

# **NAZARENE WORLD WEEK OF PRAYER 2016**



Nazarene Missions  
INTERNATIONAL

**Feb. 28 to March 5, 2016**  
**Nazarene Missions International**  
**Church of the Nazarene**  
**Mesoamerica Region**

# **NAZARENE WORLD WEEK OF PRAYER 2016**



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The Nazarene World Week of Prayer is an annual event occurring during the week that includes the World Day of Prayer (the first Friday in March). During this week Nazarenes dedicate themselves to interceding for our church and our world. Special requests are provided for a regional prayer plan.

Coordinating with the interdenominational World Day of Prayer (Friday, March 4), the Nazarene World Week of Prayer was begun with hopes that this event would re-ignite prayer flames, deepen commitment to prayer and fasting, and precipitate revival in our churches and lives.

**SUNDAY FEB. 28—AFRICA REGION**  
**MONDAY FEB. 29—ASIA—PACIFIC REGION**  
**TUESDAY MARCH 1—EURASIA REGION**  
**WEDNESDAY MARCH 2—MESOAMERICA REGION**  
**THURSDAY MARCH 3—SOUTH AMERICA REGION**  
**FRIDAY MARCH 4—USA/CANADA REGION**  
**SATURDAY MARCH 5—THE PERSECUTED CHURCH**

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**Africa Region Request**

**Filimao Chambo, Regional Director**

**Praises:**

- Praise the Lord for visiting the church in Africa during regional conferences in Johannesburg, South Africa (8-13 March 2015), and in Nairobi, Kenya (15-20 August 2015). This was a time of spiritual renewal and of rekindling passion to reach those who don't know Christ.
- Countries affected by Ebola have now been declared Ebola-free. This is an answer to prayer!
- Fifteen missionaries from Africa, supported by African Nazarene, were deployed last year on short-term missionary assignment. We are rejoicing to see the church in Africa continuing to mature and embrace the global call to be a missionary church.
- Praise the Lord for His protection of church leaders who are serving in creative access areas.

**Prayer:**

- Pray for the Africa West Field conference that will take place in Abidjan, Cote' d'Ivoire), from 29 March 2016 to 4 April 2016.
- Pray for the regional youth ministry as they prepare for the Africa Region Nazarene Youth Conference 2016 that will take place in Johannesburg December 2016.
- Pray for the persecuted church in Africa.
- Pray for God to show the church in Africa how they can give witness to the gospel in major cities.
- Pray for the recruitment of students for Africa Nazarene University in Kenya.
- Pray for Nazarene Theological College, South Africa, as it experiences a time of reaccreditation of all academic programs. Pray that the Lord will give wisdom, grace, and strength to those working through this process.
- Pray for pastors in Africa that the Lord will meet their spiritual and socio-economic needs.
- Pray for field strategy coordinators as they provide leadership and supervision to the work of the Church of the Nazarene throughout Africa.

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#### **Asia-Pacific Region Requests**

##### **Mark Louw, Regional Director**

##### **Australia and New Zealand Field**

- The Australia West and North District has a new missional superintendent (district superintendent). Roland Hearn is leading a new missional leadership team on the district. Please pray for the new structure and the district's focus on mission and service.
- Vipul Kharat, pastor of All Nations Church of the Nazarene in Auckland, New Zealand, passed away on 24 January of a heart attack while visiting family in India. Pastor Vipul served All Nations Church for 23 years. Please pray for the church and the district as they grieve this loss.
- Australia South District Superintendent Ian Davidson and his wife, Jenny, celebrated their retirement at the recent District Assembly. Satish Manmothe has been chosen to lead the district in a new direction of decentralized leadership and missional focus. Please pray for the district and their team of leaders.

##### **Chinese Ministries Field**

- Three missionary couples are working to establish the Church of the Nazarene in Mongolia. Through small group Bible studies, neighborhood activities, and compassionate ministries a network of relationships is growing. Please pray that a team of local leaders will be trained soon to lead the work in this new area.
- Pray for pastoral training in creative access areas.
- Two training centers are offering classes to men and women who are called to serve the church. Pray for courage and perseverance to face the obstacles that threaten believers in creative access areas.

