

Moving Mountains among the Muong




Day 1

"Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

– Genesis 18:14 (NLT)



The Muong are the second largest unreached tribal group in Vietnam with a population of 1.3 million.

 **Reaching** the Muong with the Gospel is not too hard for God. Pray that His Spirit will move mightily so that a church is within walking distance of every Muong person.




“And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
– Isaiah 9:6 (NLT)

Day 2

The Muong live in the mountains and lowlands of northern Vietnam. Most are located in the Province of Hoa Binh, which means “Peace.”



 **Pray** that the Prince of Peace will pierce the hearts of the Muong and bring lasting “Peace” to their villages.

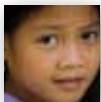
Day 3

“A farmer went out to plant his seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath... still other seed fell on fertile soil.” – Luke 8:5-8 (NLT)



With an average income of \$700 a year, the Muong make their living through cultivating rice, fishing and raising livestock. Farming is difficult because plowing, planting and harvesting are still done by hand.

 **Pray** that the seed of the Gospel will be planted and take root in the hearts of the Muong.



“Let the children come to me... then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.” – Mark 10:14-16 (NLT)

Day 4

The literacy rate of the Muong is 1 to 5 percent. Rural schools are poor and the average education level of the children is 5th grade.



 **Pray** that Muong children will be able to understand the Good News and allow Jesus to touch and bless their lives.


Day 5

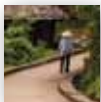
"For you formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb."

– Psalm 139:13 (NAS)



The Muong are very skillful in weaving, basketry and silk spinning.

 **Pray** that the Muong will understand that they are made in the image of God and accept Him as their Creator and Savior.



“Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power.”

– Psalm 145:4 (NLT)

Day 6

The Muong have a rich heritage of legends, folksongs, proverbs and long poems. They are passed down orally from generation to generation.



■ **As** the Muong believe in Jesus, pray that they will pass down from generation to generation the stories and deeds of what God has done in their midst.


Day 7

"I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people..."

– Luke 2:10 (NLT)



Muong go to colorful local markets weekly to buy, sell and trade. The market serves as the main center for news since many do not have TVs or radios.

 **When** the Muong gather at the marketplace, pray that the sharing of the Good News will result in changed lives within whole families and villages.




“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.”
– Psalm 46:1 (NLT)

Day 8

Muong villages are generally comprised of 10 to 50 households. The Muong people cooperate to complete local projects, and depend on each other for mutual support and help during times of trouble.



 **Pray** that the Muong will depend upon God during times of trouble, allowing His love to overflow from their hearts as they help each other.


Day 9

“But I say to you, love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you.”

– Matthew 5:44 (NAS)



The Muong live in a communist country where religious freedom is restricted. Communism creates fear, bitterness and hatred. Bribery and corruption are rampant in the government.

 **Pray** that those who are persecuting Muong believers will turn to God as Muong Christians pray for them and show God's love to them.




“After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb.” – Revelation 7:9 (NLT)

Day 10

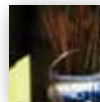
The Muong language has seven dialects. The Muong Bi is the main dialect.




 **Pray** for the Muong to turn from their false gods so that many will be found shouting before the throne of God in their language –
“Salvation comes from our God!”

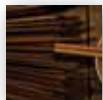
Day 11

"There is salvation in no one else. God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." – Acts 4:12 (NLT)



The Muong are animists, which means that they believe that most things (including non-living objects) have spirits. They also worship many kinds of gods, deities and spirits.

 **Pray** that the Most High God will reveal Himself to the Muong through dreams and visions so they will see that salvation comes from God alone.




“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” – Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)

Day 12

Every Muong family has an ancestral altar that is sacred to them and takes priority over altars to other spirits. Its elaborateness is in proportion to the family's financial status.



 **Pray** for the Muong to come to know Jesus Christ, stand strong in Him and take authority over the spirits, principalities and powers that are keeping them bound in darkness.


Day 13

"...for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

– Deuteronomy 31:6b (NIV)



The Muong believe that their ancestors return on New Year's eve and remain with them for three days. They also honor their deceased relatives on the anniversary of the funeral service.

 **Ask** the Holy Spirit to open the hearts of the Muong so that they will turn from worshipping their ancestors and begin to worship God who will never leave them or forsake them.



“... ‘Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit’ says the Lord of hosts.”
– Zechariah 4:6 (NAS)

Day 14

The Muong also practice the occult through the shaman. The shaman is a healer and respected for his occult powers.




 **Pray** for the Muong to know God's Spirit is more powerful than occult powers.

Day 15

“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.” – John 14:27 (NAS)



Animism is a life of fear – a form of bondage that usually involves a dread of the spirits. Great efforts are made to avoid offending these spirits.

 **Pray** that the Muong will choose to fear the Most High God, turning from a life of fear to a life filled with God's love and peace.



