn more and sign-up please visit www.tearfund.ca/pray/monthly-national-prayer-meet-up or email us at connect@tearfund.ca.



Contribute Financially

Our work depends on the generosity of faith-filled believers who want to see people freed from poverty and God's Kingdom spread throughout the earth. We would love to have you partner with us financially to continue our mission of working with the Church to put an end to poverty. You can learn more and donate at www.tearfund.ca/donate.



Ethiopia



Country Overview

Population:

127 million

Pop. living on less than \$2.15 a day:

23.5%

Pop. living in multidimensional poverty:

72.7%

Ethiopia continues to face significant hurdles. The recent civil war has been disastrous, and Ethiopia's changing climate continues to make life difficult for farming families, hindering their efforts to grow productive yields and climb out of poverty. As a result, Tearfund Canada is working with churches on several projects to help families out of poverty and to see a future of opportunity and hope. With training in agriculture, food relief, and church empowerment, Tearfund is working with local partners to help families who struggle to survive.

Hope Seen! Ethiopia



Scan the QR code to watch the video on Ethiopia.

📺 Pastor Siyum proudly shows us one of the many pumpkins he has grown through conservation agriculture. Thanks to Tearfund's Church and Community Transformation training, Pastor Siyum's church has gone beyond its walls to transform its community. He tells us how hunger has nearly been eradicated and how his family has personally benefited from the training. With joy he tells us how his church's evangelism efforts have been strengthened, resulting in many people coming to faith.

Prayer Points

- Pray that God would be glorified in Ethiopia and that his Church would act as a beautiful light of hope during this time. Pray that our ongoing Church and Community Transformation programming would help churches go beyond their walls to meet the immense needs around them.
- Pray for pastors and those in church leadership—that they would be strengthened to lead their churches in grace and truth and be good role models for their congregations and communities.
- Pray for peace across the country. The Amhara region continues to experience terrible violence, with reports of mass arbitrary detentions and rising tensions.
- Continue to pray for our creation care projects which aim to restore large areas of degraded land. Over 2 million trees have already been planted to prevent erosion and provide farmers with better farming conditions, including improved access to water and soil fertility. Ask God to continue this work!
- Pray for the success of the conservation agriculture training, which is transforming the lives of thousands of farmers. Pray for favourable weather conditions this year to help them grow thriving crops.
- Pray for our relief to resilience programming in war-torn areas, helping families build back their livelihoods after the terrible civil war.
- Pray that the Ethiopian government and its leaders would govern well and fairly.
- Pray for our partners, the Terepeza Development Association and the Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church, that God would strengthen them and give them wisdom. Ask that he would use them to do great things and help the poor escape physical and spiritual poverty in Ethiopia.

Tanzania

Country Overview

Population:	Pop. living on less than \$2.15 a day:	Pop. living in multidimensional poverty:
67 million	44.9%	54.6%

Poverty in Tanzania remains stubbornly high. In contrast to its tropical coast, the middle of the country is very dry, receiving rain only 4 months out of the year. Farming is very difficult and many families suffer from food insecurity, frequently experiencing several months of “lean season”—a time when families often eat only one meal a day. Tearfund is working with local churches to help families become more food secure and placed on a path out of poverty. Through climate-smart agriculture training and saving groups, families can grow more food and avoid exploitative loan sharks. Savings groups also empower many women, helping them start new, thriving businesses.

Hope Seen! Tanzania



Scan the QR code to watch the video on Tanzania.

- 📹 At only 22 years old, Joanna and her husband have already started several businesses, thanks in part to their village savings group run by the local church. The group allowed them to save and access loans to be able to expand their farm, start a masonry business, and open a bookstore. As the climate continues to change in central Tanzania, the immense dryness that plagues the region is expected to increase. Please pray that people will continue to be able to diversify their income and that the church can shine brightly.

Prayer Points

- Pray for the propagation of more village savings groups. These powerful little groups are revolutionizing the lives of people living in poverty.
- Pray that God will continue to encourage entrepreneurs in the area as they start and expand their businesses.
- Pray that more farmers are able to enroll in Tearfund's climate-smart agriculture training so that they can grow more food to eat and sell.
- Pray for the local church that our Church-based Community Transformation projects will spread and that churches can act as salt and light to their communities. Pray that they would tend to the needs of the widow, orphan, and sojourner.
- Pray for the government, that God will provide wisdom to leaders and that proper infrastructure will be developed for both urban and rural areas.
- Pray for the climate, as drought and unpredictable weather are causing havoc for farmers. Pray for good rains and healthy crops.
- Pray for our partner, the Diocese of Central Tanganyika, that God will strengthen them and give them wisdom. Pray that he would use them to do great things and help the poor escape physical and spiritual poverty in Tanzania.