##### **Philippine/Micronesia Field**

- Pray that in everything we do, Nazarene churches and members in the Philippines and Micronesia will be intentional in making Christlike disciples. As we make Christlike disciples, pray for churches to be planted, especially in areas where the church is not yet.
- Last year we saw the passion of pastors, lay leaders, and young people in making Christlike disciples. Many churches were started as reported in district assemblies this year.
- Pray that we can restart the work in Republic of Palau this year and that we will be able also to start a ministry in the Marshall Islands.
- Pray for the ongoing leadership transition in the Philippines and the search for a new district superintendent in the Philippines Southern Tagalog District.

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#### **Sealand; Field**

##### **Singapore**

- After several years of effort, the Church of the Nazarene is officially registered in Singapore. Thank the Lord! We are thankful for the tireless efforts of all who have worked to make this possible and to the Lord who opened the doors.
- Pray that the church in Singapore would continue to move forward in its quest to make Christlike disciples. Pray that more small churches would be formed and that vibrant worship services would be established and gain strength.
- Pray that the church will be a blessing to the people in Singapore as well as other nations represented in the area. Singapore is a melting pot of nationalities and tribes. Pray that leadership will be developed and new church groups will emerge from the harvest.
- Pray for a celebration service to be held on 26 March, and that God will work through this service to bless and further establish the people and the church in Singapore.
- Pray for missionary Shireen Elliot as the Singapore Church Development coordinator and missionary Dave Hane as the pastor of the House of Bread. God is at work in Singapore!

#### **South East Asia Field**

##### **Cambodia**

- Pray for leaders for new church plants.
- Pray that all leaders will be involved in mentoring relationships, for mighty prayer over the strongholds of the country (there are many), and unity across the district.
- Pray that the church lives out Acts 2:42-47 wisdom.

#### **Asia-Pacific Regional Requests**

- "Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Matthew 9:38 NIV). Pray that individuals would hear God's call to fill short-and-long-term strategic needs on the Asia-Pacific Region. [Click here to see current needs on the Asia-Pacific Region.](#)
- Pray for the first Asia-Pacific Member Care Coordinators Meeting to be held in early March. Pray that we might improve our systems for the ongoing preparation, equipping, and empowering of mission personnel for effective and sustainable life, ministry, and work.
- Pray for those on the region who are using the JESUS Film and other film media, as well as the Papyrus (audio Bible) to share the gospel and make Christlike disciples where the Church is not yet.

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**Eurasia Region Requests**  
**Arthur Snider, Regional Director**

- Refugees, refugees, refugees! Please pray for the refugees and the mitigation of their situation. Please pray for a cease-fire in Syria. Even though it is bitterly cold in Germany, 1,000 to 3,000 more refugees arrive daily. Their situation is heartbreaking and devastating. Please pray for these men, women, and children. Pray for safety for the refugees as they enter new places.
- Please pray for the refugee response effort, that those serving would be the hands and feet of Jesus and that the refugees would be drawn to that love. Pray for strength for the workers in the Middle East and throughout Europe.
- Pray for continued peace in eastern Ukraine.
- Please pray for those in Eurasia to whom the Lord is speaking about volunteering to serve him in short-term, cross-cultural missions outside their nation. A new program called M+Power has been created to allow Eurasians to do this more easily. Here are specific ways to pray for M+Power:
- Pray for the Eurasia Mission Orientations that will take place in May, August, September, and October. We thank the Lord for those who have responded and been sent!
- Pray for those currently serving and for Miriam, Monica, Moses, and Adil who will deploy in the coming months.
- Pray for the districts and nations that are sending Nazarene missionaries of their own for the first time. Pray for the Volunteer Taskforce guiding the program.
- Please remember to pray for those who are persecuted for their faith. Pray that their faith will be strengthened and they would be able to know and do the Lord's will.
- Pray for the 43 Eurasia district assemblies that occur from November through April.
- Please pray for the Western Mediterranean Field as Greece is entered this year, that personnel will be sensitive to people's needs as they introduce Greeks to the One who can meet their deepest hunger. May the resettlement of the Herndon missionary family from Spain to Greece go smoothly, and that others will partner with them through prayer support and long-term volunteerism.
- Prayer for the development of leaders across the Western Mediterranean Field—Portugal, Spain, France, and Italy—as a number of pastors are reaching retirement age and a serious void is evident.

