



Shine! – Tues 14th April 2026

Prayer Guide – Ethiopia

Today we are praying especially for Ethiopia — one of the oldest Christian nations on earth, and a country God loves deeply.

Ethiopia is home to over 130 million people across more than 80 different ethnic groups. It is a land of ancient faith and great courage. But right now, in March 2026, it is facing some of the most serious challenges in a generation — and our prayers matter.

God loves every child, every family, and every community in Ethiopia — and He loves to hear children pray for the nations.

As we pray, we are asking Jesus to bring His peace, His healing, and His light to Ethiopia. We pray for children to be safe, for hungry families to be fed, for peace where there is conflict, and for the Church to shine brightly.

The Bible tells us that our prayers are powerful when we trust God.

So let's pray with faith, knowing that Jesus is listening and that He can do amazing things!

1. EXALTING JESUS

Jesus to Be Enthroned Over Ethiopia

Pray for: Jesus Christ to be exalted as Lord across Ethiopia — in homes, churches, schools, universities, workplaces, media, and government. Pray for hearts across every ethnic group and every region to turn to Him in worship, humility, and joyful surrender.

“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:9–11



2 BILLION CHILDREN

Revival of First Love for Christ

Pray for: The Church in Ethiopia — Orthodox, Protestant, and Evangelical — to return to her first love: adoring Jesus with wholehearted devotion, courage, and joy, rather than division or rivalry.

“Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.” Revelation 2:4–5

Jesus to Be Glorified Through the Church

Pray for: The Church in Ethiopia to reflect the beauty, truth, and power of Christ, so that Jesus is glorified in word and deed — and that Ethiopia’s ancient Christian heritage would be renewed and strengthened for this generation.

“To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:21

Let’s Pray Together...

“Jesus, we love You. Help every person in Ethiopia know You and worship You.”

2. AN URGENT CRY: HUNGER, CRISIS & THE COLLAPSE OF AID

This is one of the most urgent prayer needs in the world right now. Over 15 million Ethiopians are in need of emergency food aid — and the funding to help them has collapsed.

The Hunger Emergency

Pray for: Emergency food to reach the millions facing starvation. More than 15 million Ethiopians currently need emergency food aid. In displacement camps in Tigray, malnutrition in children under five has reached 62% in some areas — far above the UN emergency threshold of 15%. More than 4.4 million pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, and young children urgently need malnutrition treatment.

“He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing.” Deuteronomy 10:18

The Collapse of Foreign Aid

Pray for: Emergency funding to fill the devastating gap left by the dramatic cuts to US foreign aid



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in 2025. Ethiopia was the largest recipient of US aid in sub-Saharan Africa, and lost \$387 million overnight. More than 5,000 local healthcare workers were laid off as a result, over 2 million people missed food distributions in 2025, and 3.6 million more are at risk of losing all food assistance. Tonnes of emergency grain are sitting in warehouses unable to reach starving families because there is no money for fuel or trucks. Pray for governments, churches, and organisations around the world to step up and respond.

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.” Proverbs 31:8–9

God’s Provision for the Displaced

Pray for: Ethiopia’s 3.3 million internally displaced people (as of mid-2025), the majority displaced by conflict — many of them living in camps for three or more years with little access to food, clean water, or healthcare. Pray especially for the hundreds of thousands of IDPs in Tigray and Amhara living in dire conditions in formal and informal camps.

“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” Psalm 34:18

Let’s Pray Together...

“Father God, please send food to the children who are hungry in Ethiopia. Raise up people all over the world who will help.”

3. PEACE, HEALING & RECONCILIATION

An End to Conflict and War

Pray for: An end to the ongoing conflicts affecting Tigray, Amhara, Oromia, and other regions. Pray for a just and lasting peace, for armed groups to lay down weapons, and for the 2022 Pretoria Peace Agreement to be honoured and built upon. Over 600,000 people died in the Tigray war of 2020–2022. Pray that this level of devastation never returns.

“Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse... If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Romans 12:14, 18

Averting War with Eritrea — A Powder Keg Right Now

This is one of the most dangerous flashpoints in the world in early 2026. Both Ethiopia and Eritrea have massed troops along their shared border. In February 2026, Ethiopia formally demanded Eritrea withdraw its troops from Ethiopian territory. Analysts warn that a slide toward war would be easy to start but much harder to stop.