***"I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth."*** – Psalm 121:1-2 (NAS)

Day 16

For the Muong, the most honored ancestor is the one who first led them to the site of their particular village. A special house is made for his spirit so that it will help and protect the village.



 **Pray** that the Muong will look to the Creator of the universe for their help and protection.


Day 17

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

– Genesis 1:1 (NLT)



The well-known epic of “The Birth of Earth and Water” is considered a treasure of Muong folklore. It expresses their beliefs about creation and the universe.

 **Pray** that the Muong would realize the futility of their beliefs and turn to God as their Creator.



"Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; celebrate his wonderful name with music."
– Psalm 135:3 (NLT)

Day 18

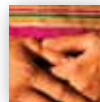
The gong is used in the daily lives of the Muong. It has become an integral part of celebrating traditional festivals. Muong gongs are the symbol of spiritual and material prosperity.




 **Pray** that the Muong will use their gongs in celebration of the wonderful name of the Lord God and their new life in Jesus Christ.

Day 19

***"... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."** – 1 Peter 3:15 (NLT)*



Many Muong have been working in factories in neighboring countries and have accepted Christ. These new believers are now returning to Vietnam.

 **Pray** that these new believers will stand strong in their faith in the midst of difficult circumstances. Pray that their family and friends will also believe and that churches will be planted in their home villages.



“Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst.’” – John 4:13-14 (NIV)

Day 20

The Muong are known for their unique farming methods. They use water wheels for irrigation and daily needs. Using the source of springs, they have creatively engineered a way to pound rice.



 **Pray** that the Muong will turn to Jesus as their source of living water so they will never thirst again.

Day 21

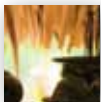
“Yet faith comes from listening to this message of good news – the Good News about Christ.”

– Romans 10:17 (NLT)



Because the Muong live in remote areas, access and communication continue to be challenges for sharing the gospel. Some radio broadcasts are blocked by the government.

 **Pray** for protection over the radio broadcasts and that whole villages will turn to Christ as a result of listening to the Good News.




“All the nations may walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.” – Micah 4:5 (NAS)

Day 22

Prayer walking teams are needed to walk through the Muong villages, tilling up the soil of unbelief in preparation for the seed of the Gospel.



 **Ask** God to send prayer walking teams to Muong areas. As teams pray through villages, ask God to reveal the needs of the community and to show them persons of peace.


Day 23

***"And He said to them, 'Cast the net on the right hand side of the boat and you will find a catch.'
So they cast and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish."***

– John 21:6 (NAS)



For the Muong, family is central to their way of life. Many Muong believers are afraid to share their faith with family and friends who are resistant to change.

 **Pray** that the Muong will cast their 'net of faith' boldly, asking God to bring entire families to salvation so they can stand firm together.




"I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life." – John 5:24 (NLT)

Day 24

New Muong believers do not have access to resources in their heart language. Media, CDs, DVDs and leadership materials are urgently needed.



 **Pray** for Muong Christian resources to be developed in their heart language.

Day 25

"The story of what he had done spread like wildfire throughout the whole region."

– Luke 4:37 (NLT)



Because the Muong are an oral culture, they have great story telling skills. Currently there are no Bible stories or audio recordings in their heart language.

 **Pray** for the completion of Muong chronological Bible stories and audio recordings. Ask God to allow these stories to spread like wildfire.




“So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.” – 1 Peter 4:19 (NLT)

Day 26

Muong house churches often experience difficulties as believers gather for Bible study and worship.




 **Pray** that Muong believers will overcome these difficulties and continue to worship house to house, asking God to add to their numbers daily.

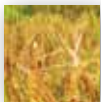
Day 27

“... my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me and my place of safety.” – Psalm 18:2 (NLT)



Vietnamese and Muong Christian leaders and their families often face isolation, unemployment, prison and death. Persecution is swift and often severe for those who place their trust in God.

 **Pray** that Vietnamese and Muong Christian leaders and families will experience the protection and saving power of God as they endure persecution from non-believers and the government.




“Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then comes the harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.” – John 4:35 (NIV)

Day 28

The Muong harvest rice crops twice a year. They use it to feed their families and it is also a source of income.



 **Pray** that God will raise up Muong believers who will be a part in reaping the harvest among their own people.


Day 29

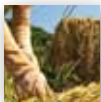
“... Healthy people don’t need a doctor – sick people do.”

– Luke 5:31 (NLT)



Traditionally the Muong have relied on medicine men or spiritual healers for treatment of disease. Their only other option is seeking treatment in poorly equipped clinics.

 **Pray** for major improvements in health clinics and that the Muong come to know the Great Physician who can heal both their body and their spirit.



“He said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is so great, but the workers are so few.’ ”
– Matthew 9:37 (NLT)

Day 30

Short and long term
workers are needed who
will share the Good News
of Jesus with the Muong.



 **Ask** God to burden the hearts of believers to come work among the Muong.



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

– Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



PRAY. GIVE. GO.