India

A photograph of a man in a light blue t-shirt standing in a rural Indian village. He is surrounded by a large group of goats of various colors (brown, black, white, and spotted). The background shows traditional mud-brick buildings with tiled roofs and a fence made of vertical wooden poles. The scene is set in a dry, dusty environment with some trees in the distance.

Country Overview

Population:

1.4 billion

Pop. living on less than \$2.15 a day:

12.9%

Pop. living in multidimensional poverty:

N/A

India grapples with severe inequality and has hundreds of millions of people living in poverty. Furthermore, increasingly frequent and severe climate events such as droughts and floods are putting additional pressure on farming families who live off the land. In partnership with EFICOR (Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief), Tearfund is actively engaging with marginalized communities in remote areas of Jharkhand state, helping families escape poverty through agricultural and business training, empowering youth and women, and implementing climate adaptation strategies.

Hope Seen! India



Scan the QR code to watch the video on India.

Each winter, Jaiprakash and Sitaram would lose 10 to 15 goats due to disease. But thanks to Tearfund's goat vaccination program, not a single one died last year. Along with our local partner, people like you are helping us minister to the remote tribes in Jharkhand, helping them grow more food and diversify their income so that they can take their first steps out of poverty.

Prayer Points

- Pray farmers would embrace the new agricultural practices to grow more food for their families.
- Pray the Malto community would be protected from persecution and be more accepted and integrated into local economic and social systems.
- Please pray that India will find solutions to its deadly pollution and smog caused by crop stubble burning, vehicle emissions, and factory pollution. In 2024, Dehli's air pollution was 50X more than the maximum recommended amount, causing severe illness and death among the city's children, poor, and elderly.
- Pray for protection for India's minorities, particularly Christians, who face increasing persecution and violence from pro-Hindu policies. Pray for the northeastern state of Manipur, where ethnic and religious violence has led to the destruction of 300 churches, devastation, and mass emigration.
- Pray that churches in India can be beacons of hope and cater to the spiritual and physical needs around them.
- Pray that God provides EFICOR wisdom and protection as they follow Jesus into these remote villages.
- Pray that God would grant favour to EFICOR with local and national authorities and that their work would not be hindered due to religious persecution.
- Pray that many in India would be freed from physical and spiritual poverty.

Kenya



Country Overview

Population:	Pop. living on less than \$2.15 a day:	Pop. living in multidimensional poverty:
55 million	36.2%	38.5%

Kenya continues to struggle with severe inequality. Less than 0.1% of the population holds more wealth than the other 99.9% combined. In some regions, changing climate conditions are leading to severe and frequent droughts. In such cases, traditional farming becomes impossible, and even conservation agriculture methods become difficult. Tearfund is working with local churches to combat these challenges and help families out of poverty. Through savings groups, kitchen gardens, and innovative storage solutions, many families are starting to grow their income and see a brighter future.

Hope Seen! Kenya



Scan the QR code to watch the video on Kenya.

- Ruth suddenly found herself on the ground with many faces looking down on her. After struggling with epilepsy her entire life, she had a sudden seizure on the side of the road while walking to church and blacked out. But that didn't deter her. She insisted on completing her journey to worship with her church family; it means everything to her. Thanks to Tearfund's Church and Community Mobilization Training, Ruth's church has become a light in her community, faithfully serving the vulnerable. For many years, Ruth has been one of them. What started off as compassionate service, has turned into a transformative and life-long relationship.

Prayer Points

- Pray that the work of savings groups continues to thrive and expand and that many women will be able to grow their small businesses.
- Pray that our Church and Community Transformation work continues to expand, and for God to transform communities through the local church.
- Please pray for our land restoration project in the Kibwezi West region, which aims to restore 6000 acres of severely degraded land. Pray that this land would thrive again and benefit the many families who live nearby and rely on the mountain for water and food.
- Pray for peace and safety across Kenya. There is an undercurrent of political and social instability that has the potential to flare up at any moment.
- Pray that God would bring wisdom to the nation's leaders as they continue to address its many challenges. Pray for the citizens to express good judgment as they voice their concerns.
- Many parts of Kenya are classified as semi-arid and can experience severe drought. Pray for steady and consistent rains so that farmers can have good harvests this year.
- Pray that women would be valued. Women are often seen as second-class citizens responsible for the children and all of the household chores, plus work outside the home. Sexual violence is also a massive problem.
- Pray for our partner, Fadhili Trust, that God would strengthen them and give them wisdom. Pray that he would use them to do great things and help the poor escape physical and spiritual poverty in Kenya.

