



ST HELENA

OPERATION
WORLD
the definitive prayer guide to every nation

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The island, one of the most remote islands in the world, was uninhabited when discovered by the Portuguese in 1502. It was an important stopover for ships sailing to Europe from Asia and South Africa for centuries. Napoleon was imprisoned there in exile by the British, as were Dinuzulu kaCetshwayo (for leading a Zulu army against British rule) and more than 5,000 Boers taken prisoner during the second Boer War.

Saint Helena was first settled by the English in 1659, and the island has a population of about 4,250 inhabitants, mainly descended from people from Britain – settlers ("planters") and soldiers – and slaves who were brought there from the beginning of settlement – initially from Africa (the Cape Verde Islands, Gold Coast and west coast of Africa are mentioned in early records), then India and Madagascar. The importation of slaves was made illegal in 1792, thus preventing any further increase in their numbers. In 1840, Saint Helena became a provisioning station for the British West Africa Squadron,¹ preventing slavery to Brazil (mainly), and many thousands of slaves were freed on the island. These were all African, and about 500 stayed while the rest were sent on to the West Indies and Cape Town, and eventually to Sierra Leone.

Mainly British-origin people live here and its 2 dependencies, (Ascension and Tristan da Cunha). The heritage of Christianity slowly fades from this land.

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Most residents belong to the Anglican Communion and are members of the Diocese of St Helena.

The 150th anniversary of the diocese was celebrated in June 2009.

[PRAY FOR:](#)

- The isolation of the islands makes vibrant ministry and church life a huge challenge. Connection to the outside world and to Christian resources is limited. The small and more transient populations of Ascension and Tristan have even less evangelical presence and ministry, if any.
- Pray that believers might mature, and that churches might grow, even when they are in isolated locations.
- Pray for unity between church groups, which has been lacking in the past.
- Pray for good internet and radio signals, as it is a precious lifeline to Christian materials.

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THE UNREACHED

Although there may be a few believers or even a few churches, they are a people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize their own people group.

JOSHUA PROJECT

**A total of 0 People Groups are Unreached –
0 people who have limited or NO access to the Gospel.**

REDEMPTIVE GIFTS OF THE NATION



NOTES

