
Rwanda

**Total area:**

26,338 km²

Population:

11,262,564 (2015)

Literacy:

60%

Official languages:

Kinyarwanda, French, English

GDP (PPP) per capita:

\$2,090 (2017 est.)

Life expectancy:

55 years

Religions:

56% Catholic, 36% Protestant, 5% Muslim, 2% Atheist or Agnostic, 1% other religions

Prayer points

Equipping Women

Nancy Lambrechts helps to teach and train women on the 'Preach the Word' training course in Rwanda. She says she often meets women who feel ill equipped to disciple or teach other women. Women have many unique opportunities to lead each other to the feet of Jesus, so pray that the work she does would encourage women and give them the confidence they need to draw others to listen to Jesus' words. (AIM International - July 2016)

Mission and training coordinator

CMS Timothy mission partner Manasseh Tuyizere is the youth coordinator for Kigali diocese. He is settling back into ministry after spending a year at All Nations Christian College in the UK. He and his team have a regular ministry in schools and colleges, empowering young people to be leaders in their communities. Pray for him as he also takes up a new role as mission and training coordinator. Pray also for his marriage to Catrin; they met at All Nations. (Church Mission Society - January 2016)

Violence in Rwandan homes

Victoria volunteers her time to be a wise voice within her community on issues of child protection, family, succession, and land rights and responsibilities. She is one of several paralegals who offer legal advice and education sessions within their communities. At a recent session, over 90 women attended, most of whom were experiencing violence, tension, and abuse within their family home. Pray for this lifeline that provides practical legal advice, mediation and support for those affected, and an opportunity to demonstrate God's heart for justice. (Lawyers Christian Fellowship - November

2015)

Encouraging law students

Lawyers for Hope, supported by LCF (UK), recognise that building the next generation of lawyers strong in their faith in Jesus Christ and committed to applying this through their legal practice is key. Through regular fellowship meetings, law students are encouraged to gather and engage with the Bible, seeking to understand God's call on their life and His heart for justice. Give thanks for these young people seeking to live out their faith and stand up for God's principles within their legal structures. (Lawyers Christian Fellowship - September 2015)

Justice in Rwanda

In Rwanda, many children are not registered at birth, which prevents them in later life from accessing state welfare, employment, owning land and makes them targets for abuse and exploitation. Through education and hands-on training of local officials, local Christian lawyers from Lawyers of Hope have been able to increase birth registration rates and encourage regular community engagement to ensure this continues. Give thanks for the local lawyers who provide this access to justice ministry, and pray that God's heart for mercy and justice would be ever more evident. (Lawyers Christian Fellowship - May 2015)

Grasping the nettle

Give thanks that local churches in Rwanda are grasping the nettle and helping to care for those in their community living with HIV. Aprecom, a ministry providing material, social and spiritual support to people living with HIV, has been connecting with church pastors - a group it sees as having particular potential to bring about change. Churches are now starting to visit people with HIV when they are sick as well as providing much-needed practical and financial support. (Bethany Children's Trust - May 2014)

School in Mwirute

Mwirute is a small Rwandan town set among green, rolling hills, about an hour's drive from Kigali along a dirt road. Most people who live there are very poor, scratching a living on small subsistence farms. Many are illiterate. The school, Nyarusave, it is attended by more than 1,000 children of primary and secondary school age, but has only 16 teachers. It's in this environment that the local church is reaching out to younger members of the congregation through its Sunday school. As the children learn Bible stories and worship together, their enthusiasm draws other children nearby to watch and listen. However, although some have scripture story booklets, very few of the children have Bibles of their own. Pray that more people will step forward as teachers in school and in Sunday school, to encourage the children's love of learning and their hunger to know more about God. (Bible Society - July 2010)

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