South Sudan

A close-up photograph of a woman in South Sudan wearing a vibrant, multi-colored headscarf. She has a serious expression. Behind her, the back of a man's head and shoulder in a plaid shirt is visible. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Country Overview

Population:

11 million

Pop. living on less than \$2.15 a day:

67.3%

Pop. living in multidimensional poverty:

84.9%

One of the most impoverished places on Earth, South Sudan has a long history of violence, insecurity, and hunger. A staggering 67% of South Sudanese survive on less than \$2.15 per day. Local militia continues to cause grief for locals in some states, and gender-based violence remains pervasive. For years, Tearfund has worked in various places in South Sudan, providing emergency food and helping families rebuild after a devastating civil war. Today, we continue to work with the local church to help families out of poverty and put an end to the sexual and gender-based violence that afflicts so many women.

Hope Seen! South Sudan



Scan the QR code to watch the video on South Sudan.

📷 When the war in Sudan started, Susan Eltahir fled and sought refuge in South Sudan with her husband and two children—but tragedy followed them. Shortly after arriving, her oldest son, at 7 years old, fell from the car and cut his thumb. Due to his Hemophilia A, he died shortly after. Today, Susan and her family live in Wedweil refugee camp, relying on food distributions from Tearfund and people like you. Although the situation in South Sudan is improving, it is precarious. There is still a long way to go.

Prayer Points

- Over 840,000 people have fled from Sudan to South Sudan since the civil war began. Many live in crowded refugee camps. Please pray that these refugees can go home. Pray that the world doesn't forget this massive crisis, and that these refugees would get the support they need.
- Although the war in South Sudan is over, violence and insecurity are high. Please pray for peace and stability in South Sudan. Pray for the safety of all of its citizens and for our local partners who work in insecure locations.
- Pray for local churches to stand as beacons of truth, light, and grace for the burdened population. Pray specifically for Rev. Joseph and his churches as they lead the implementation of Tearfund's Biblically-based sexual and gender-based trauma healing program.
- Pray for all the women in South Sudan. Maternal mortality remains very high in many parts of the country. Please pray that pregnant and young mothers get the healthcare they need. Sexual violence is also staggeringly high. Pray that negative cultural norms would change and that the women in South Sudan would be treated with Christ-like love and dignity.
- Pray for our NEXUS program, which aims to transition families from relief to rebuilding. Pray that the training in agriculture and savings groups continues to be successful and families can escape poverty long-term.
- Pray for favourable weather to allow farmers to grow crops and reap a plentiful harvest.
- Pray for our partner, Tearfund South Sudan, that God would strengthen them and give them wisdom and that he would use them to help the poor escape physical and spiritual poverty in South Sudan.

DR Congo



Country Overview

Population:

102 million


Pop. living on less than \$2.15 a day:

78.9%

Pop. living in multidimensional poverty:

83.6%

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) remains among the world's poorest countries, grappling with corruption, violence, and disease. The absence of social services in much of the country leaves families vulnerable to illness or disaster, with local churches stepping in to provide essential services like healthcare, education, and welfare. In partnership with the Baptist Church of Central Africa, Tearfund is working to help families tackle food insecurity and provide opportunities for economic advancement. The people of the Congo are entrepreneurial and resilient, and with abundant resources, the Congo has great potential.



📷 With multiple poor crop yields, Kakule Kishembe struggled to make ends meet—until he was enrolled in Tearfund’s farming training and savings group program. Today, not only are his crops thriving, but he is also training others in the practice. Through the local church, Tearfund is helping many farmers in the DR Congo slowly climb out of poverty. Though the challenges are many, numerous families are seeing a new future—one with hope and opportunity.

Prayer Points

- Pray for God's intervention in bringing lasting peace, as much of the country grapples with continued violence, human rights abuses and crime. The security situation remains dire, with armed groups committing widespread abuses against civilians and displacing many from their homes.
- Thank God for the outcomes of our Church and Community Transformation program that is healing past divisions and bringing unity to the area. Pray for the churches that are reaching out to their communities to bring physical and spiritual renewal to families. We pray that families will escape poverty and find lasting hope in Jesus.
- Pray for the local churches amid the violence. Pray that God would give strength to church leaders who help so many inside and outside the church. Pray for their protection.
- Pray that the new government will rule fairly and implement policies that will help the poor throughout the country, and pray that the government would develop the much-needed infrastructure and social structures for a thriving and advancing democracy.
- Pray for farmers and their families, that they will be able to grow more food using conservation agriculture methods and use their entrepreneurial spirit to increase their income.
- Pray for our local partner, the Baptist Church of Central Africa, that they will be strengthened and that God will grant them wisdom as they navigate daily decision-making.

