



# Native American Ministries

Spreading from rolling hills in the East to deserts in the Southwest, from Florida Everglades to vast Canadian provinces, First Nations Peoples have distinct cultures. Each group has a rich, colorful history. Kachina dolls, sand paintings, wooden masks, totem poles, peyote, and ceremonial dancing illustrate the unifying thread of animism. Pottery, beadwork, silverwork, and paintings supplement income for a simple life. Many choose to work off the reserve and contribute greatly to their communities.

## NEEDS

Entry of Europeans brought dramatic change for the First Nations people. With it came a sense of despondency, as with any culture that undergoes great change. First Nations people continue to search for answers.

Confronted with a form of the gospel as early as the 1400s, Native Americans have been bombarded with a variety of false religions offering false hope. Traditional animism often mingles with confused Bible teachings, producing a mixture of ceremony.

Small pockets of Bible-believing churches exist among the Native peoples. However, most churches leave people hungry for solid Bible teaching and God's strong working in their lives.

## HOW YOU CAN SERVE

- Missionaries are needed to develop Bible classes, evangelize, disciple, and start Baptist churches.
- Teachers are needed to teach in Bible institutes and churches, providing culturally sensitive theological training and strengthening leaders.
- Biblical counselors are needed to administer God's Word to those enslaved by sin.
- Youth and Bible camp workers are needed to reach young people.
- Musicians are needed to enhance services.
- Workers are needed to provide maintenance and building skills.



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