

2023

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

FOR THE TAI YUAN PEOPLE



Introduction

Day 1 – Empty House

Day 2 – Faith

Day 3 – A Song Remembered

Day 4 – Healing Destiny

Day 5 – Passing On

Day 6 – Diaspora

Day 7 – Holistic Prosperity

Day 8 – Hope For The Hopeless

Day 9 – Testimony

Day 10 – Light Of The World

Praying on



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INTRODUCTION TO THE TAI YUAN

We are thrilled to have you journey with us March 11-20, as we spend the next ten days focused on prayer for the Tai Yuan. Thank you for taking time to intercede on behalf of the Tai Yuan – nearly 8 million people, almost all of whom remain in darkness, without the hope of the Gospel. A predominantly Buddhist people, the Tai Yuan have been resistant to the Gospel for many generations, but we are asking God for breakthrough and salvation to come to these beautiful people.



According to Joshua Project (a renowned unreached people groups research initiative), the Tai Yuan are considered one of the largest unreached people groups in the world. As you join us in this time of concerted prayer, we believe that God will continue to work His purposes to draw many Tai Yuan to Himself. Pray with us in expectation for His kingdom to come and His will to be done among the Tai Yuan. All for His glory and their eternal joy.

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

FOR THE TAI YUAN PEOPLE

EMPTY HOUSE DAY 1

Driving slowly through the neighborhood our family hoped to live in, I looked for any sign of an empty house. "Here's one!" I called out to my Thai friend. "This looks like no one has been living here for a while."

"Let's ask if anyone knows who the landlord is," my Thai friend suggested. The neighbors answered our call.

"Is this house for rent?" I asked. The neighbor looked uneasy. "You could ask," she said uncertainly. "But the father died in that house and no one dares to live in it now for fear of ghosts."

"That's no problem," I replied. "We serve Jesus, the Most High God, and He has authority over every spirit. He will take care of us – we are not afraid of the ghosts."

The spiritual realm is very real to most Tai Yuan. Many claim to have seen or heard spirits, and fear of disturbing such beings is a strong motivator for many decisions.



- Pray for the Tai Yuan to meet Jesus, the Lord Who has authority over every spiritual being, and that they may be freed from bondage to fear.
- Pray for missionaries to live in the reality of Jesus' authority and for their witness to draw many to Jesus.

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FAITH DAY 2

Matt grew up in a Christian family. Typical of any young man, he is praying and searching for a wife. He wants a wife that shares his faith in Christ, but he doesn't know any Christian female students on his university campus. He begins to wonder, "can I just marry a Buddhist then?" After consulting with a missionary friend, he realizes that marrying a Buddhist is not ideal. Months pass and he still has not met a prospective Christian girl. There is tension in his faith and Matt still finds himself questioning, "Is my faith in Christ really worth turning away possibilities of finding someone to date?" In a place with so few Christians, this is one difficulty many Tai Yuan Christians have when following Jesus.



PRAY

- Pray for strong families within churches to nurture kids to become young adults who love the Lord.
- Pray for groups or individuals who are reaching university students.
- Pray that the Christian faith of parents would become the faith of their children, which would become the faith of their children again.



PRAY

- Pray that the countless numbers of seeds and prayers sown over the years for the Tai Yuan people to bear fruit!
- Pray for God's comfort and encouragement for the many Tai Yuan pastors and Christian workers who are discouraged after years of seeing little to no fruit among the Tai Yuan people.

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A SONG REMEMBERED DAY 3

On Sunday morning, a woman rides up to a church and asks to speak to the pastor. "I've been hearing voices for the past 3 to 4 years... The voices tell me I can't sing, or I can't look at my cellphone, or I must kill myself or it will kill my family... A friend told me I should go to a church."

After a group of believers prayed for her and shared about Jesus, she suddenly said, "I remember a song about Jesus!" She sang the song, and to everyone's surprise, it was in English! She said, "A teacher taught me the song when I was a child."

We often wonder if seeds sown long ago make a difference. The story of this woman says, "Yes!"

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HEALING DESTINY DAY 4

Mrs. Er recently came to the Lord after a very difficult season in her life. Her husband had an affair and divorced her. Unfortunately, what she experienced is common for many Tai Yuan women. They feel hopeless, and that there is no way to change their situation, believing this is their destiny.

PRAY

- Pray for Tai Yuan marriages, that the Tai Yuan church can be a source of help, educating and strengthening marriages.
- Pray for Tai Yuan Christian marriages, that God will protect and restore struggling marriages.
- Pray for healing among the Tai Yuan women who have accepted Satan's lie that this is their destiny.



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PASSING ON DAY 5

Mr. Lau would not live through the night and friends and relatives had gathered to mourn. Many were touching him, so they could gain merit when Mr. Lau took his last breath, and help send him on to the afterlife.