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- Please pray for the four new church plants planned in 2016 (Ukraine, Central Asia, Russia, and Belarus).
- Praise the Lord for the 20th anniversary of a Nazarene church in a secured area.
- Kazatin (Ukraine) Church is beginning a “ground-up” building project in the spring of 2016. Pray for this process.
- Pray for the 2016 summer camps taking place throughout the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).
- Pray for the many Work & Witness teams scheduled to go to CIS Field this summer.
- Please pray for an exploratory missionary journey into the country of Georgia. We hope to begin ministry in this world area in the next 2-3 years through our Armenia District.
- Pray for a human trafficking intervention project in the CIS Field.
- The Bangladesh North District hopes to establish a boarding school in January 2017. Please keep the plan in your prayers.
- The Bangladesh North District is constructing a four-story district ministry center. Please pray that the necessary finances will be available for its completion.
- Please pray for the plans to establish a Nazarene university in Bangladesh.
- Pray that more talented, young leaders will develop and emerge in Sri Lanka with an expressed willingness to serve in leadership roles.
- In Sri Lanka, JESUS Film teams have encountered obstacles from people of other religions. Please pray for the safety of the team members and those attending the film showings.
- Pray for God's grace and power for those ministering to children in Sri Lanka. Challenges include groups of people attempting to stop the ministry.
- Pray that God would provide the resources for furniture in the Sri Lanka South Asia Nazarene Bible College Learning Center and at the district center as well as for maintenance issues at the center.
- Pray for the new churches in Sri Lanka and the spiritual growth of their members.



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### Mesoamerica Region Requests Carlos Saenz, Regional Director

#### Answers to 2015 NWWP Requests:

In 2015 we requested prayer for the GENESIS Initiative, a church planting and missionary sending strategy in the Mesoamerica Region.

**God's Response:** In September 2015, the Church of the Nazarene was legalized on the island of Curaçao. In Dominican Republic, the volunteer missionaries planted a Church of the Nazarene in Haina. We praise God for answering the prayers of His people by allowing us to start the work in Haina and Curaçao.

Last year, Mesoamerica requested prayer for the Regional Mission Conference held October 7-10, 2015, for participants in this event. Pray that churches will fully live and love missions.

**God's Response:** We thank God for the privilege of participating in the regional conference with more than 500 people in attendance.

#### 2016 – Requests:

- Pray for more workers for the harvest. Pray that children and youth would respond to a cross-cultural call to serve and that their churches will train and send them to be world changers.
- Pray that every large city of the Mesoamerica Region would experience a new beginning (a genesis). Pray that families and societies would be transformed by the power of the Gospel.
- Pray for renewed vision for leaders.
- Pray for El Salvador which is considered the most violent world area of the isthmus.
- Pray for Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras (especially San Pedro Sula, Honduras) as they are considered some of the most dangerous areas in the world.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit of God will rain down on every leader and member of the Church of the Nazarene in Mexico.
- Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the Mesoamerica Region. Despite the lack of resources, the Church of the Nazarene continues to grow in Haiti. Pray for Haitian leaders, missionaries, and congregations, that they would continue to have a passion to reach people who need to know Christ.



