

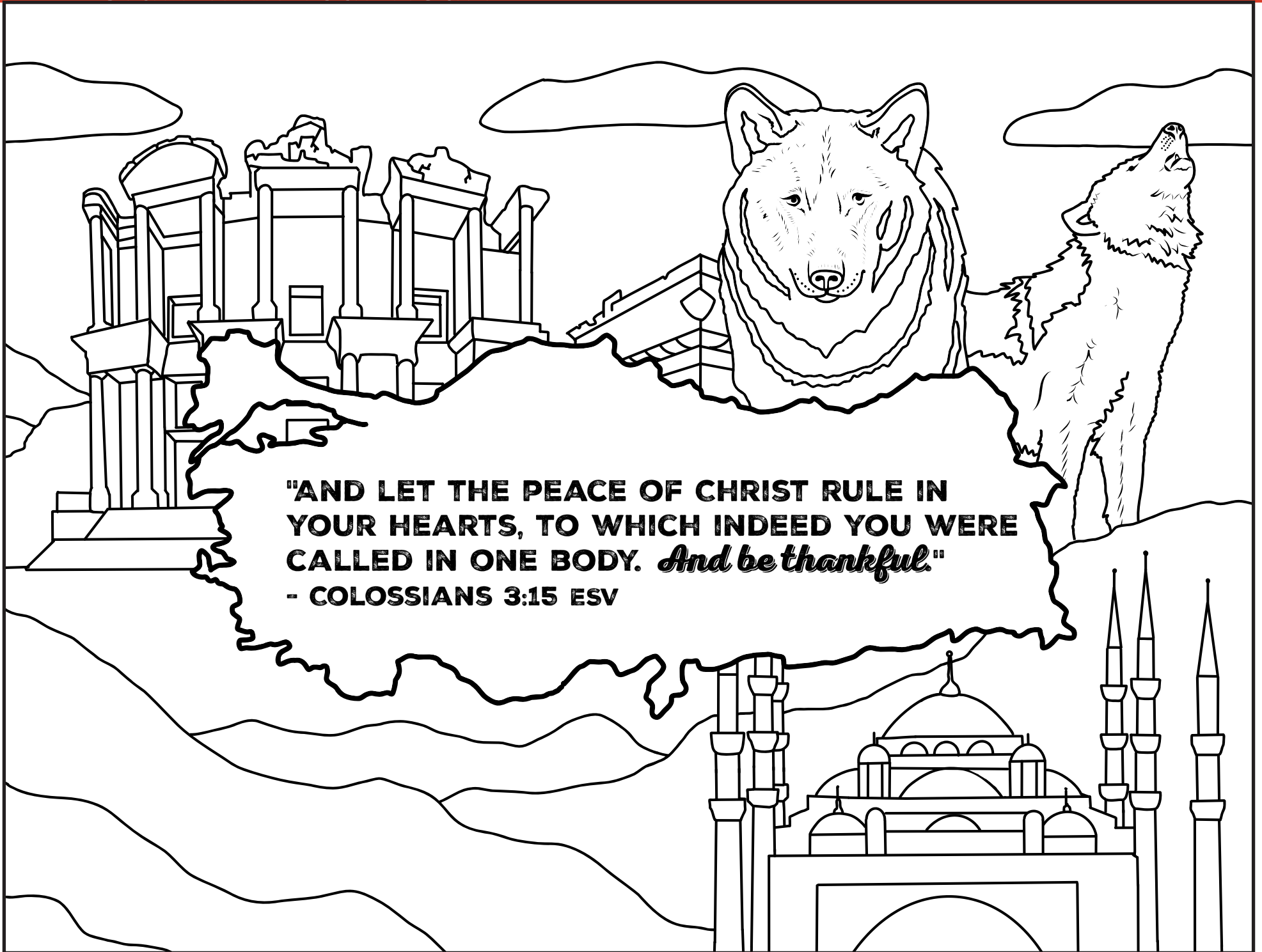
Table Talk Türkiye



TÜRKIYE-O!

