MobilizerMom

Helping your family get involved with God's world right where you are.

Travel with me to Indonesia

4 Day Devotional

Welcome

When we “travel” to another country, we want to see God’s heart for the people and learn things from His perspective. That is what these “Travel with Me to…” pages are all about. This devotional was created for families with a variety of ages of children—see Tips for Parents on how to incorporate the different ages.

Other supplemental crafts and activities online at www.MobilizerMom.com include:

- Make-at-home recipes
- Make a craft
- Listen to the language
- Learn about the spiritual needs

Tips for Parents

This is a simple 4-day Devotional Guide for parents to use as it works with your family's needs. You could do each devotional one day after the other for 4 days straight, or choose to "travel" on Fridays every week since a new "Travel with Me to…" country will be added monthly to the website!

These are meant to be simple and all you'll need besides this Devotional Guide is a Bible and a map/globe. You can simply read the pages as they are printed, or add or take away as fits your family's needs.

If you are new to doing a family devotional time, pick a consistent day and time that works for your family. While you eat breakfast together or right after you clean up dinner, for example. We have been doing our family devotional time after the kids are ready for bed. Whatever the time, communicate with your children your goal for the time.

With younger children, keep it short and allow for wiggles and movement. With older children, they can start teaching/reading/leading as they are able. If you engage each child at their appropriate age, you'll find that each of them get something different out of the time. Encourage your readers to take turns looking up and reading passages to sharpen their own Bible skills.

I hope that your family enjoys learning about and praying for each country and that you will come back to "Travel with Me to..." another country next month!

Blessings,

Alicia Bennett

Indonesia: It's People

Spread across more than 17,000 islands, Indonesia's 285 million people belong to hundreds of different ethnic groups and speak more than 700 languages. While most Indonesians share a national identity and language, each region has its own traditions, foods, customs, and history.

Sometimes differences between people can make the world feel divided. People may look different, speak different languages, eat different foods, or celebrate different holidays. Yet God sees beauty in this diversity. In fact, the Bible tells us that one day people from every nation, tribe, people, and language will gather together to worship Jesus:

"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples, and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'" (Revelations 7:9-10)

God's plan has always been bigger than one family, one church, or one country. He loves people from every corner of the world — including the many peoples of Indonesia. Even though there are still many Indonesian people groups who have never heard about Jesus, God knows every one of them by name and desires for them to know Him.

Discuss these questions as a family:

- Why do you think God created so many different peoples, languages, and cultures?
- What do you think it will be like to worship Jesus alongside people

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from every nation and language?

- How can we show God's love to people who are different from us?

One day, followers of Jesus from Indonesia and from every nation on earth will stand together before God's throne. Until then, we can pray for those who have never heard the Good News and ask God to draw them to Himself.

Let's grab a map and lay hands on the country of Indonesia as we pray:

"Father, thank You for creating people from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Thank You for the beautiful diversity of Indonesia and the many cultures and languages found there. We pray for those who have never heard about Jesus. Please send workers to share Your Good News and help many Indonesians come to know and follow You. We look forward to the day when people from Indonesia worship You alongside believers from every nation. In Jesus' name, amen."

Optional Activity:

Grab some paper, scissors, craft sticks, glue, and markers and create your own Wayang puppets to illustrate the Revelations 7:9-10 scene in heaven one day. Instructions are available at: www.MobilizerMom.com/travel-with-me-to-indonesia

Indonesia: It's Languages

While Indonesian (called Bahasa Indonesian) is the official language of the country, Indonesia is actually one of the most linguistically diverse nations in the world. More than 700 languages are spoken: some languages are spoken by millions of people, while others are only spoken by a small community in a remote village.

Language is more than just words. It helps us communicate, tell stories, express emotions, and understand the world around us. God understands every language spoken on earth — and He desires every person to hear the Good News of Jesus in a language they can understand.

When the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' followers after His resurrection, something amazing happened:

"And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?'" (Acts 2:6-8)

God could have chosen one language for everyone to learn. Instead, He chose to communicate His love to people in their own languages. Today, missionaries and Bible translators continue this work by helping people hear and read God's Word in the language they know best.

Discuss these questions as a family:

- Why do you think it was important that people heard about Jesus in their own language at Pentecost?
- How would it feel if someone tried to explain something important

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to you in a language you didn't understand?

- Why do you think Bible translation is important for people around the world?

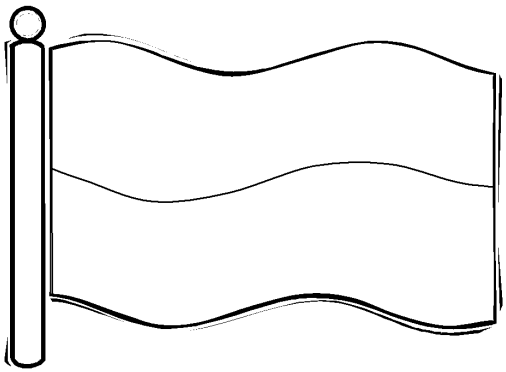
Many Indonesians have access to the Bible in their language, but there are still people groups who need Scripture translated or need someone to explain God's Word clearly. We can pray that more Indonesians would hear about Jesus in a language they understand.