Canada



- 📌 **Buffalo being reintroduced to Pelican Lake First Nation.** The Buffalo and bison used to roam free in Canada for thousands of years and were a coveted symbol of life in the Prairies and First Nations culture. About 200 years ago, this all changed—American and Canadian governments believed that by wiping out the buffalo and taking them away as a food source, the First Nations could also be wiped out. Today, Tearfund, along with churches and an indigenous ministry called Loka Koa, are seeking to restore these buffalo herds in the spirit of reconciliation and friendship. The aim of this project is to show the love of Jesus in a tangible way.

Prayer Points

- Please pray for our Bring Back the Buffalo initiative. Pray that these initiatives will continue to thrive and grow and that God will be glorified. Please pray that more churches will join this unique and meaningful initiative.
- Pray for the First Nations people in Canada. Many deal with massive hurt and brokenness after years of discrimination and trauma. Pray for forgiveness and healing on all sides and that the love of Jesus will be known.
- Pray for people living in poverty here in Canada. Although our mandate is primarily focused on international poverty, we know that many struggle here in our own backyards.
- Pray for the next generation in Canada. Pray that God would raise up a new generation of believers who are bold and courageously follow Jesus, and that they would be lights in their schools, churches, and workplaces.
- Pray for our governments and leaders in Canada, that they would govern with wisdom. Pray that God would raise up men and women to office who seek his face and the welfare of the country.
- Pray for church revival in Canada, that God's Holy Spirit would act powerfully in this country and turn hearts and minds toward him. Ask that his Church would grow dramatically in conviction and number.
- Pray for our partner Loka Koa, that God would give them wisdom, grace, and love as they continue to reach First Nation communities.

The Church

We believe the Church is the most effective catalyst for bringing hope and transformation to a community. As we continue to do our work around the world, please continue to pray for the local and global Church.



Prayer Points

- Pray that God's church would continue to grow stronger across the globe, faithfully living out its Biblical mission as a source of hope. Ask that churches would embrace their calling to reflect Christ's love and truth in their communities.
- Lift up church leaders in prayer, that they may exemplify integrity, accountability, and trustworthiness. Pray for God's protection over them, guarding them against temptation and spiritual attacks. Ask that he grant them the strength and humility needed to lead their congregations effectively and faithfully.
- Pray for the churches in Canada, that they would stand out, not for division but for their good works, inspiring others to glorify our Father in heaven. Ask that they focus outwardly, engaging their communities with truth and love, and bringing hope to the nation.
- With burnout rates at record highs and many churches facing leadership shortages, pray that God would strengthen and equip these leaders with wisdom to navigate their challenges. Ask for congregations that are gracious, encouraging, and supportive.
- Give thanks for the generous churches and denominations that partner in our mission. Their support is vital to what we do, and we are deeply grateful for their faithfulness.
- Finally, pray that Christ will continue to build his Church, expanding it worldwide. Ask for his blessing on our Church-based Community Transformation projects, that they would bring lasting change to the lives of the poor and foster thriving communities.

Tearfund Canada

Our vision at Tearfund Canada is to see people freed from poverty, living transformed lives, and reaching their God-given potential. Our roots trace back to the 1970s when a group of pastors gathered together to encourage Canadian churches to respond to the immense needs of the Ethiopian famine. Today, our heart remains the same. We are committed to respond and serve communities in greatest need through networks of churches in the world's poorest places.

Prayer Points

- Pray for our networks, including Foodgrains Bank and the Tearfund Family, that they would be strengthened and unified in their mission to make a lasting impact on those living in poverty. Ask that their leaders would seek God's heart and be guided by his wisdom and truth in all decisions.
- As disasters and conflicts continue to rise, pray that God grants our leadership team wisdom and discernment to respond effectively to the greatest needs. With so many crises in the world, ask for clarity and guidance in determining when and how to act.
- Our team operates with a small but dedicated staff and a highly efficient budget, ensuring that the maximum amount of resources is directed toward life-changing projects. However, this can sometimes stretch our resources and capacity. Pray for wisdom in balancing our resources with our needs and for strength and endurance for our staff during busy and demanding times.
- Pray for protection against spiritual attacks and distractions. Like all who work to advance God's kingdom, we face opposition from the enemy. Ask God to keep us focused and steadfast in his mission.
- Pray against mission drift. Many organizations that began with a Christian foundation have, over time, lost their spiritual identity. Pray that we remain deeply rooted in Christ and that our work reflects his love and purpose.
- Lastly, pray for financial provision. Many churches in Canada are facing economic challenges, and individuals are feeling the effects of inflation and financial pressures, which can impact their ability to give. Pray that we remain confident in God's abundance and trust him with our financial needs.

‘Our God has boundless resources. The only limit is in us. Our asking, our thinking, our prayers are too small. Our expectations are too limited.’

A.B. Simpson

‘Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work.’

Oswald Chambers

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