



Open Doors

Prayer Calendar

March 2012

Arabian Peninsula

1. Pray for those in charge of distributing Bibles and literature in all seven countries on the Arabian Peninsula. Pray for their protection and that God will guide them to remote places and tribes that haven't yet been reached with the Gospel.

Iraq

2. Pray that God's wisdom and knowledge will be granted to the translators and reviewers of the various Bible translations.
3. Pray that God will raise up peacemakers in Iraq and people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness. Also pray that believers will have boldness to share the Gospel with seekers.
4. Praise the Lord for the people who produce Christian radio programs in various cities in Iraq. Due to security risks, many believers cannot attend church services, but they can listen to the radio instead. Many believers find encouragement through these messages and songs! Pray that God will continue to use this ministry stream mightily.



Algeria

5. Several judiciary cases against believers are still open. Court hearings are performed but no verdict is given. This causes uncertainty and fear for individuals. Pray for a solution in these situations. A big problem in this is "Ordinance 03-06", which legalizes persecution and discrimination against faiths other than Islam. Pray for an abolition of this law.

Tunisia

6. Pray for the church leaders in this country; they face a lot of pressure.

Libya

7. Pray for the many people who are entering Libya to share the Gospel. Pray that the Lord will direct their footsteps in order to share the Gospel with the unbelieving; may many unbelievers come to the knowledge of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
8. Pray for the distribution of the large amount of Christian books that have been brought into Libya; may the Lord direct the distribution process and may it be a blessing to the recipients thereof.

Morocco

9. Church leaders have seen and experienced more tension from Islamic groups over the last couple of months. Pray for wisdom for the church leaders to deal with the pressure and for God's protection.

Mauritania

10. In any community jealousy results in disunity. Within the small Christian community in Mauritania the pitfall is no different. Pray that the Lord will establish unity amongst the Mauritanian believers and that they (the believers) will continue to pray together and to support each other.

Syria

11. Pray for the protection of the Christians in Syria. Also pray that God will bless His children with His favour and that the Church will stand together in unity.
12. Pray that the followers of Jesus will be light and salt in their country. Also pray that they will continue to be true ambassadors of peace and hope, amidst their circumstances!

Lebanon

13. Pray for those who write and produce Christian radio and TV programs in Lebanon. Pray that these programs will reach many believers and that unbelievers will be drawn to Christ by stumbling across these programs. Also pray that the content will truly be inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Bangladesh

14. Muslims are mostly seekers of theological truth prior to conversion. As such, pastors and church workers who reach out to them must be deeply grounded in their Christian faith and faithful in applying and practicing God's Word in their lives. This is a challenge when they live in a Muslim majority country. Pray that these Christian workers will be continuously equipped for works of ministry.
15. Illiteracy continues to hinder many believers in the rural villages from getting to know God better. They rely on the weekly preaching of God's Word for spiritual nourishment. This year we will be presenting more than 100 literacy classes in Bangladesh; pray that these classes will help believers to read the Bible more and to come to a better understanding of God's Word.



Bhutan

16. The Sunday School volunteers in the local churches are passionate and committed in their chosen ministries. But they are in need of a place where they can learn and acquire the skills necessary to become effective Sunday School teachers. Pray that the Lord will provide them with training opportunities.



17. Christianity is restricted in Bhutan. The Parliamentary constitution has been revised based on the themes of Buddhism, the major religion. The practice of the Christian faith is confined within believers' homes. Pray for the Lord to grant wisdom to His children in Bhutan as they continue to live out their faith while being sensitive to the religious sentiments of their neighbours.

Brunei

18. Even though there are only a few believers in Brunei, they do their best to practice the Christian faith in a predominantly Islamic country. Many of them are underground believers and are in desperate need of church fellowship and discipleship. Pray that the Lord will give them wisdom on meeting with fellow believers and provide ways for them to be discipled.
19. Religious authorities are quick to clamp down on activities that are suspected of converting Muslims to another faith. Christians are especially vulnerable to these suspicions. Pray for them to find ways to observe and practice Christian traditions that will not attract attention. Also pray that they will carry the hope of Christ on their lips and that they will have the boldness to share it when the situation calls for it.

Indonesia

20. Praise God that the Believers from a Hindu Background in Tengger, are rebuilding their lives after the eruption of Mount Bromo last year. Open Doors have supported these believers by means of socio-economic projects. They have started planting cabbages. Please ask the Lord to grant them a good harvest this year and to bless them for their diligence.
21. Radical Muslim organizations are on the rise. They seem to have more power than the police, because they are able to influence the local government to close or ban churches as a way of containing Christian growth. Pray for churches and Christians in Indonesia to have wisdom and tact as they relate with their neighbours, especially in sharing their faith.
22. Reports of church raids are increasing. But there are cases when such reports are falsified and Christians in Indonesia are keeping close tabs on these reports, making sure that they are verified. Pray that the church leaders in Indonesia will be alert, wise and discerning in responding to these reports.

Laos

23. Most of the ailments that beset believers in the outlying areas of Laos stem from an unawareness of basic health and hygiene. Pray for God to create opportunities for the Church in Laos to be engaged in community health programs.

Maldives

24. Maldives has one of the highest divorce rates. There are many children and youths who are growing up with emotional turmoil, because of dysfunctions in the family. Pray for these sons and daughters to discover God's truth so that they will find meaning and purpose in life.

Myanmar

25. Travelling inside Myanmar is expensive. Locals have to pay for recommendation letters, identification cards and permits just to move from one town to another. For the believers, these fees are even more expensive. Many of them travel to participate in discipleship training organized by the churches. Pray for God's favour and provision for the believers that need to travel.



Southern Philippines

26. To enhance the effectiveness of the training programs for Sama lay leaders from a Muslim Background in Western Mindanao, Open Doors will produce 500 copies of the Old Testament Survey in the Sama *Sinama* language this year. Pray that this program will help the lay leaders from a Muslim Background to handle God's truth with wisdom.
27. Open Doors will organize training for 20 people, mostly teachers and facilitators. They are major contributors in fulfilling the purpose of Open Doors' Biblical training programs in the Southern Philippines. Pray for this event to enrich them and to help them find innovative ways of teaching the Sama lay leaders from a Muslim Background in Western Mindanao.

Sri Lanka

28. Due to a lack of financial resources, pastors and church workers are unable to purchase books that will help them to become more effective. This year, Open Doors will carefully identify a set of books that will be useful to them. Pray that these resources will have a lasting impact on their lives and equip them for their ministry task.
29. Open Doors will grant scholarships to 32 Bible School students for one year's theological training. Most of them are studying in Bible Schools outside the capital city, Colombo. Pray for these scholars to be faithful in their studies and for them to develop a deep love for God, His Word and His people.

Vietnam

30. Open Doors' secret mobile Bible School for tribal pastors continues this year. Pray for the new group of leaders to be unwavering in their commitment to serve God in church ministry and missions. Pray especially for the teachers who will travel hundreds of kilometres to teach these classes. Pray for the Holy Spirit to protect the students from suspicions by their unbelieving neighbours and authorities.
31. The majority of the Christians in Vietnam belong to the 54 government-recognized tribal groups. They live in provinces and districts that are hard to access because of rough roads and strict local officials. Continue praying for the Church in Vietnam to discover ways to connect with these isolated believers.