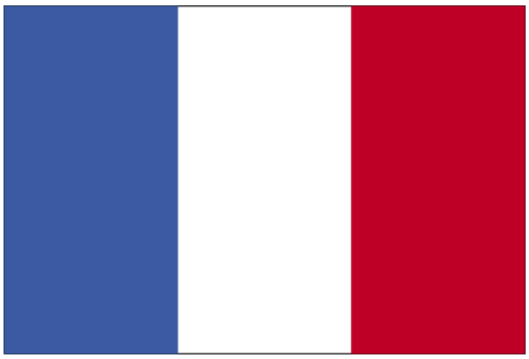
CORNERSTONE

Cornerstone - Global Ministries

One Nation at a Time – FRANCE



Grace and peace to you in our Lord! In order to facilitate a global perspective amongst the staff and communities, we have put together a template to encourage the body to pray for a specific country and partnership each week.

Pray for All People:

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. **3** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

--1 Timothy.2:1-4

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

--James.5:16b

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at 805.581.9532 or e-mail:

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The Country

Although ultimately a victor in World Wars I and II, France suffered extensive losses in its empire, wealth, manpower, and rank as a dominant nation-state. Nevertheless, France today is one of the most modern countries in the world and is a leader among European nations. Since 1958, it has constructed a hybrid presidential-parliamentary governing system resistant to the instabilities experienced in earlier more purely parliamentary administrations. In recent years, its reconciliation and cooperation with Germany have proved central to the economic integration of Europe, including the introduction of a common exchange currency, the euro, in January 1999. At present, France is at the forefront of efforts to develop the EU's military capabilities to supplement progress toward an EU foreign policy.

Facts and Figures

Capitol City: Paris

Population: 64,057,792
note: 62,150,775 in metropolitan France (July 2009 est.)

Religion: Roman Catholic 83%-88%, Protestant 2%, Jewish 1%, Muslim 5%-10%, unaffiliated 4%. **Overseas departments:** Roman Catholic, Protestant, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, pagan

Language: French 100%, rapidly declining regional dialects and languages (Provencal, Breton, Alsatian, Corsican, Catalan, Basque, Flemish). **Overseas departments:** French, Creole patois

The Church

The Evangelical Church has seen multiplication in past decades; however France is becoming increasingly secular, with 50% of 'Christians' being non-practicing. Pray that those disillusioned with a 'cultural religion' might fin personal relevance in true faith.

Our Prayer

- Pray that France would no longer be ignorant of the Gospel and there might be a mighty turning to Christ.
- Pray that there would be the development of a witness to those 50 million French people who have no real link with a Christian Church. Evangelical believers are few, scattered and spread out. Pray that there would be unity and fellowship amongst believers.
- Petition on behalf of the North African Muslim minority of which few have heard the Gospel. Islam has become the second religion in France, and a growing hostility towards French Christians has complicated outreach for believers. Pray that true believers would be raised up to break down cultural barriers through various and creative methods.

Our Partnerships

- Please pray for a **missionary family** that Cornerstone supports in France. Their hope is to develop culturally sensitive ministries where they live in order to penetrate the Muslim community with the Gospel. There is also an emphasis on raising up/discipling godly leaders. Below are some ways that we can pray for them:
    - For much wisdom as they start to put principles in place for their new church plant. Pray for consistent dependence in all their endeavors.
    - They are located right in the middle of town and are surrounded by many opportunities to connect with people. They need discernment!
    - Pray that their hearts would never lose focus of the Gospel in all that they do.
    - Pray for many of their friends that are going through some very difficult relational battles.

*Some statistics and information were gathered from the Operation World Prayer Calendar and CIA World Factbook.