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- Pray for leadership in the Mesoamerica Central Field, especially the Dominican Republic. In October 2015, René Acosta, the country's coordinator of ministries, passed away.
- Pray for leadership in Cuba. A group of 61 people are committed to take the Word of God to the entire country attended a recent cross-cultural orientation.
- Last year, the Church of the Nazarene was inaugurated in Guangandi (Region Kunayala) in Panama. Pray for the pastor and the congregation at this location.
- In September 2015, the Church of the Nazarene was legally registered on the island of Curaçao. We thank God for the Brash family, missionaries who supported the planting of the church and for Jonathan and Lisette Petrus, who now serve as pastors. Please pray for the leaders and congregation in Curaçao.
- GENESIS Initiative—In keeping with the ministry's goal to plant churches in 28 locations on the Mesoamerica Region, the team is working to advance the Church of the Nazarene in Veracruz, Mexico; San Pedro Sula, Honduras; Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; and Curaçao. Continue to pray for volunteer missionaries serving in these cities and to continue to encourage congregations to support them in prayer and financial resources.
- The Ministry of Family Care on the Mesoamerica Region requests prayer for the families of regional leaders, that the Lord will bless, keep, and strengthen them.
- The Regional Nazarene Youth International Congress, "INDESTRUCTIBLE", will take place from July 19-23 in Nicaragua. Before and after the event, young people will be involved in the project "Called to Serve." Pray for each young person as they prepare for "Called to Serve" and "INDESTRUCTIBLE."
- Pray for the ministry of Nazarene Missions International in the Mesoamerican Region. Ask God to provide guidance and wisdom on how to inspire and challenge churches to support missions in the Church of the Nazarene, especially through the World Evangelism Fund.
- Pray for the development of the Nazarene Convention Center in Guatemala City, Guatemala.

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**South America Region Requests**  
**Christian Sarmiento, Regional Director**

- Pray for the 123 “Living the Great Commission” churches that are engaged in holistic ministry.
- Pray for the 130 pastors of the “Living the Great Commission” churches to be renewed and that God will grow their churches by 10 percent. Pray also for these pastors as they prepare to train 3,500 lay people for ministry in April 2017.
- Pray for the new leadership in Brazil:

Manuel Lima, Brazil sub regional director  
Luis Biazon, Brazil Central field strategy coordinator  
Rubens Rodrigues, Brazil North field strategy coordinator  
Wagner de Sousa, Brazil South field strategy coordinator

- Pray for the logistical analysis of the campus where the South America Regional Office is located.
- Pray for the new strategy of communications in the South America Region.
- Pray for missionary David Gonzalez as he gives leadership to the country, district, and local ministry coordinators on the South America Region.



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**USA / Canada Region Requests**  
**Robert Broadbooks, Regional Director**

- Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the USA/Canada so His kingdom will come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.
- Pray for Robert Broadbooks, USA/Canada regional director and for the district superintendents who lead and resource their districts.
- Pray for the upcoming PALCON (Pastors and Leaders Conferences):  
    May 31-June 2 (Mount Vernon Nazarene University)  
    June 20-22 (Mid-America Nazarene University)  
    June 27-29 (Northwest Nazarene University)
- Pray for our Nazarene military chaplains - the Church's "Missionaries in Uniform."
- Pray that young ministers in the USA/Canada Region will continue to discover balance in leading a church/ministry and also in leading their young and growing families.
- Pray for God to call young men and women to ministry, and that with Christ's help, they will effectively develop into passionate, holiness leaders for the future.
- Pray that pastors will continue to preach the message of holiness with clarity and power and that people will hunger and thirst for righteousness.
- Pray that our churches will continue to proclaim, with courage, the reality of the Risen Christ and live in the resurrection power that is available for all who need hope.
- Pray that each of our churches will experience vibrant renewal inside the body of Christ and that renewal will lead to a new passion for reaching the lost and hurting of our communities.
- Pray that churches will find new ways of bringing their children, youth, and adults together in intergenerational worship and service, and that new mentoring relationships will develop.
- Pray for the administrations and staffs of our regional colleges and universities as they educate and shape the spiritual lives of students.
- Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our colleges and universities.
- Pray for the financial needs of our colleges and universities and students.
- Pray that God would develop and shape leaders through the ministry of USA/Canada Nazarene Youth International (NYI).