How to Play: Play a round of this "TÜRKIYE-O!" game using the numbered facts about Türkiye. One player will be the caller, pulling one of the 24 facts from a bag. The announced fact can then be marked off on each board. The first person to get a complete line in any direction wins. You can either create your own card or print off additional alternate cards. Printables and extra TÜRKIYE-O! cards can be found at: vomcanada.com/TableTalk/Turkiye

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<p>18</p> <p>Oil wrestling is the national sport of Türkiye.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Türkiye has frequent earthquakes, some of which have caused severe damages.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Türkiye's national colours are red and white.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Many of the cities mentioned in the Bible are located in modern-day Türkiye.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>The largest city in Türkiye is Istanbul.</p>
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**"AND LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST RULE IN
YOUR HEARTS, TO WHICH INDEED YOU WERE
CALLED IN ONE BODY. *And be thankful.*"**
- COLOSSIANS 3:15 ESV

May 2024

His Way "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."
Colossians 3:15 ESV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			SOUTHERN MEXICO 1 Praise God for the vocational training that many Christians are receiving through a VOM ministry project!	NORTH KOREA 2 Pray for innovative ways to effectively bring the hope of God's Word into North Korea.	INDIA 3 Pray for pastors, church planters and evangelists who are facing criminal charges due to India's anti-conversion laws.	TÜRKIYE (TURKEY) 4 Pray for the strength and courage of a teenage boy who was beaten for wearing a cross necklace.
NIGERIA 5 Pray for Tina whose husband was shot by militant Islamists while working on his vegetable farm.	BRUNEI 6 Despite surveillance by religious police, pray that spiritual leaders will be fearless in reaching others for Christ.	LIBYA 7 Pray that the small number of Libyan Christians will have opportunities for fellowship with other believers.	PHILIPPINES 8 Pray that believers residing on the island of Mindanao will receive peace, joy and courage in the midst of a hostile environment.	NEPAL 9 Pray for 16-year-old Khushi and her three sisters, whose father abused them because of their Christian faith.	MOROCCO 10 Pray for Christian ministry workers who are distributing digital Bibles through the use of various creative methods.	ISRAEL (INCLUDING WEST BANK & GAZA) 11 Pray for those who take the risk of owning a Bible in militant Islamist-controlled areas.
LEBANON 12 Pray that a church providing needed help and hope to refugees will be free of governmental interference.	IRAN 13 Pray for imprisoned followers of Christ in Iran who are suffering from various physical ailments.	AFGHANISTAN 14 Pray that God will raise up new spiritual leaders to disciple young Christians in the country.	CHINA 15 Pray that invasive technologies, such as facial-recognition software, will not hinder the spread of the Gospel.	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 16 Pray for the successful efforts of ministries endeavouring to ensure that every believer has their own copy of God's Word.	MOZAMBIQUE 17 Pray that greatly needed audio Bibles will reach the hands of all who are yearning to learn more about the Lord.	BANGLADESH 18 Pray that house churches in Dhaka, the most densely populated city in the world, will display God's light and hope.
TUNISIA 19 Pray that Tunisians who have recently committed their lives to Christ will receive greatly needed discipleship.	BURKINA FASO 20 Pray for a resilient witness who is diligently serving in the church amid a dramatic increase in attacks.	EGYPT 21 Pray for ministries that are reaching Muslims and cultural Christians with the "Good News" of the Gospel.	MYANMAR (BURMA) 22 Pray for ministry workers who are demonstrating the compassion of Jesus while serving among Rohingya Muslims.	DR CONGO 23 Pray that God's Word will reach those residing in remote/rural regions of this Central African nation.	MAURITANIA 24 Pray for the protection of workers who are courageously smuggling Bibles into the country.	DJIBOUTI 25 Pray that Christian organizations will be permitted to officially register with the government.
AZERBAIJAN 26 Pray that members of the secret police, who are assigned to monitor church services, will be receptive to the Gospel.	KENYA 27 Ask the Lord to bless and multiply the efforts of Christian evangelists who are ministering in Muslim-majority areas.	BAHRAIN 28 Pray that Bahrainis will find their true treasure in Jesus Christ rather than in the country's oil wealth.	MALDIVES 29 Though it is illegal to import Bibles, pray that God's Word will be accessible to spiritually seeking Maldivians.	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 30 Pray for Christian converts from Islam who often lose their jobs, homes and families because of their faith.	IRAQ 31 Pray that Bible distributions in this Middle Eastern nation will continue to increase access to God's Word.	



Let's Talk Türkiye

Did You Know?

Turkey has been spelled and pronounced Türkiye (Tur-kee-yeah) in Turkish since the country became a republic in 1923. The country requested that the rest of the world adopt the same spelling and pronunciation in 2021. The following year, the country became officially known as Türkiye among the United Nations.

One Way

The belief in the Holy Spirit is a doctrine that both Muslims and Christians hold, but the understanding of His nature and purpose differs significantly between the two religions.

