

# PRAYER and PRAISE POINTERS

FBH International

January 2018

- 1 Monday** — We are missing our colleague Charles who filed weekly reports from the Arab World for us. He officially retired yesterday. Remember him as he adjusts to his new circumstances and his replacement in Arabic-language follow-up.
- 2 Tuesday** — Oleg Cherny is the engineer who works hard at keeping the technical side of the ministry in Russia working smoothly. He has had some health concerns and is often required to travel to deal with equipment issues across the country.
- 3 Wednesday** — Just before Christmas, Nathan Díaz let us know that he wouldn't be able to get his programs to us because his studio has been broken into and a lot of equipment was stolen. Pray he'll be able to get replacements soon.
- 4 Thursday** — The United States is second only to Mexico in terms of Spanish-speaking populations. Our outreach to Latin America includes the 50 million people in the US who either are native speakers or speak Spanish as a second language.
- 5 Friday** — As recently as late December, Ukraine's political predicament was underscored when the Ministry of Defense conceded that 400 kilometres of its border with Russia are beyond its control. Pray for our outreach in that troubled land.
- 6 Saturday** — 2018 promises to be a year of change at FBH. We are grateful for the support of God's people who stand with us as we move forward with inevitable transitions. Prayer for wisdom for both the board and staff is encouraged.
- 7 Sunday** — Today, we praise God for the many options Arab World seekers have to experience the Bible. They can download it to their phones, read it online (they can also print this), and listen to it in audio format on whatever device they prefer.
- 8 Monday** — Ron recently received a long list of issues our producers in Moscow would like him to address in programs this year. Pray for him as he seeks to respond with biblical content which speaks to the needs of Russian listeners.
- 9 Tuesday** — Don Salmans has produced several series of programs for HopeStreamRadio. His current work is on the topic of "God's Extravagant Love." Don shows our listeners how God expresses His love to us in many different ways.
- 10 Wednesday** — Mexico, home-base to our Spanish ministry, has about 96 million self-identified Roman Catholics. Their familiarity with Christianity provides both challenges and opportunities as we speak to them about the Gospel.
- 11 Thursday** — Civil instability has become the norm for most of Ukraine's 45 million people. Only about 2% of the population identifies as "evangelical" so there is much work to do in seeing the church established and growing.
- 12 Friday** — Tomorrow the board of FBH International will meet. We anticipate having two new men sit in on the meeting with a view to joining us. We're asking for God's guidance as we move forward with plans for the new year.
- 13 Saturday** — A young Saudi man, who lived among Christians for a while, watched their lives and found them to be very different. He became a believer and his testimony is now on the website for other Muslim seekers to see.
- 14 Sunday** — Almost 10% of Russians report often feeling lonely. The numbers go up in winter when people are less able to get out. Some turn to their radios for a friendly voice and have found the programs speaking to their spiritual needs.
- 15 Monday** — Nathan Díaz produces HopeStreamRadio's "The Spirit Acts" as well as giving us regular updates on our Spanish outreach on radio, the internet, and mobile apps. Nathan recently gave up his secular work to focus on ministry.
- 16 Tuesday** — The church in Colombia has grown slowly compared to what has happened in other countries. Since 1991, when freedom of religion was introduced, the pace has picked up somewhat and the need for programs like FBH's is great.

- 17 **Wednesday** — FEBC-Ukraine has big plans for expansion this year. We are thrilled to be part of this growing ministry because as they add new stations, we get increased exposure. We're asking God to bring these plans to fruition.
- 18 **Thursday** — FBH International depends on its international partners as we reach out in Arabic, Spanish, Russian and Ukrainian. Pray for our sister organizations which facilitate the frontline work in these languages around the world.
- 19 **Friday** — A believer in Eritrea testifies: *I spent a lot of time in solitary confinement in a cell that was completely dark, very poor health conditions. When they took me to a larger cell I was able to share the Gospel with the other prisoners.*
- 20 **Saturday** — Pray for wisdom for the workers in Russia who are continuing to live in an insecure environment with government scrutiny and random inspections part of their lives as they seek to take the Gospel to Russians by radio.
- 21 **Sunday** — Today we thank God for Carol Howlett who handles much of our audio editing chores at HopeStreamRadio. This painstaking work requires her to listen to the programs our producers send in and fix the “glitches” that would distract.
- 22 **Monday** — A quick search on the internet reveals that Argentina is a spiritually needy country where something like 80% of children grow up without fathers, and marriage is becoming rare. Pray that God will use our Spanish program there.
- 23 **Tuesday** — Since 988, when Orthodox Christianity was introduced to Ukraine, that tradition has been intertwined with the country's national identity. Consequently, evangelicals are generally seen in a negative light—one more hurdle to cross.
- 24 **Wednesday** — Now that things are settling down in the new year, we are looking for opportunities to talk about the ministry. Join us in asking the Lord to touch people who are in a position to invite an FBH representative to speak.
- 25 **Thursday** — People in the Arab World often face very different problems from those we see in the West. Yet, it is often ones we are familiar with (especially relationship problems) that lead them to the internet where they discover Maarifa.org.
- 26 **Friday** — In Russia, internet access is inexpensive, especially in the big cities. Thank God for the opportunities this offers us as our producers seek to create programs that meet listeners' needs while satisfying government regulations.
- 27 **Saturday** — We have several new producers who are struggling a bit to get started. Pray for these busy people as they organize their lives in a way which frees up the necessary time to produce the programs they feel will bless our listeners.
- 28 **Sunday** — One of the first responses to our Spanish programs came from a Peruvian. While the Light is present in Peru, the darkness is profound. We're asking God to use Nathan's programs there to strengthen the believers and grow the church.
- 29 **Monday** — “Crisis ministry” continues to be important in Ukraine where more than a million are still internally displaced. Many from Eastern Ukraine have flooded into Slavyansk which is still held by the Ukrainian government.
- 30 **Tuesday** — Today, we are thanking God for the friends of the ministry who remembered us in their wills before going home to Glory. He has used these gifts to help us shape our plans for the future as He supplies our every need.
- 31 **Wednesday** — Many seekers in the Arab World have questions about Christianity. One page on the Maarifa website is devoted to answering these. Along with the articles and videos, a personal interaction with a worker is offered.

*A few notes:*

AWM — Arab World Media — our ministry partner in the Arab World.  
 Fish Studios — Nathan's studio in Mexico City — creator of our programs for Latin America.  
 FEBC — Far East Broadcasting Company — our ministry partner in Ukraine and Russia.  
 Radio Teos — The Russian radio network based in Moscow where our programs are produced.  
 Visit [www.FBHinternational.com](http://www.FBHinternational.com) or [www.HopeStreamRadio.com](http://www.HopeStreamRadio.com) for more information.