



UNITED KINGDOM

**OPERATION
WORLD**
the definitive prayer guide to every nation



The United Kingdom consists of two main islands: Britain and the northeast of Ireland. A union of four countries: **England Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland**. Also, three small autonomous states that are dependencies of the British Crown: **Isle of Man** (in the Irish Sea); **Channel Islands (Guernsey, Jersey)**.

GIVE THANKS

The UK has contributed significantly to global Christianity for centuries

- In almost every century of the last 800 years, revival came to Britain at least once. Many Christians pray for another great spiritual awakening.
- Widespread immigration from strongly Christian nations brings new church life and growth. Pray for them to bring testimony to those unsaved Brits their paths cross daily.
- Many Immigrants come from the world's least-evangelized nations, and now live on the doorstep of Christian churches. Pray for God's people to open their doors, homes and hearts to the people around them.
- Pray for local congregations to plant new churches, reach new peoples and glorify Jesus by partnership with believers from many lands.
- Pray for the Church of England as it faces crisis. Pray that the church leadership might regain a prophetic role, and might speak in unity to this nation that has lost much of its moral and spiritual centre.
- Pray for God to restore vision and faith to His people, and confidence in His ability to change and use Britain again.

OPERATION WORLD



JOSHUA PROJECT

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.

A total of 32 People Groups are Unreached –
4,947,000 people who have limited or NO access to the Gospel.

PRAY FOR THE MUSLIM WORLD



Muslims number at least 2,5 million and continue to grow through immigration and higher birth rates. London serves as a hub for Islam, especially for extremist organizations.

Pray that God will break down the barriers between Muslims and Christians and provide opportunities to share the gospel.



WATCH & PRAY

ENGLAND

A developer of democracy, literature, and science, the influence of the British Empire during the 19th century stretched over one fourth of the earth's surface. Currently the third largest economy in Europe behind France and Germany, England's agricultural sector produces roughly 60% of the country's food needs with less than 2% of the work force. A highly-educated nation, almost 100% of the population is literate, and the leading industries include banking, high tech manufacturing, textiles, and other consumer goods. England, along with Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales make up the United Kingdom, which remains a leading trading power and financial center.

Yet not all is well in "Broken Britain". The strength of the British Empire has decreased significantly in the post-war era with many former colonies claiming their independence. Once plentiful oil and natural gas reserves are on the decline, and the recent global financial crisis has hit the economy especially hard with high consumer debt, declining home prices, and declining industry importance. Violent crime, sexually transmitted diseases, prostitution, and gambling addiction rates are high and growing. England is also a major consumer of Southwest Asian heroin and Latin American cocaine and is a center for money laundering.

Even more heartbreaking is the despair and hopelessness felt by the people of England. The homeland of John Wesley, John Wycliffe, and William Tyndale, England was once a thriving center of Christian thought. Today, secularism and Islam are the growing faiths among the population. Many are discouraged and feel cynical about the future. As freedoms of speech and religion are limited, anger towards government figures grows. Distrust is high of politicians and their effectiveness to solve the issues that plague their country. An estimated 59% of the population claim the Christian faith, but that number is decreasing annually. England is in desperate need of a spiritual revival, because the only one who can lift the weight of hopelessness and despondency from England's shoulders is Christ.



PRAY FOR:

- Pray for revival that would breathe life into dying churches and hardened, apathetic hearts.
- Pray for inner-city neighborhoods to be infused with the transforming impact of the gospel.
- Pray for the influx of foreigners to be confronted with a vibrant Christian witness.
- Pray that God may raise up an army of workers with meaningful ways of meeting the many needs of those who live in poverty, and in areas full of drugs and crime.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit may break into lives and bring a sense of the reality of God and the truth of the gospel.



WATCH & PRAY

SCOTLAND

Ancient castles and churches dot the rolling green hills and rocky cliffs of the Scottish landscape, baring witness to thousands of years of history that have shaped Celtic and English culture. That history is still being written. A 1997 Scottish referendum led to its first separate parliament from England in over three centuries. Today, some public opinion still pushes for independence from the United Kingdom. As the nation shifts and fidgets under British rule, Scotland continues to learn how to stretch its new limbs of freedom and stand alone without the aid of its long-time patron.