Pray for: Urgent diplomatic breakthroughs between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Pray against a return to war between these two nations, which fought a devastating conflict between 1998 and 2000 that killed up to 100,000 people. Pray for back-channel diplomacy, for the African Union to bring both governments to the table, and for leaders on both sides to choose peace over conflict. Pray especially for civilians living along the border in Tigray who are already living in fear.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:9

National Repentance and Humility Before God

Pray for: Ethiopia’s leaders and people to humble themselves before God, to turn from hatred, bitterness, and ethnic division, and to seek God’s forgiveness and healing for the land.

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

Healing the Deep Wounds of Ethnic Division

Pray for: Healing from the deep wounds of ethnic conflict across Ethiopia. Pray that Ethiopians — across Oromo, Amhara, Tigrayan, Somali, Afar, and all 80+ people groups — would reject bitterness and contempt, choosing forgiveness, truth, humility, and love for one another.

“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” Colossians 3:13

Let’s Pray Together...

“Jesus, please bring peace to Ethiopia. Stop any new war from starting. Help families who have lost their homes to feel Your love and be safe.”

4. THE JUNE 2026 ELECTION

Ethiopia’s seventh general election is scheduled for 1st June 2026 — just weeks after our Shine! event. This is an urgent and specific prayer focus.

A Just and Peaceful Election

Pray for: The June 2026 general election to be conducted peacefully, justly, and with integrity. Pray for all eligible citizens to be able to vote freely, including the millions living in conflict-affected areas in Tigray, Amhara, and Oromia where voting may be impossible. Pray that no violence breaks out in connection with the election.



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“Pray for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” 1 Timothy 2:2

Godly Leaders Raised Up

Pray for: God to raise up leaders at every level — local, regional, and national — who will govern with wisdom, integrity, humility, and justice. Pray for honest speech, for the voices of excluded communities to be heard, and for decisions shaped by compassion for the vulnerable. Pray for the Church to be a voice for righteousness and justice in this season.

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.” Proverbs 14:34

Protection for Journalists and Independent Voices

Pray for: Protection for journalists and civil society workers in Ethiopia, where press freedom has severely deteriorated. In 2025, authorities arbitrarily arrested at least six journalists, some held in incommunicado detention. Pray for truth to be spoken and for those who report it to be protected. Pray also for aid workers who face kidnappings and violence, especially in Amhara.

“The Lord watches over you — the Lord is your shade at your right hand.” Psalm 121:5

Let’s Pray Together...

“Jesus, please help Ethiopia’s leaders be honest and kind. Help the election be peaceful and fair.”

5. THE CHURCH & GOSPEL MISSION

Unity Across All Christian Communities

Pray for: Unity between Ethiopia’s Orthodox, Evangelical, and Protestant Christians. Ethiopia has one of the most complex Christian landscapes in the world — with the ancient Ethiopian Orthodox Church, a rapidly growing Evangelical movement, and Catholic communities all living alongside each other. Pray for rivalry and suspicion to give way to love and cooperation as brothers and sisters in Christ choose mission over competition.

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:3

The Gospel to Reach Every Community

Pray for: A great harvest of souls across Ethiopia’s 80+ people groups — including unreached Muslim-majority communities in the east and south. Despite enormous challenges, the Gospel is



spreading. Pray for boldness and protection for evangelists and church planters, some of whom risk their lives to share the Good News.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

A New Wave of Ethiopian Missionaries

Pray for: Ethiopia to become a great sending nation — raising up a generation of young Ethiopians boldly sent to unreached peoples across Africa and the world to proclaim the Gospel and plant churches.

“Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’” Matthew 9:37–38

Ethiopia as a Nation of Refuge

Pray for: Ethiopia hosts over one million refugees — mainly from Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, and Eritrea. Most are in 24 camps across five regional states, and nearly 60% are children. Thousands of new refugees from South Sudan entered Ethiopia’s Gambella region in early 2026. Pray for the Church to be a place of welcome and love for refugees, and for the protection and spiritual care of the many vulnerable children in these camps.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” Matthew 25:35

Let’s Pray Together...

“Jesus, help churches in Ethiopia work together and share Your love with everyone — including people who have come from other countries and have nowhere to go.”

6. THE NOW GENERATION

Children and Young People to Encounter Christ and Become 2BC Champions

Pray for: Children, teenagers, and students across Ethiopia to encounter Jesus personally, to hear the voice of their Heavenly Father, to know their identity in Christ, and to be empowered by God’s Spirit to share His love with others.

Pray that their hearts and minds would be guarded, and that they would grow in wisdom, truth, and



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love for what is good.

Pray that they would use digital resources like the Salvation Poem and the Light of the World Movie to share the message of God's love with others.

