

Vision

— JANUARY —

We long to see God raise up disciples in Italy who multiply; making disciples who make disciples. This month we are asking God for fresh vision for the year ahead.

~Below you will find a suggested amount of time for each segment of your meeting, but don't feel bound by these suggestions. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead your prayer time together.

10 Minutes- Mix and Mingle / Video

Use this time to catch up and get settled before your time of prayer.

10 Minutes- Praise

Before taking time to intercede, praise God for who He is and how He has recently shown Himself to you.

Speak His names out loud (God, You are Savior, You are King, etc.), and His character (God, Your love is unconditional, You are always present).

Praise God for the ways He has been working in and through You. (God, thank You for providing for my family, Thank You for giving me patience yesterday, etc.)

10 Minutes- Personal Surrender and Confession

Personal Surrender

Before interceding on behalf of the people of Italy, surrender the worries of your life that may distract you during this prayer time. Take a moment to write down on a piece of paper any concerns that are on your mind. Is it your finances? Is it a relationship? Jot that down. Then in your heart, give these concerns over to the Lord.

Confession

Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you of any disbelief or sin that you have been giving in to. Take a moment in your heart to confess these to the Lord and receive His grace and forgiveness.

*15 Minutes- Prayer through the Word

Theme: Vision

This month we are asking God to give believers/disciple-makers fresh vision for His plans for Italy.

Habakkuk 2:14

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”

Prayer Points for Italy

- God, we ask that all of Italy would be filled with the knowledge of Your glory!

2 Peter 3:8-9

"But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Prayer Points for Italy

- God, we pray the believers in Italy would be filled with patience for those around them who do not yet know You.
- God, we pray believers would have Your desires that not one person in Italy would perish, but all would come to repentance.

Revelation 7:9-10

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'"

Prayer Points for Italy

- God, give believers in Italy vision to reach all the people groups around them and beyond.
- God, we ask You to bring salvation to the Italians and to each of the ethnic groups in Italy.

*15 Minutes- Intercession for Italy

Below are some insights on Italy and its ethnic groups. Please read the text out loud and then pause so participants can pray as God leads.

CULTURALINSIGHT

Cultural Tradition of Roman Catholicism

Historically almost every Italian would have considered themselves Catholic, but that number has seen a rapid decline in recent years. Yet many families still cling to the Catholic traditions because it is so ingrained in their culture. This has led to huge misunderstanding of who God is and what His Word says. Would you pray for key leaders to emerge from among the Italians to lead their people to Jesus?

Spirit of Tolerance and Relativism

Today, people have bought the lie that they can create their own truth, so they are very tolerant towards one another on a superficial level. A common belief includes: "You believe what you believe, I believe what I believe, but in the end, we all have our own way to the same God." Would you pray that the disciple-makers in Italy would be granted wisdom to know how to share the truth of Jesus in a way that overcomes this barrier of tolerance and relativism?

Religious Pluralism

With increased immigration over the last few decades, Italy has become home for hundreds of thousands of immigrants from all over the world. Each has brought their own religion - Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, New Age. Would you pray that Italians who have accepted Jesus would be bold enough to share their testimonies? Only Jesus who is the truth will break down the stronghold of these false religions.

10 Minutes – Listening Prayer

On a blank piece of paper, ask the Lord the following questions. Be still and listen. Write down any words or thoughts that come to mind.

- God, which of Your promises do you want to speak over the believers in Italy?
- God, is there anything stopping believers in Italy from growing in unity and faith?

After jotting down these thoughts, share them with a partner or your group. Now spend time praying to God for the things He has put on your heart.

5 Minutes- Closing

We want to hear from you. Take a moment to debrief your prayer time. Are there themes, thoughts or passages that God has laid on your heart for the people of Italy? Take a moment to write these down as a group and give them to your small group facilitator. (Small group facilitator- please email these to your contact person in Italy.)

** NOTE: To use this guide for 30 minutes of prayer versus 60, focus your time on the two, 15 minute sections.*