In the larger cities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, drugs, especially heroin, are becoming a problem along with other drug related crimes. Alcoholism is widespread due to the cultural ideals that ale and beer consumption are inherently Scottish. The country has the discouraging moniker of the worst-performing Western European nation in the areas of employment, economy, education, and health care. Unemployment rates are high, and there is a long history of illness and mortality. Nearly half of all children are born out of wedlock, and the number of households containing a single parent is increasing. Social mores that view violence toward women as acceptable result in large incidences of domestic abuse and date rape.

Scotland has been home to some of the most renowned missionaries and theologians in Christendom, including David Livingstone, Mary Slessor, Robert Moffatt, and Eric Liddell. Even in the face of violent oppression from English leaders and doctrinal schisms with the Catholic faith, the church still stands as it did one thousand years ago. However, there is an urgent need for a revival to take Scotland back to its scripturally grounded roots and radical faith. Membership in churches is half of what it was fifty years previous, and there is a severe shortage of clergy to meet the spiritual needs of the people. There is still a hunger for the word of God in this nation, and God will not fail to fill them fully with the wisdom and peace that they so desperately crave.

shoulders is Christ

PRAY FOR:

- Pray for the re-evangelization of Scotland by a passionate band of believers who long for a fresh revival in the land.
- Pray for those plagued by alcohol, drugs, and other social ills to be lovingly reached by Christians.
- Pray for the church to commit herself to Scripture-based spiritual renewal.
- Pray that the gospel might transform Scotland through the loving witness and ministry of believers across all denomination





WATCH & PRAY

WALES

A republic of the United Kingdom, Wales shares much of its history with its English and Scottish neighbors. But with a distinct Welsh language, spoken fluently by 20% of the population, and a rich Celtic-influenced culture, Wales stands apart from those surrounding it. Over 600 castles skirt the Welsh landscape, while arts festivals and venues draw eclectic crowds, and rugby matches foster national camaraderie. Such distinctions fuel Welsh pride and hopes for autonomy, leaving many to hope in earthly advancements rather than the eternal.

Celtic migrants are said to have settled Wales as early as 1000 B.C., while the republic's official history names Roman invasions in 48 A.D. as the beginning of the Welsh story. For hundreds of years Wales struggled to gain independence and recognition as a sovereign state. With an Act of Union in 1536, Wales and eastern neighbor England united in politics and law. By 1801, the United Kingdom was established, and in 1997, the Welsh public voted in favor of establishing Wales as a legitimate body within the UK, though many hope for eventual independence. With the ability to form laws recognized only within the republic, Wales has limited governing power apart from the UK parliament, and its economy is intertwined with that of the greater union. Similarly affected by the economic recession, Wales faces trying times of depression and decline in industrialized sectors.

As recession struck the republic, so did a spiritual rut. The widely accepted social gospel draws a hopeful crowd but provides empty guarantees and leads many astray. Once known as a land of revival, Wales has experienced a dramatic spiritual decline, and only 7% of the population attends a weekly religious service. Many churches are closing their doors in response to the low attendance numbers. The Welsh people are in dire need of revival and an identity in Christ alone. Pray that the Holy Spirit would descend upon Wales, weed out lies, and replace them with the transformational truth of the Gospel.



PRAY FOR:

- Pray for bold faith and witness by the remnant of believers among the many small dying churches.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's fire among the mostly faithless youth, igniting a new great Welsh revival.
- Pray for renewed energy and wisdom for those already at work among growing pockets of believers.
- This region is famous as the land of revivals and the land of song. Pray that revival may come again, and that the entire country will again sing the praises of Jesus.



