



PRAYER GUIDE

JANUARY-MARCH 2019

Welcome to the Winter edition of the Toybox Prayer Guide. Thank you so much for all your prayers for our work with street children.

Please feel free to share this guide with your church and friends.



JANUARY 2019

Week 1 – (Sunday 30 December – Saturday 5 January)

The start of a new year is a good time to look both backwards and forwards. During 2018 we have received tremendous encouragement from you, our supporters, both through your prayers and through your continuing donations – thank you! Please continue to pray for the work of Toybox as we start a new year in which we hope to change even more lives.

Week 2 – (Sunday 6 – Saturday 12 January)

Back in November, Guatemala was in the news again as the Fuego volcano erupted once more. This came just five months after almost 200 people were buried during a violent eruption in June. Join us in giving thanks that lessons have been learned from last time, so that although around 4000 people were evacuated, there have been no reported casualties this time.

Week 3 – (Sunday 13 – Saturday 19 January)

This week we celebrate a real success story. Over the last couple of years, we have been sharing information about our 'Street to School' project in New Delhi and we are so excited to share the amazing news that last year 13 of these working children achieved the top marks in their exams. Let's continue to pray for these children who have gone from working every day, to studying and achieving remarkable things!

Week 4 – (Sunday 20 – Saturday 26 January)

This week we give thanks for our education project in Nepal; the project is progressing well and the children are keen to attend. However, parents do not always see the benefit of education and want their children to prioritise working instead. Pray for our partner as they engage parents to help them understand the importance of education, which will help children to spend more time off the streets.

Week 5 – (Sunday 27 January – Saturday 2 February)

This week we give thanks for the vocational workshops for young people in Guatemala. These workshops give these teenagers, who would otherwise be on the streets, the opportunity to learn new skills to help them to earn a living. Join us as we pray that they will be able to put their new skills into practice and find work that gives them a sense of satisfaction as well as providing income for themselves and their families.

JANUARY



FEBRUARY 2019

Week 1 – (Sunday 3 – Saturday 9 February)

This week, we give thanks that Toybox has started its first project dedicated to working with children involved in child labour in Kathmandu, Nepal. When children have to work all day (often to support their family income), they are unable to attend school or access other basic Child Rights that enable them to have the best start in life. This project aims to equip children, communities and local government with an understanding of the impacts of child labour so let's pray for its success and growth over these initial months of the work.

Week 2 – (Sunday 10 – Saturday 16 February)

We are excited to tell you about a brilliant initiative that is happening with our partner in Bolivia. Some of the children they support have attended arts and crafts workshops where they have explored 'The Right to Identity'. Three of these workshops were led by an artist who volunteered their time to teach the children and encourage their creativity to flow. Please pray for the team as they negotiate with the transport system operators to display children's artwork at train stations around La Paz as part of the Birth Registration campaign.

Week 3 – (Sunday 17 – Saturday 23 February)

For Toybox, social justice is about promoting equality and human dignity. Our projects aim to reduce barriers for street-connected children so that they may have an identity, an education and a dignified life away from abuse. This week, on 20th February, we celebrate the World Day of Social Justice. Please join us as we pray that barriers of discrimination will be broken down across the countries where we work and the wider global community.

Week 4 – (Sunday 24 February – Saturday 2 March)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29 v11)

For many children living on the streets, their thoughts don't go beyond today. They are so busy focussing on survival that they can't think about tomorrow, let alone next year. They just can't conceive of a future that is any different. This week we pray for these children, that they may be given the chance to dream dreams and to believe that things can be different.

FEBRUARY

MARCH 2019

Week 1 – (Sunday 3 – Saturday 9 March)

On International Women's Day (8th March), we pray for the women in the Savings and Internal Lending Communities that Toybox supports in Nairobi. We give thanks that these mothers and caregivers have learned how to save and develop a business to help support their families and that 90 of them are now able to provide life's basic needs for their children. As a group they rally together, not only to lend and borrow money to support each business initiative, but also to support each other when ill or in need of childcare support. May they continue to increase in strength.

Week 2 – (Sunday 10 – Saturday 16 March)

Last quarter we told you that the Birth Registration work was expanding into Bolivia and El Salvador. Give thanks that 46 children have successfully gone through the process in El Salvador, allowing them access to basic social services. Pray that the team in El Salvador will continue to raise awareness, both with families and with state officials, that they may understand how important it is for every child to be registered.

Week 3 – (Sunday 17 – Saturday 23 March)

Children living or working on the streets have to grow up quickly, as they have to find innovative, and often unsafe, ways to survive on the streets. Day to day life can be difficult and unpredictable. At Toybox, we not only want to help these children be protected, but we also want them to be happy! The well-being of each child is very important, so our projects also want to see the children grow more confident and have a chance to play. On International Day of Happiness (20th March) let us pray for every child to be happy!

Week 4 – (Sunday 24 – Saturday 30 March)

Next Monday, Toybox will start an exciting project with our new partner in Sierra Leone and we can't wait! The project aims to make education available to children who are living and working on the streets around Freetown, while also supporting caregivers and the wider community to help them understand how they can play their part in allowing children to access their rights. Please join us as we pray this week for a smooth and positive start to the project on Monday and an overall positive impact from this work in Sierra Leone.

MARCH