

# PRAYER & FASTING

## Tet, the Lunar New Year Festival

### Scripture Focus

"Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will."

2 Tim 2:25-26 NIV



### Prayer Starters:

No matter what their actual birthdate, everyone turns their new age on the first day of Tet. *Pray that believers gain not just one additional year in physical age, but become more mature spiritually.*

The Vietnamese invite their ancestors' spirits to come back from the other world to celebrate the New Year with the living. *Pray that the Holy Spirit would cause the Vietnamese to be sensitive to Him instead of being sensitive to spirits and feeling obligated to fear, honor, and care for them.*

The head of the household performs a ritual offering of food, wine, and incense to give thanks to the gods and ancestors and to pray for prosperity, luck and good health in the new year. *Pray that the Holy Spirit will turn the people's hearts toward God, the source of all true blessings, to know, glorify, thank, worship and serve Him alone.*

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## Tet, the Lunar New Year Festival

### Prayer Starters:

On the third day of Tet, when “the ancestors get ready to depart”, the family prepares another extravagant send-off meal, then gathers around the parents as they dutifully burn paper clothes and symbolic paper money - items they believe their ancestors need in the other world. *Pray that God will expose Satan's lies about the spirits of the dead so that people understand it is demons who impersonate the ancestors. Pray that believers can share effectively from God's word how animists can be free from Satan's oppression by receiving Christ as their Savior.*

Tet leans heavily on superstitions. Sweeping during Tet means brushing money out of the house. The first person to walk through the door on the first day of the new year determines the family's fortunes in the coming year. *Pray that the lost will see the emptiness and meaninglessness of superstitions and embrace Christ and His teachings in order to be set free.*

During Tet, Vietnamese export workers around the world feel lonely and miss their families. *Pray that they will find peace and comfort in God instead of in drinking, gambling, etc.*

Export worker returnees who have become believers face pressure from their families to burn incense and worship the ancestors during the Tet holiday. *Pray that God will help them to stand firm in their faith and that He will help them give a wise and loving witness.*