



## MISSION FACTS

After 70 years of oppression in the Soviet Union, Christians number 100 million - five times the number of the Communist Party at the height of its popularity, and 36% of the population. More than 15,000 public school teachers are now teaching morals from the Bible and the life of Christ in their classes.

## HEART CHECK

*The problem is not that more evangelism is needed, so charges one mission strategist; rather, it is in the same places, repeatedly to the same people. The second concern is that the task before us – needs the involvement of the whole church, including you and me.*

## THE MANDATE

*Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus. Acts 4:29-30*

## THE MEDITATION

Lord, we saw the difference the Spirit made in Acts 2. At Pentecost, timid men became bold. Men who had avoided public identity with you were now blazing with fiery passion declaring who you were. Fearful men became fearless. The opposition feared (Acts 2:43). Intimidated no longer, the disciples stared death in the face without flinching.

What has happened to our boldness? We have read the New Testament accounts. We have heard the similar Pentecost stories from our early days. Like the apostles, Pentecostal pioneers lacked formal educational training, but they stood down whole cities. They preached in jails and from jail windows. They gave altar appeals on the ashes of burned down tents and brush arbors. They preached with loaded and cocked pistols pointed at their heads – pistols that refused to fire. They preached and the power fell. They preached and the hard-hearted were softened. They preached and ring-leaders of the opposition became founding members of the new church. They came to resistant towns and when they left, a church had been planted.

Such congregations, though sometimes small and filled with marginalized people, nevertheless had a city-wide reputation. They were known as the people who prayed and God answered. Their faith was more than a philosophy. They were the people who fellowshiped with the fire.

God, in such moments, were you bold because they were bold? Are you waiting on us? Were they so filled that they were compelled? Are we so empty that we are powerless? It isn't "bluster" that we long for. We don't want thunder without fire. Fill us and embolden us to proclaim the living Christ. Show up in our cities again, God. Show up in our lives with signs and wonders designed to follow believers and show unbelievers that you are alive. Start with me.



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**UNREACHED  
PEOPLE GROUP  
TO PRAY FOR**  
Mahratta of India



**MISSION  
QUOTE**  
*If I had 1000 lives, I'd  
give them all for China.*  
Hudson Taylor



Produced for Church of God  
World Missions  
Dr. Tim Hill, Director  
Church of God - Prayer Ministries  
P. Douglas Small, Coordinator  
www.praycog.org  
1-855-84-ALIVE

## INTERCEDE FOR...

### MONDAY Finding the Unreached

Pray that there would be a mighty army to reach the Mahratta people. Most live in rural villages, but many Mahratta live in large cities. They have a love for the land and are cultivators. The lands are usually big enough to support both cash crops and food crops.

### TUESDAY Nurturing New Believers

The religion of the Mahratta is Hinduism. They usually worship Shiva as their family gods, and consider Shivaji as their leader, and fiercely defend their culture, language and history. Pray that their traditions and myths would no longer be enough and their hearts would seek the one true God.

### WEDNESDAY Investing

Many Mahratta feel trapped in a cycle of bondage. Pray for resources to fund a global harvest. Many have never once heard the life changing message of the Gospel.

### THURSDAY Sending

Marathas are a little tolerant towards other cultures. But as they consider themselves as upper caste, they usually look down upon people they consider as not their equal. Pray that their hearts would be open to Christian ideals they may have been instilled in other cultures.

### FRIDAY Harvesting

Pray for the salvation of the Mahratta. Once this type of people find salvation, it is their escape from the futile cycle they believe of birth and rebirth of karma over numerous life cycles.



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