

Asia-Pacific Region



Indonesia

The work of the Church of the Nazarene began in Indonesia in 1973. Located on the Sealands Field of the Asia-Pacific Region, Indonesia is an expansive group of islands that cover 1,904,569 square kilometers of land. Each of the more than 17,500 islands, speaking more than 300 languages, is unique and the complexity of the diverse populations is daunting. Indonesia is the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation. In March 1968, after a long opposition of two authoritative powers, Suharto was appointed president. Although his 30-year dictatorship rule was noted for its corruption and abuse of power, it encouraged foreign investment, which led to substantial economic growth. In 1998, Indonesia welcomed a new democratic government that established new political, economic, and social processes. Protestant churches have been recognized since 1965 in Indonesia, and while faced with many challenges, have a significant role to play in bringing healing and hope to this diverse country.



7,852 Members



69 Fully Organized Churches; 66 Not Yet Organized Churches



31 District Licensed and 72 Ordained Ministers on 4 Districts

PRAYER



- Pray for the ministry of the Saya Pengikut Kristus program (SPK), which translates to "I am a follower of Christ," that more people in Indonesia will find restoration and healing.
 - Pray for a greater vision and a more expansive ministry through the Church of the Nazarene in Indonesia.
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PRAISE



- We praise God that many people have come to know Jesus and for the ministry of the Church of the Nazarene.
- We praise God for all who have been restored and found healing and peace in Jesus.



Indonesian people have experienced difficult and often traumatizing circumstances throughout their country's political history and the increasing number of natural disasters. Many people struggle financially and deal with addictions and other hard life situations.

The Church of the Nazarene has been working to address those struggles and to bring healing and restoration through relationship with Christ. In 2008, Nazarene Aletheia Christian Church started the Saya Pengikut Kristus program (SPK), which translates to "I am a follower of Christ." The SPK Winner program is a recovery class designed for those who are struggling with addiction, divorce, and other difficult situations in life. It typically takes two months for a group to complete the program. To date, 38 groups have completed the program through this church.



Classes are offered for adults and teens on subjects such as salvation, Jesus as the sole ruler, and the power of Communion. The program also includes the Champion Gathering series, which has classes such as "The Heart of the Father," "Jesus - the Deliverer," "Jesus - the Healer," "The Power of Baptism," "The Power of the Holy Spirit," "Financial Freedom," "Youth Life - Sex, Love, and Dating," "Teaching to Parents," "Blessed Christian Families," and "To Be True Disciples of Christ."

After hearing God's Word, participants are encouraged to practice what they've learned and share it with their friends. They are also invited to create accountability groups where they can support and help each other.

SPK is so impactful thanks to the testimonies of its trained and equipped teachers and facilitators. Many of them, mostly lay people, went through the same struggles and have participated in the SPK program. Their lives have been changed by the Holy Spirit, and they are now witnessing about Christ. The transformation of the teachers convinces others that in Christ there is forgiveness of sins and there is healing.



Many of the participants were unbelievers when they started the program. Through the SPK program, many people have found a new life in Christ and have come to know the positive ministry of the Church of the Nazarene. Several churches have been started by SPK participants who are now church leaders.



God has been doing His transformative work through the SPK program in Indonesia bringing restoration and healing to people. This has brought hope for many in the midst of drastic cultural changes and challenges. Given the vast expanse of the country and the relatively few Christians, the compassion and care being provided by SPK can make a real difference in people's lives.

The original presentation of this story appeared on the Asia-Pacific website in March 2023.

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