



Prayer Guide for DR Congo

As a
church
family

Praying for People in Democratic Republic of Congo

Right now, many people in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) are facing great hardship, especially in the city of Goma. Fighting displaced thousands of families, leaving them without homes, food, or security. In times of crisis, one of the most powerful things we can do is to pray. Through prayer, we stand alongside those who are suffering, asking for God's peace, provision, and protection. This resource offers creative ways for your church to join together in prayer for DR Congo.

All Age Activity: Prayer Tree or Prayer Bunting

If your church has a tree outside, take a short, quiet walk together to the tree. Encourage people to use the walk as a meditative time, reflecting on God's love for the world and His call to bring peace. Once there, invite church members to tie colourful ribbons, fabric strips, or written prayers onto the branches as a way of lifting their prayers to God. If an outdoor tree isn't available, set up an artificial tree indoors or draw a large tree with branches on a poster.

Alternatively, hang up bunting string along a wall in your church and invite people to attach their prayers using heart-shaped or hand-shaped sticky notes. The finished display will be a powerful reminder of your church's commitment to prayer.



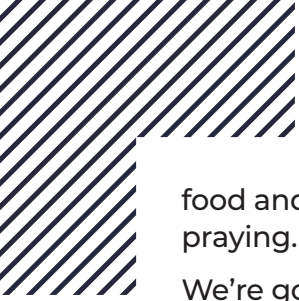
Take it further: Post a picture of your church's prayer display on Facebook, Instagram, or X and tag CMS to encourage and inspire others to pray too.

Children's activity: Paper Chain Prayers

1. Introduction for Leaders

Today, we are going to take some time to pray for the people of DR Congo. Right now, life is very hard for many families, especially in the city of Goma, because of fighting. Some children have had to leave their homes, and many people are struggling to find

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food and safe places to stay. But even though we are far away, we can still help by praying.

We're going to make a special prayer chain today to remind us that our prayers are all connected. Just like links in a chain, we are linked together with our brothers and sisters in DR Congo through God's love.

2. How to Adapt for Different Age Groups:

- ▶ **For younger children (5+):** Instead of writing words, encourage them to draw simple pictures on the paper chains of what they would like to ask God for—such as a happy home, a heart for love, or a dove for peace. You can also provide simple prompts like: “Dear God, please help...”
- ▶ **For children 8+:** Encourage them to write one or two words or short sentences on their paper strips. If they're not sure what to write, you can suggest: “Jesus, please bring peace” or “God, take care of families.”
- ▶ **For older children and preteens:** Invite them to think deeply about different needs, such as praying for church leaders, healing for those who are hurting, and protection for children in Goma. Encourage them to write specific prayers or Bible verses that remind them of God's love and justice.

3. Activity Instructions:

Gather strips of coloured paper, glue, pens, and pencils. Invite children to write or draw simple prayer requests on pieces of paper, using different colours to represent different prayer requests:

- ▶ **Blue** for church leaders
- ▶ **Red** for the healing of deep wounds
- ▶ **Yellow** for sharing Jesus in new places
- ▶ **Green** for peace

Join all the prayers together to make one or several paper chains, making them as long as you like. Hang them up where people can see them as a reminder of the prayers being lifted up. Perhaps you could take them back into the church service and combine with a time of prayer as a church.

To add a reflective element, encourage children to think about each prayer as they link their piece to the chain—just as each prayer is connected, we are all connected in God's love.



Take it further: If you post a picture on social media, please tag CMS (Facebook, Instagram, or X) so we can pray along with you!

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Other Creative Ways to Pray

- ▶ **Prayer Walk:** If possible, take the congregation on a short prayer walk around the church grounds or a nearby green space. Use each stop along the way to focus on a different aspect of prayer for DR Congo—peace, healing, provision, and hope.
 - ▶ **World Map Prayers:** Display a large map and invite people to place stickers or write short prayers for DR Congo and other places in need of prayer.
 - ▶ **Candle Prayers:** Light a candle in your church service as a symbol of hope and a reminder of God's presence in dark times.
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Thank You for Praying

Thank you for joining together in prayer for DR Congo. Your prayers make a difference!