



# LIBERIA

day 18

**L**iberia, which means, “Land of the Free,” was founded by free African-Americans and freed slaves from the United States in 1820. An initial group of 86 immigrants, who came to be called Americo-Liberians, established a settlement in Christopolis (now Monrovia, named after United States President James Monroe) in 1820. This led to the formation of more settlements and culminated in their independence in 1847. The True Whig Party was fashioned after the United States government and ruled from 1847 to 1980, until an indigenous Liberian seized power by a coup d’etat. In 1989, a small band of rebels led by Charles Taylor invaded Liberia. From 1989-1996, one of Africa’s bloodiest civil wars ensued, claiming the lives of more than 200,000 Liberians and displacing a million others into refugee camps in neighboring countries. President Taylor resigned from office and went into exile in Nigeria in 2003.

Until the influx of refugees fleeing the 1980 military coup began arriving in the United States, the Liberian community in Chicago consisted of a few scattered individuals who had come to the city for educational purposes. During the 1980’s and 1990’s, the community grew to approximately 1,000 households, comprised mostly of former Liberian government officials.

**Pray for Christian outreach during the city’s celebration of the Liberian Independence Day on July 26.** This holiday creates the greatest opportunity for the Liberian community to come together. **Pray for creative evangelism and loving displays of the Gospel. Pray for a cultural form of Christianity to take root in Chicago that could become a bridge into the community. Pray for divine appointments with Christians to take place among this small population group in Chicago.**



**FAQS**

**SIZE**  
Larger than Ohio

**POPULATION**  
3,000,000

**CAPITAL**  
Monrovia

**LANGUAGE**  
English

**RELIGION**  
Islam, Christianity

**UPG'S**  
5

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**POP. IN CHICAGO**  
1,000

**LOCATION**  
Southside, Uptown

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**VISIT**  
Vee Vee's  
6232 N Broadway  
Chicago, IL  
773-465-2424

**PSALM 57:9**

“I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing to You among the nations.”