Let's grab a map and lay hands on the country of Indonesia as we pray:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for creating people with different languages and cultures. Thank You that Your love is for every nation and every language. We pray for the people of Indonesia. Help them hear and understand Your Word. Raise up translators, pastors, and missionaries who can share the Good News of Jesus clearly and faithfully. May many Indonesians come to know and follow You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Optional Activity:

Have you ever heard the Indonesian language spoken? Listen to Christian worship songs in Bahasa Indonesian by checking out www.MobilizerMom.com/travel-with-me-to-indonesia



Indonesia: It's Religions

Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world, with nearly 240 million Muslims living across its thousands of islands. Islam first came to Indonesia through traders and merchants who traveled the region centuries ago. Today, many Indonesians faithfully practice Islam, while others follow Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, or local traditional beliefs. Because Indonesia is so diverse, religious practices can look different from island to island and family to family.

As Christian, we believe there is only one way to be reconciled to God: through Jesus Christ. Jesus said: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)

Many Muslims deeply desire to honor God through prayer, fasting, generosity, and obedience. While Christians respect that desire to seek God, the Bible teaches that we cannot earn our way to heaven through good works. Salvation is a gift that comes through faith in Jesus Christ alone:

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Discuss these questions as a family:

- What is the difference between trying to earn God's love and receiving God's love as a gift through Jesus?
- Why do you think people all over the world search for ways to know God?
- How can we show kindness and respect to people who believe differently than we do while still sharing the truth about Jesus?

Let's Pray for Indonesia

When an Indonesian decides to follow Jesus, it can come with a high cost. Many new Christians from Muslim backgrounds face rejection from friends and family members. Some lose business opportunities, jobs, or relationships because of their new faith.

Jesus never promised that following Him would be easy. In fact, He told His disciples that there would be times when people would face opposition because of their faith. Yet He also promised to be with them and strengthen them. Following Jesus is worth it, even when it is difficult.

Let's grab a map and lay hands on the country of Indonesia as we pray:

"Dear Jesus, we pray for Indonesian Christians who have chosen to follow You, especially those who have left another religion behind. When they feel lonely, remind them that they belong to Your family. When they face rejection, give them courage and peace. Help churches encourage and support new believers. May Indonesian Christians shine brightly for You and lovingly share the hope they have found in Christ. In Jesus' name, amen."

Optional Activity:

Head out to an Indonesian restaurant or enjoy making some Indonesian recipes at home! Some simple recipes are available at: www.MobilizerMom.com/travel-with-me-to-indonesia

Indonesia: Spiritual Needs

As we learned earlier, Indonesia is home to more than 285 million people spread across 17,000 islands and hundreds of ethnic groups. Although Christianity is growing in some areas, there are still hundreds of people groups in Indonesia who have little or no access to the Gospel. Many have never met a Christian or heard a clear explanation of who Jesus is and what He has done for them.

Yet God is at work in Indonesia. Every day, Indonesians are discovering that Jesus offers something no other religion can provide: forgiveness of sins, a restored relationship with God, and a completely new life. The Apostle Paul wrote: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

When Indonesians place their faith in Jesus, they become part of God's family. Their identity is no longer found in their past, their mistakes, or even the religion they once followed. They become new creations in Christ. For some believers, that decision can be difficult and costly. Yet many joyfully choose to follow Jesus because they have discovered that He alone offers eternal life.

Discuss these questions as a family:

- What do you think it means to become a "new creation" in Christ?
- Why might someone be willing to give up comfort, traditions, or even relationships in order to follow Jesus?
- How has Jesus changed your life or the life of someone you know?

Let's Pray for Indonesia

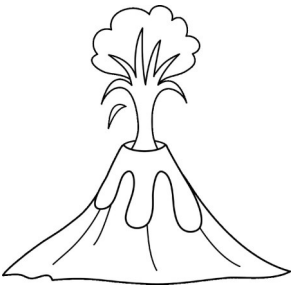
God loves every person in Indonesia and desires for them to know Him personally. He is still drawing people to Himself, changing hearts, and building His Church across the thousands of islands that make up this beautiful country.

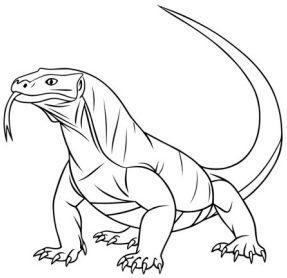
Let's grab a map and lay hands on the country of Indonesia as we pray:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for making us new when we place our trust in You. We pray for the people of Indonesia who have not yet heard the Good News. Open their hearts to Your love and truth. Strengthen Indonesian Christians who have chosen to follow You, especially when it is difficult. Raise up pastors, churches, and missionaries to share the Gospel throughout Indonesia. May many people come to know You and experience the new life only You can give. In Jesus' name, amen."

Optional Activity:

Learn more about God's work in Indonesia by watching this 40-min documentary about missions and the spiritual needs of Indonesia as a family. As you watch, look for ways God is drawing people to Himself and pause occasionally to pray for the people and places you see on the screen: https://youtu.be/cETKTvsAREc?si=Fvgeb9w_8z2u0XRe





Thank you!

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