When the pastor got the message about his church member, he quickly messaged the church's chat group. Soon, the Christians arrived at Mr. Lau's house, and they sang and prayed. Amazingly, Mr. Lau lived through the night.

The next day, a neighbor told a sister from the church, "The only reason Mr. Lau is alive is because the God he believes in helped him. He was dying, but because you all went to pray, he regained strength. Your God can really help!"

- Pray for the Tai Yuan Christians to be faithful to the very end.
- Pray that Tai Yuan churches and Christians will be bold in proclaiming the Gospel amid tragedies.
- Pray that God's Name will be gloried and honored through the Tai Yuan Christians' love for each other.



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PRAY

- Pray that these migrant workers, like Mr. Dee, will come to meet and know Jesus in their journey.
- Pray for protection over their family as they are forced to separate for long periods of time, sometimes years.
- Pray for the children of these migrant workers, as they are often left with only grandparents to raise them. Many have low self-esteem, have attempted suicide, are addicted to drugs, or are clinically depressed.

DIASPORA DAY 6

Mr. Dee has been a migrant worker since his youth and even spent a few years working abroad. It was during his time overseas that Mr. Dee came to know Jesus.

With recent inflation and economic downturn, many Tai Yuan have become migrant workers to support their families. The majority move to large cities, while some travel abroad to find work.

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HOLISTIC PROSPERITY DAY 7

Prosperity Gospel can take root in many forms, and is a problem within Thai churches just as it is in the West. A local church pastor was healed dramatically from Covid in 2022, praise the Lord! But now his teaching is focused on healing, which he believes comes when we have sufficient faith in God. Meanwhile, church members are suffering from cancer, broken families, mental and physical health problems.

A woman with long brown hair tied back, wearing a yellow polo shirt, is standing in a jewelry store. She is looking down at a small object in her hands, possibly a piece of jewelry, with a contemplative expression. The store has glass display cases filled with gold jewelry, and the background is slightly blurred, showing other parts of the store and some hanging decorations.

PRAY

- Pray for God's truth to permeate the church. Pray for protection of new believers who hear this type of teaching – that they would see God's way as best.
- Pray for this type of false teaching to be uprooted out of the church here and that people would see God as a loving God whose healing power is not contingent on our faith.

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PRAY

- Pray for local believers to have a Holy Spirit given burden for the Tai Yuan.
- Pray against the lies of the enemy that say the Tai Yuan are “too hard to reach.”
- Pray for perseverance and encouragement for all those who have been called to the Tai Yuan – it is a difficult, long-term work they have been given.

HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS DAY 8

One of our teammates had several meetings with local pastors in our area. He hoped to cast vision to the pastors about the great needs of the Tai Yuan people to be reached with the Gospel. Without exception, he was told it was impossible to serve the Tai Yuan – their hearts are too hard and will never respond to the Gospel. Our teammate was told that instead, he should work with one of the hill tribes and minorities in the area, as they are much more responsive to the Gospel.

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TESTIMONY DAY 9

Ake, the son of a Tai Yuan pastor, grew up in the city but fell in love with a nice girl from a Buddhist family from a rural district. It took a while to win the trust of her family, but eventually they were allowed to marry in church with a Christian ceremony that was sensitive to cultural elements like paying respect to the parents and grandparents. They now have a baby boy and Yooi is close to embracing Jesus. The testimony to her Buddhist family is continuing, and strong convictions fostered by the Holy Spirit combined with Godly love, is slowly making inroads.

A photograph showing a baptism taking place in an outdoor pool. A man in a blue shirt and glasses is on the left, and a woman in a dark blue shirt is on the right. They are both holding a person who is being baptized. The person being baptized is wearing a dark blue shirt and has their hands covering their face. The water is splashing around them. In the background, there is a building with a tiled roof and a person standing on a platform.

PRAY

- Please pray for young Tai Yuan Christians who choose a Buddhist partner, that their faith will not just remain strong, but will be able to lead their partners and the wider family on a path that leads them to the Lord.



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LIGHT OF THE WORLD DAY 10

One morning, a Christian teacher at the local school, went to her office early to pray for the day ahead. She didn't turn on the lights but only opened the windows. Later, her supervisor came in and was surprised that the lights were off. "From a distance," she said, "I saw that the room was filled with light!" The Christian teacher told her supervisor that wherever Christians go, God sends angels to protect them. The supervisor, a devout Buddhist, replied, "It must have been the angels' light!"

PRAY

- Pray for all believers, both Tai Yuan and foreigners, that God's light will be seen in and through them.
- Pray for devout Buddhists who are sensitive to the spiritual realm, that the Holy Spirit will cause them to pursue the real Light of the world.

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PRAYING ON

Thank you for your faithful prayer for the Tai Yuan people for the last 10 days. If you want to pray for the Tai Yuan on a regular basis, please join our “Faithful 500” prayer group. When you sign up, you will receive weekly prayer points for the Tai Yuan. Also if you have any feedback or ideas to make things even better next time, please be in touch!

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