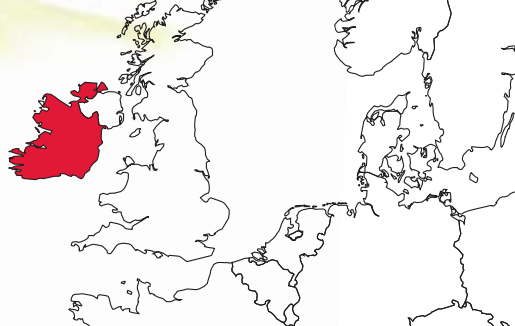


# Ireland

Economic prosperity, a loss of trust in traditional Church authority, and the embrace of secularism have sent Ireland into rapid moral and spiritual decline. While Irish believers now experience more freedom to spread the Gospel, many Irish reject the very vocabulary of the message—Jesus, the cross, faith, sin, forgiveness. They view these words as part of an irrelevant and immoral attempt to control people. As a result, the Gospel does not sound like “Good News” to Irish ears. Historically traditional and deeply religious, Irish people know there must be something more. But because of past religious problems, they are increasingly deciding that Jesus can’t possibly be the answer.

## ▶ Prayer Points

- ▶ Pray for leaders from a church in Blackrock as they interact with university students who are far from the Lord. Pray that God would move in hearts and that many of these students would come to know Jesus.
- ▶ Pray for missionaries as they network and coach Irish people in youth ministry and interact with Irish youth.
- ▶ Pray for emerging young Irish leaders as they develop new ministries designed to connect with Irish people. Ministries that meet community needs and expose people to the love of Jesus are making a significant impact for Christ.
- ▶ Pray for the GEM Ireland team as they assist Irish churches in serving and extending the grace of Jesus to the “new Irish” immigrants who have poured into Ireland recently.



Capital: Dublin  
Border Country: United Kingdom



## Great Hope

When GEM first sent staff to Ireland 30 years ago, most new evangelistic and church-planting efforts were initiated and led by ex-patriot missionaries from the U.K. and North America. Today God is raising up a gifted and trained core of committed, Irish-born evangelicals who personally own the Great Commission. GEM missionaries are asking God to prepare more of these young, Irish-born, culturally-connected laborers for the harvest in Ireland. Missionaries desire to see new workers **for** the harvest **from** the harvest. In this process, Irish will see and experience authentic, transformational Christianity lived out in their midst and hear the Good News.

## Great Opportunity

Christians in Ireland have new freedom and opportunities to follow Jesus wholeheartedly and live out Kingdom life. Opportunities for evangelism exist in almost every arena (creative arts, the marketplace, sports, music, and youth.) North American workers who know how to live out their faith and express the message of the Gospel in relevant ways can make an impact today.