"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions." Joel 2:28

Strengthening Christian Families to Become 2BC Champion Families on Mission for God

Pray for: Families to be strengthened in faith, with parents encouraged and supported as they raise children to know and love the Lord. Pray for healing in homes facing stress, brokenness, or loss — and for the Church to be a place of belonging, especially for the many thousands of children orphaned by conflict or separated from their families through displacement.

"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

Revival on School Campuses

Pray for: Prayer movements to rise in schools and universities across Ethiopia where young people boldly follow Jesus. Pray for this generation to walk in God's peace and bring His presence to campuses, standing like Daniel — with courage and kindness for biblical truth, even under pressure. Pray for God to raise up 2BC Champion Schools across Ethiopia.

"Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger." Psalm 8:2

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Let's Pray Together...

"Jesus, help children in Ethiopia know who they are in You and follow You bravely, even when situations are hard."

7. PROTECTION & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Protection for Persecuted Christians

Pray for: Protection for believers across Ethiopia who face pressure, violence, and discrimination



because of their faith. In 2025, armed groups in Oromia and Amhara burned, demolished, or looted at least 25 churches, assaulted worshippers, destroyed religious materials, and scattered entire congregations. Pray for those churches to be rebuilt and those congregations to be regathered in Jesus' name.

“The mobs believed that after our property was destroyed, Christians would convert to Islam. They thought, when they have nothing to eat or drink, they will return to Islam. Their goal was to eliminate Christianity.” — Jemal, Ethiopian believer whose business was burned in mob attacks (Open Doors 2026)

Pray also for: Converts from Islam who face rejection, violence, and death threats from their families and communities when they follow Jesus. Pray for courage, community, and the knowledge of God's love to sustain them. Pray too for the Evangelical Christians in Orthodox-majority areas who face hostility and exclusion.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:10

Breaking the Strongholds of Darkness

Pray for: Freedom from spiritual strongholds that hinder God's purposes in Ethiopia — including ethnic hatred, extremism, trauma, despair, and addiction. Pray for healing for individuals, families, and whole communities scarred by years of war and displacement. Pray especially for the estimated 60% of displaced people living in host communities who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorders that largely go untreated.

“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” 2 Corinthians 10:4

Protection for Aid Workers, Teachers and Servants

Pray for: Protection for the thousands of people risking their lives to serve Ethiopia's most vulnerable. In 2025, an Ethiopian Red Cross aid worker was abducted, tortured, and died from his injuries in North Gondar. In Amhara, gunmen killed teachers for violating a general strike. Car hijackings, threats, and kidnappings continue to put aid workers at serious risk. Pray for God's shield over all who serve in His name.

“The Lord watches over you — the Lord is your shade at your right hand.” Psalm 121:5

Let's Pray Together...

“Jesus, please protect Your people in Ethiopia. Like Daniel in the Bible, help them choose



what is right even when it costs them everything.”

8. STRATEGIC PRAYER MOBILISATION

Strategic Prayer Movements and Watchmen on the Walls

Pray for: Intercessors to rise up in every region of Ethiopia — young and old — praying with wisdom, faith, and perseverance to shift the spiritual atmosphere of the nation. Pray for prayer networks to grow across denominations and for the Church to unite in intercession during this critical season.

“Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly.” Joel 2:15

A Spirit of Forgiveness and National Healing

Pray for: Healing from the deep wounds of ethnic division, political violence, and national trauma. Pray that Ethiopians from every background would reject bitterness and contempt, choosing forgiveness, truth, humility, and love for one another — and that the Church would lead the way.

“Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?” Psalm 85:6

A Fresh Outpouring Across the Horn of Africa

Pray for: A renewed passion for the Gospel not just in Ethiopia but across the entire Horn of Africa — Sudan, Eritrea, Somalia, and beyond. Pray that Ethiopia’s Church, despite its trials, would be a source of light and hope to its neighbours.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14

Let’s Pray Together...

“Lord, help us pray and bring Your peace to Ethiopia and to all the nations of the Horn of Africa.”



2 BILLION CHILDREN

9. Declaration over Ethiopia

Lord Jesus, we lift the nation of Ethiopia to You.

You are the God who sees every hungry child, every displaced family, every persecuted believer.

Let Your light shine across this ancient land.

Heal the wounds of war. Restore the displaced. Feed the hungry.

Avert the threat of war. Bring wise and just leaders to power.

Protect those who are persecuted for Your name's sake.

Raise up 2BC Champion Children, Families,

Churches, and Schools across this Nation to be "On Mission with You."

Raise up a generation who Knows You, Loves You,

and Shares Your Love with Others.

May Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in Ethiopia.

In Jesus' name, Amen.