

WHAT IS FAITH
REALLY WORTH?

The Cost

THE MAG FROM
UNDERGROUND SOUTHERN AFRICA

 **UNDERGROUND**
Youth & student ministry of Open Doors

SHOCK WAVE

2-4 March 2018

The world has tuned
out, now it's time for
us to tune in...



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SHOCK WAVE

2-4 March 2018

The world has tuned out, now
it's time for us to tune in...

48 hours. Worldwide coverage.

Every minute of every day Christians around the globe are being persecuted.

This year, we're turning up the volume and sending a message loud and clear that WE CARE! We care about injustice, we care about Christians who are suffering and dying, we care for children who are forced into slavery, because we care about the cause of Christ.

Our annual SHOCKWAVE weekend is from 2 to 4 March 2018. During this weekend, young people from all over the world are getting together to actively demonstrate their love by praying for those who are suffering for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Some will pray alone or with a couple of friends. Most will be part of a group – through their church, school or youth organisation.

There's no better way to respond to the call of the persecuted Church.

Please visit our website www.opendoors.org.za for the latest news and prayer requests for the persecuted Church or use this guide to organise a prayer event during the SHOCKWAVE weekend!

Until next time,

Natasja
UNDERGROUND Youth Coordinator



Frequently Asked Questions:

WHAT IS IT?

SHOCKWAVE is an international prayer weekend for persecuted Christians. It also raises awareness and financial support for these neglected believers.

WHY SHOULD I DO IT?

In more than 60 countries, millions of Christians suffer massacres, rape, torture, beatings, imprisonment, extortion, harassment, family division and crippling discrimination – simply because they believe in Jesus. These are not just stats, they're our brothers and sisters... they need us!

WHEN IS IT?

The date for SHOCKWAVE is 2 to 4 March 2018.

WHO CAN GET INVOLVED IN SHOCKWAVE?

The unique thing about SHOCKWAVE is that it doesn't matter if you pray alone or with a group of people – you can use this guide to do SHOCKWAVE.

WHERE DO I PRAY?

Through the years, thousands of youth groups used this guide as part of their Friday night youth programme. Others held combined youth events in their local area.

WHAT IS THE THEME FOR SHOCKWAVE 2018?

TUNE IN and send a message that will be heard! The world has tuned out, now it's time for us to tune in!

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP?

Write a letter or make a card for a persecuted Christian. Visit www.opendoors.org.za/write

GIVE

All SHOCKWAVE donations received from our youth events, will support Open Doors' work in closed countries.

SPEAK OUT

Tell your friends, family, teacher, pastor or youth leader, and encourage them to get behind this event.

CAN MY SCHOOL BE INVOLVED?

If you would like to organise a group event at your school during school terms, then all you need to do is contact our youth coordinator, Natasja for more information or visit our website at www.opendoors.org.za to request a presentation.



Global Shockwave Café

The idea of Global SHOCKWAVE Café is to help young people develop a global view of Christian persecution and to give them an opportunity to be part of something much bigger than themselves.

GLOBAL CAFÉ IN ACTION:

Whether your night runs for 1 hour or 3 hours, you can create your café accordingly.

- ◆ You may like to begin the night with some acoustic worship – have a chair set up in the corner of the café and get one of your leaders or young people to lead the group in some worship songs. Following the time of worship, perhaps have someone do a couple of sets or choose a few songs to play throughout the night for background music.
- ◆ Arrange tables and chairs in your café area.
- ◆ On each table put the Open Doors letter writing guide that contains the stories of persecuted Christians they can write to. Have paper and pens available to do this. *(Maybe even create a mailbox they can put their letters in. For more information on the guide, visit www.opendoors.org.za/write).*
- ◆ Section off an area for people to go and pray on their own, quietly.
- ◆ Set up a TV or projection screen to show clips throughout the night. (Our Open Doors South Africa YouTube channel has some amazing videos you can use)
- ◆ Stick the following Bible verses around the café to support your call to action:

Hebrews 13:3, Proverbs 31:8-9, Galatians 6:9-10, James 1:27, 1 Corinthians 12:26, Revelation 3:2, Isaiah 1:17

NEEDED

- ◆ Food and drinks.
- ◆ Open Doors' March prayer calendar.
- ◆ Testimonies included in this guide for prayer session.
- ◆ Open Doors letter writing guide.
- ◆ Paper and pens at each table for diners to write letters.
- ◆ Computer, laptop or tablet.
- ◆ Anything else you can think of. Be creative!



PRAYER SUGGESTIONS:

You may like to use one or more of these to incorporate prayer on the night:

Option 1: Have groups pray around their tables.

Option 2: Have open prayer where anyone can pray as they feel led, have someone with the specific task of closing at the end of each prayer session.

Option 3: Have different people stand in front and lead prayers for specific countries.

Option 4: Post creative ideas on the walls. Perhaps, during the event, someone might be inspired to write a song, poem, drama, or paint or draw a picture.

