

# PRAYING FOR THE WORLD

WEEK 7, FEBRUARY 15-21

## Leadership Development

The Lausanne Movement is a network of ministry and church leaders working towards a world in which there is:

- The gospel for every person
- An evangelical church for every people
- Christ-like leaders for every church
- Kingdom impact in every sphere of society

Church leadership is central, because good leaders enable the whole body of Christ to be productive, with every part doing its work.

The need for well-trained, proven, wise, godly leadership is urgent, especially in the places where the Church has grown most rapidly, which is usually in the Global South. Throughout the world, there are millions of pastors who are doing the difficult work of leading the church with little to no theological training. A growing gap in theological education leaves the global church susceptible to false teaching, decay, and collapse. Without solid discipleship, training, and leadership, the church falters. False teaching leads the people astray, new Christians never move beyond spiritual milk to solid food, and the church becomes immature, weak, and barren. In many other cases, churches divide or people even abandon the faith, because untrained pastors interpret the Bible erroneously, with devastating effects on their congregations.

Western methods of training (through colleges and seminaries for example) are not always appropriate models for other contexts (sometimes even for the West itself). And at the same time, as in the New Testament, many people seek leadership positions for their own power, status, or personal enrichment.

Pray for:

- Better discipleship training. Leaders must first be disciples of Christ himself.
- Specific training in the one key skill that Paul includes in his list of qualifications – ability to teach God’s Word to God’s people.
- God to raise up a new generation of disciplined servant-leaders whose passion is above all else to know Christ and be like him.



Leaders must first be disciples of Christ himself

## THE NATIONS

### ALGERIA

This North African Muslim-majority country of 41 million people depends on fossil fuels for its export income. It struggles to provide jobs and homes for its people. Democracy and human rights exist on paper, less so in reality.

A movement to Christ is happening in Algeria. Most new believers come from a Kabyle Berber (non-Arab) background, but faith is growing among Arabs and most other people groups as well. New fellowships have begun throughout Algeria, partly because Berbers have moved into Arab areas to share the good news.

Persecution is a fact of life. One Christian woman wrote: ‘Women who convert to Jesus Christ face new challenges, which sometimes cost them dearly... They face rejection by their families. Others are repudiated by their husbands because of their faith. They can even be deprived of their children.’

- Pray for new hope for Algeria’s youthful urban population and its rural poor.
- Pray for the protection and growth of Algeria’s remarkable Church, growing among people of Muslim heritage.



### ANGOLA

Forty years of almost constant war (1962-2002) devastated Angola, a southern African country of 30 million people. Praise God for peace. The Church helps lead the way to reconciliation as the country rebuilds itself.

Biblical Christianity has grown quickly, in the midst of war and poverty. Evangelicals are now nearly 1 in 4 of the population. Most of the rest are Catholics.

- Pray for Angola’s women who bear on average more than 6 children each, one of the highest rates in the world. Fewer than half of all births take place with trained medical help, leading to many deaths of mothers and children.



Praying for the World is a free weekly prayer guide to inspire and inform the whole church to pray for the whole world. Visit [www.lausanne.org/pray](http://www.lausanne.org/pray) to start any week. Created through the partnership of Operation World and the Lausanne Movement.