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- Pray for Q2016, the USA/Canada regional quiz event, to be held at Southern Nazarene University in Oklahoma in June and July, 2016.
- Pray that young people on the USA/Canada Region would encounter the love of Christ through the church.
- Pray that God would guide the USA/Canada NYI Council in their leadership and decision-making.
- Pray for the planning of Nazarene Youth Conference 2019.
- Pray for Bill Wiesman, director of Dynamic Church Planting International, and his team as they lead trainings and continue to cast a vision for new church plants in the United States and Canada.
- Pray for church planters and bi-vocational pastors and their families.
- Pray for those who are called to be evangelists that the Lord would renew their strength and spirit, care for their families, and help them discern what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
- Pray for Roberto Hodgson as he leads our multicultural churches and helps to equip and empower leaders.
- Pray for the Ethnic Facilitators and Strategic Readiness Teams as they pray, strategize, and implement a plan of action among their ethnic group in the USA/Canada Region.
- Pray for the upcoming multicultural conferences for 2016 which include the following:
  - Korean Conference—June 13–16
  - National Hispanic Conference—June 16–18
  - African Leadership Summit—June 30–July 2
  - National Haitian Convention—July 14–17
  - National Black Nazarene Conference—July 27–31
  - Chinese Pastors Retreat—Date TBA
  - Filipino Leadership Summit—Date TBA
- Pray for our Ethnic Leadership Development Initiative. This is a group of young ethnic pastors and leaders who are being mentored and trained for future leadership.
- Pray for the multicultural congregations and ethnic-specific churches and pastors in the USA/Canada Region.
- Pray for unity among ethnic groups and within ethnic groups in the USA/Canada Region.
- Pray for the churches and compassionate ministry centers that are ministering directly to immigrants and who have opened Board of Immigration Appeals-approved centers.

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- Pray that we would love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbor as ourself.
  - Pray for Jay Height as he serves as Compassionate Ministry coordinator in the Region and also serves as a senior pastor. Pray for added strength for his family and his church.
  - Pray for all Nazarene Compassionate Ministry Centers in the Region that are seeking to serve and touch the lives of their church and community. Pray for the resources and staffing they need.
  - Pray for the upcoming Sunday School & Discipleship Ministries International (SDMI) events:
    - SDMI District Leadership Conference (Oct 10-13)
    - TEACH 2016 (August 12-13)
    - Engage the Word 2016
    - Vacation Bible School
    - Kids Mission Offering Project
    - Pentecost Sunday World Literature Offering
    - Bible Society Offering (Second Sunday in December)
    - Prime Time Minot (Sept. 27-29)
  - Pray that laity will give God permission to permeate their vocation in new and fresh ways that He will be glorified as lives are transformed through their daily work.
  - Pray for the local church lay leaders and for local and district SDMI leaders.
  - Pray for the SDMI ministry partners:
    - Nazarene Children's Leadership Network
    - Caravan
    - Equip to Engage (SPARK)
    - Nazarene Educators Worldwide
    - Faithful Homes
    - Nazarene Motorcycle Fellowship
    - goTandem
    - Mor2Lif
- Pray that [www.DiscipleshipPlace.org](http://www.DiscipleshipPlace.org) will have wisdom for the development of educational resources that will adequately disciple and train laity for ministry.
- Pray for the [www.DiscipleshipPlace.org](http://www.DiscipleshipPlace.org) webinars.
  - Pray for the progress of translating children's quizzing Bible studies and for its use as an effective discipleship tool that will inspire children with a love for God and His Word.
  - Pray for Leslie Hart, coordinator of Children's Ministries USA/Canada, as she partners with others to effectively connect churches and children's ministry leaders with resources, training, and encouragement to impact children with the transforming love of Christ.

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### Prayer for the Persecuted Church

#### What Is Christian Persecution?

Christian persecution is any hostility experienced from the world as a result of one's identification as a Christian. From verbal harassment to hostile feelings, attitudes and actions, Christians in areas with severe religious restrictions pay a heavy price for their faith.

According to The Pew Research Center, more than 75 percent of the world's population lives in areas with severe religious restrictions (and many of these people are Christians). Also, according to the United States Department of State, Christians in more than 60 countries face persecution from their governments or surrounding neighbors simply because of their belief in Jesus Christ.

—Open Doors USA

**\*Note:** The following requests have been gathered from various sources and not all necessarily represent the work of the Church of the Nazarene.

#### Mali

Three men were killed when an unidentified gunman opened fire outside a Christian radio station in Mali. Radio Tahanint, which means “mercy” in the local dialect, had just finished broadcasting for the day, when the trio was shot outside the building. The radio station is closely linked with a local Baptist Church and evangelical mission. One of the young men who was shot had just finished broadcasting and his last words were about peace.

Pray for the families and friends of the men who were killed. Ask God to turn this tragedy into something good for the Kingdom.