Option 5: Write prayers onto strips of paper and thread them to create a prayer chain. As people pray, each link is broken – the idea being that as you pray you're helping to break the chains of injustice.

Option 6: Light a candle when you say a prayer for the persecuted Church.

VIDEOS:

Visit www.opendoorsouthafrica for clips that focus on Africa, Asia and the Middle East for your event.



Visit www.opendoors.org.za/shockwave to download resources for your SHOCKWAVE event.

FACES OF PERSECUTION



1. Member of a secret North Korean house church

In places in Asia, like North Korea, anyone found not to follow the main religion, or in the case of North Korea follow Kim Jong Un, means imprisonment, torture or death. In Asia, political and religious nationalism is on the rise and anything that is contrary to the main political or religious views, such as Christianity, is frowned upon.

"We have only one Bible shared with 12 other families, and each family must take turns to borrow it. We hide the Bible in a secret place. Once a month, three families get together and worship together; once a year all believers get together in a mountain valley to worship and have secret fellowship. We always remember all the prayer support from all over the world. It encourages us to live another victorious day in Christ Jesus."

Even owning a Bible in North Korea is illegal, so gathering as a church is an offence that authorities punish severely... Up to 70 000 Christians are serving long sentences in horrific prison and labour camps.

PRAY Christians in North Korea. Ask
FOR: for peace and protection as they follow Jesus in secret.



2. A victim of violence in sub-Saharan Africa

A surge in violence is afflicting Christians across sub-Saharan Africa. The Church faces murder, kidnapping, rape and the destruction of churches, businesses and homes from Islamic terrorists, governments and religious fanatics just because of their faith in Jesus.

"I praise God that some survived, many in truly miraculous ways. However, we are deeply traumatised, broken, and in need of much prayer. Please pray for us. Pray for the surviving students to heal not just in body, but in mind too. Many saw sights too horrible to describe and those memories can harm if not attended to. I pray that they each get adequate psychological help." – Fred Gitonga, Chairman of Garissa University Christian Union, in Kenya, who survived an attack by Islamic militant group Al-Shabaab on the university campus. 148 people were killed, many were Christians.

PRAY Those who have experienced violence
FOR: and trauma because of their faith. Ask specifically for comfort and healing.



3. Christians in the Middle East returning home

In the Middle East, Christians face persecution due to Islamic oppression. They're targeted by extremists for their faith and face being disowned or even killed by their Muslim families to restore the families honour.

Christian children and their families have started to return to their homes in the liberated village of Karamles, Iraq. Among the first to return were 12-year-old Noah and his sister, Salina (7).

Noeh's house was completely destroyed by Islamic State (IS) militants, so the family is staying at his aunt's house. "After the liberation in October, we found out that IS had burned our house. I was very sad when I saw it for the first time," says Noeh. Despite everything, the family is pleased to be back home after being forced to live in a refugee camp in Erbil for three years. "It's like living in heaven," said Almas, Noeh's mother. "It's so good to be back on our own soil, in the place where we were born, where our parents and grandparents lived. We're so happy to be back living in Karamles."

PRAY FOR: Families who are returning to their homes across Iraq, and those who are planning to return soon.

Helping you identify

Please pray for some of the situations below that young people face.

The pressure on young people in the persecuted Church is enormous. Many are robbed of their youth as they daily carry on their shoulders the weight of fear, separation from parents, poverty, isolation, rejection and physical abuse, simply because they're from a Christian family. Some of the physical and emotional challenges they face include:

- ✦ Separation from parents while their parents share the Gospel or are imprisoned
- ✦ Random terrorist attacks by Islamic fundamentalists
- ✦ Living in orphanages after parents have been martyred
- ✦ Being constantly monitored
- ✦ Abduction and enslavement by Muslims
- ✦ Being forced to attend Islamic schools

(continued on page 7)

Helping you identify

(continued from page 6)

- ✦ Living in poverty because their parents have been heavily fined
- ✦ Being banned from school
- ✦ Enduring violence and being forced to flee their home
- ✦ Knowing it will be almost impossible to get a job
- ✦ Receiving death threats and living with constant uncertainty
- ✦ Discrimination in school
- ✦ Being seen as scum of the earth
- ✦ Expulsion from home and community
- ✦ Fearing for parents wellbeing and suffering from continual anxiety

The Word of God is powerful and will teach us about the reality and power of God. It helps to build our faith and bring comfort in many difficult situations like poverty, discrimination and persecution. Problem is, many persecuted Christians don't even have a Bible.

OPEN DOORS works alongside the local church to care for young people all over the world by providing them with their own Bible, supporting orphans and children of Christian prisoners, and running special youth camps. We also gather worldwide prayer support through events such as SHOCKWAVE.



DONATIONS

To donate to Open Doors, you can deposit the money into our bank account (details below) using as your reference: SW2018.

Bank Accounts:

Geopende Deure - Open Doors, ABSA - Northcliff (632005), Acc. nr. 160340568

Geopende Deure - Open Doors, Nedbank Business Account (198765), Acc. nr. 113 750 4552