

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

LIBERIA**General Information**

- The Republic of Liberia is on the western coast of Africa.
- The official language is English, but Liberia's 4 millions people speak over 30 indigenous languages.
- Liberia is the only country in Africa founded by United States colonization while occupied by native Africans. Beginning in 1820, the region was colonized by African Americans, most of whom were freed slaves. The colonizers (who later become known as Americo-Liberians) established a new country with the help of the American Colonization Society, a private organization whose leaders thought former slaves would have greater opportunity in Africa. African captives freed from slave ships by the British and Americans were sent there instead of being repatriated to their countries of origin. In 1847, this new country became the Republic of Liberia, establishing a government modeled on that of the United States and naming its capital city Monrovia after James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States and a prominent supporter of the colonization.
- The country's economic state of affairs has been characterized by increasing poverty, high cost of living, and an upsurge in the exchange rate.

**Challenges**

- Liberia celebrates its 167th independence anniversary Saturday amid Ebola fear and economic downturn. The World Health Organization reports 196 Ebola cases in Liberia with 116 deaths.
- Some areas are largely Muslim with few active Christians. Recent ministry by Muslim-background believers is seeing dramatic and increasing fruit, as are the holistic Community Health Evangelism programmes. Liberia is one of the few places where Muslims can be openly reached with the gospel and are responsive when they see it demonstrated.
- The task of evangelization and mission must fall to Liberians and other Africans. Foreign missionaries had a long, hard, uphill struggle to plant churches in the interior; but disease, language diversity, entrenched fetishism and the disruption of war all hampered the work and eventually drove out all expat workers. Few have returned.

Prayer

- For the spread of the Gospel into the heavily Muslim areas.
- For the indigenous Christians to further impact the country for Christ.
- For advances in spiritual and physical health issues.

Reference

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