—World Watch Monitor

#### Mexico

On January 26, 2016, 10 Christian families were expelled from Tuxpan de Bolanos, Jalisco, Mexico, for refusing to recant their faith. A town assembly agreement to evict the families from the community was executed by local citizens who gathered the Baptist believers into a pickup truck and abandoned them in the nearby mountains. This is the latest incident in a decades-long system of persecution of evangelical Christians in rural Mexico.

—Persecution.org/International Christian Concern

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### Central Asia

January 2016 brought great difficulties for Christians in several Central Asian countries.

- Sisters, Sabina\*, Madina\* and Nargiz\*, were brutally beaten by a relative who discovered their Christian faith. The relative now refuses to let them go out of the house. The sisters have remained true to their faith despite his aggressive demands that they deny Christ.
- Sister Soyora\* (21) from a village in Tajikistan, has become active in a Bible study home group as well as the Protestant Underground House Church. Her brother Adeel\* returned home after a time away and discovered that she had converted to Christianity. He threatened to beat her and kick her out of the house if she does not renounce Christ.
- A group of radical young men recently attacked Brother Kemir\*, pastor of a Protestant church in Kyrgyzstan, when he parked his vehicle on the roadside. After one of the men broke the car antennas, a group of 4 or 5 men ran over and brutally beat him. He was hospitalized with a concussion and a number of bruises.

—Open Doors USA

\*Names changed to protect their identities.

### Cameroon

Christian and Muslim leaders in northern Cameroon have reiterated their joint call for tolerance and peace in the face of a surge of terror attacks by the Nigerian radical Islamic group Boko Haram. On January 21, 2016, a group of prominent religious leaders gathered in the town of Mora to discuss peaceful coexistence.

Deadly suicide attacks, mainly targeting markets, places of worship and other known gatherings, are taking place on a weekly, or sometimes daily, basis. A string of 25 deadly suicide attacks across the region have claimed 84 lives in the month of January alone, according to an official toll.

The crisis has helped to strengthen a spirit of solidarity between Christians and Muslims. Groups of Christian and Muslim youths are carrying out patrols outside mosques on Fridays and churches on Sundays.

—World Watch Monitor

### Nazarene Persecution

Nazarene brothers and sisters suffer for their faith in Christ just like thousands of other believers in many parts of the world. Nazarene JESUS Film teams, because so much of their work is carried out in village squares in plain view of opposing factions, can face significant challenges as they share about Christ. Here are a few of their stories and ways to pray:



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#### **Bangladesh**

In the middle of one JESUS Film showing, a man secretly went behind the screen and began to untie it. His intention was to ruin the show. When the viewers realized what he was doing, they began to confront him. In response, the man became angry with us! He threatened us, telling us he would destroy our equipment if we continued to show the film. Two other men who began to physically assault us joined him. One man grabbed our team leader by the collar and shouted, "Why are you making people follow Christ!" They became so confrontational and abusive we simply had to stop the film. We waited a few hours, and when these men had left, at the request of some other villagers, we began the film again. This time, it played without any interference. Although the confrontation and disruption caused the viewers to be hesitant about responding, we know God has some special plans in place for this community because He allowed the film to still be shown.

#### **Zimbabwe**

"Officials threatened to arrest us," said a Nazarene JESUS Film team member in Zimbabwe. "We were harassed and told to leave the area even though we had all the required documents and a letter of permission from the village head. We were told to be gone or our equipment would be confiscated. We complied and left the village. Please join with us in prayer for this community, that we might find favor to return and share God's love."

#### **Secured Access Location**

"We are not Christians and will never become Christians. Why are you showing us this film? Stop the picture and leave this place at once." These words were spoken in the middle of a JESUS Film showing by an angry group who follow another religion.

"They accused us of leading the community into false beliefs, and began to attempt to convince the viewers that Jesus was not who He said He was. The more they talked, it seemed the more people agreed with them and turned against us, until suddenly a young man rushed us with a bamboo stick! We quickly agreed to stop the film and left, fearing bodily harm.

"Four days later we returned to the same village and met with different villagers and prayed for them, discussing our beliefs. Finally, they requested to see the JESUS Film again! At the end, we had a very fruitful discussion, and in the following weeks, God used our follow-up preaching to win many souls for Christ."