The nature of the Holy Spirit from a Muslim point of view is much like the Islamic perception of Jesus' divinity. According to Islam, the Holy Spirit is a messenger created by God. Muslims do not believe that the Holy Spirit is God, but rather the angel Gabriel. Thus, the Holy Spirit has little significance or purpose in their daily lives.

In comparison, the nature and purpose of the Holy Spirit differ dramatically with Christianity. Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is not merely a messenger, but an integral member of the Trinity – along with God the Father and Jesus the Son – each one equally part of the Triune Godhead. Most significantly, the Holy Spirit takes up residence within each believer. This allows Him to fulfill significant roles in their lives, including that of Teacher, Comforter, Counsellor, Advocate..., ultimately empowering them to live like Jesus.

Way Out ●●●●●●●●

With Christians representing only 0.2 percent of the Turkish population, finding Scripturally sound mentorship can be challenging. One of the projects VOMC supports helps believers in Türkiye mature in their faith and supplies them with the tools they need to share the Gospel with those around them. If you would like to contribute to this project, you may do so through our *Equipping the Saints Fund*: vomcanada.com/donate

This month, pray that the Lord will reveal one key thing from His Word to you. Then pray for an opportunity to share with someone else what you've learned.

Weigh In

1. Formerly spelled "Turkey," the country of Türkiye shares its name with a well-known poultry entrée that is often served during holidays. The turkey was named after this country because of a misconception about the animal's origin.

Research the reason why the turkey (bird) was named after this country. Would it be better if the name was changed to reflect the turkey's true origin rather than the misconception? Defend your answer.

2. Türkiye is part of two continents, Europe and Asia. Around 97 percent of the nation resides in Asia, while the rest is considered to be located in Europe. These zones are separated by a passage of water named the Bosphorus Strait.

Because of the unique geographic position of Türkiye, it's known as the bridge between Europe and Asia. Therefore, this Middle Eastern country is home to a melting pot of cultures and serves as a transportation hub for trade. Name some other benefits of being in a nation spanning across two continents.

3. A rich history of early Christianity exists in Türkiye. The Apostle Paul established churches that still exist in many cities of present-day Türkiye. Several of these historic sites are preserved and toured to this day.

Throughout history, many of these Biblical cities were abandoned and/or reduced to ruins, one being Ephesus. Read Revelation 2:1-7. Do you think members of the Ephesian church heeded Jesus' warning, or was the downfall of their church caused by something else? Research and defend your answer.

4. Turkish ID cards declare a person's religious affiliation. When employers or governing officials scan the cards and see the Christians' identities, there is a high likelihood that these believers will face discrimination.

A Christian's identity in Christ should be obvious by their actions. Is this statement true or false? If true, consider how your faith is being reflected by your actions. Would others recognize that you belong to Christ, or would they be surprised to learn of your Christian faith?

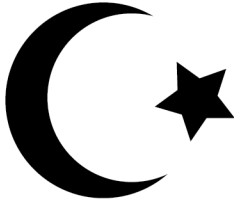
Recommended Reads:

- *A Child's Geography - Volume 2: Explore the Holy Land* by Ann Voskamp and Tonia Peckover (Children/Homeschools)
- *God's Hostage* by Andrew Brunson (Adult)
- *A Day in Istanbul: A Young Explorer Travel Guide to Istanbul (City Explorer)* by Read With You Center for Excellence in STEAM Education (Children)

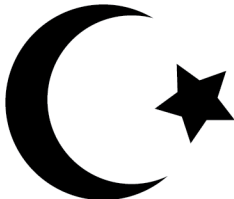
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- <https://mustansarjavid.medium.com/religious-wisdom-the-role-of-the-holy-spirit-in-islam-and-christianity-df6fe25c823c>
- <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-greece/ephesus>
- <https://theworldpursuit.com/facts-about-turkey/>

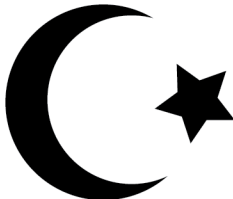
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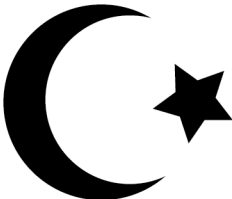
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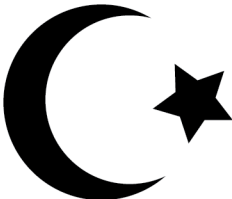
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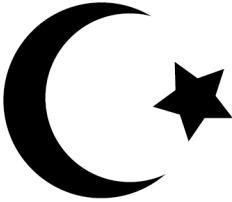
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