WATCH & PRAY

NORTHERN IRELAND

From the unique volcanic pillars of The Giant's Causeway to the sparkling waters of Lough Neagh, Northern Ireland stands as a nation of great beauty that belies its conflicted past. After Saint Patrick first brought Christianity to Ireland in the 400's, the island enjoyed centuries of Christian heritage. As Britain gained control, though, and more and more English and Scots settled in northeastern Ireland, tensions grew between the largely Catholic Irish and largely protestant settlers. When the Republic of Ireland gained independence in 1922, the six counties of Northern Ireland remained as a province of the United Kingdom. This did not end conflict, and civil violence erupted in the 1960's. By the 1998 Good Friday Agreement and resulting cease-fire, over 3600 people had been killed in sectarian violence. Segregation continues in Northern Ireland today, with separate communities and schools dividing the land.

Once home to one of the largest shipbuilders in the world, employing over 35,000 workers, Northern Ireland's economy suffered greatly during the decades of unrest. Almost one-third of the workforce is now in the public sector, and government spending in Northern Ireland is higher per capita than any other part of the United Kingdom. After nearly two decades of peace, a Catholic middle-class is growing because of laws against discrimination, and Northern Ireland is transitioning to a post-industrial economy.

As in much of the West, Northern Ireland is increasingly gripped by materialism and hedonism. The number of those claiming to be non-religious continues to rise. Church attendance is in decline, although it remains higher than in Scotland, Wales, and England. In fact, the area around Belfast has one of the highest concentrations of evangelical churches in the world. The Church continues to carry a heavy burden for overseas missions, outpacing the rest of the UK in its generosity. Mistrust and resentment still hinder reconciliation and the spread of the Gospel in Northern Ireland, and there is great need for repentance and forgiveness for past transgressions and crimes. While long used as an example of religion's destructive influence, Northern Ireland, by the power of the Holy Spirit, can be a testament to the world of God's power to restore and heal, reconciling believers to one another and to Himself.

PRAY FOR:

- Pray for Christ to heal bitterness and distrust resulting from former fighting.
- Pray for reconciliation and unity between Protestant and Catholic believers that will stand as a model for other groups.
- Pray for continued commitment by the Church to send and support missionaries.
- Pray that Northern Ireland may become a testimony of the power of Christ to heal and restore a nation.
- Pray that its generous spirit of giving money and personnel to world evangelization might continue.





ISLE OF MAN

The **Isle of Man**, is a self-governing crown dependency in the Irish Sea between the islands of Great Britain and Ireland. The head of state is Queen Elizabeth II, who holds the title of Lord of Mann. The Lord of Mann is represented by a Lieutenant Governor. Foreign relations and defense are the responsibility of the British Government.

The island has been inhabited since before 6500 BC. Gaelic cultural influence began in the 5th century and the Manx language, a branch of the Gaelic languages, emerged.

In 1266, the island became part of Scotland under the Treaty of Perth, after being ruled by Norway. After a period of alternating rule by the kings of Scotland and England, the island came under the feudal lordship of the English Crown in 1399. The lordship reverted into the British Crown in 1765, but the island never became part of the Kingdom of Great Britain or its successor the United Kingdom: it retained its status as an internally self-governing Crown dependency.

The Isle of Man is not itself a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. By its relationship with the United Kingdom, it takes part in several Commonwealth institutions, including the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Commonwealth Games. The Government of the Isle of Man has made calls for a more integrated relationship with the Commonwealth, including more direct representation and enhanced participation in Commonwealth organizations and meetings, including Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings. The Chief Minister of the Isle of Man has said: "A closer connection with the Commonwealth itself would be a welcome further development of the Island's international relationships"



GUERNSEY & JERSEY

Guernsey and Jersey are islands in the English Channel off the coast of Normandy. The jurisdiction is made up of ten parishes on the island of Guernsey, three other inhabited islands (Herm, Jethou and Lihou), and many small islets and rocks. The jurisdiction is not part of the United Kingdom, although defense and most foreign relations are handled by the British Government.

The entire jurisdiction lies within the Common Travel Area of the British Isles and is not a member of the European Union, but has a special relationship with it, being treated as part of the European Community with access to the single market for the purposes of free trade in goods. The two Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey together form the geographical grouping known as the Channel Islands.

PRAY FOR:

See prayer points for United Kingdom

REDEPTIVE GIFTS OF THE NATION

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