



**December, January & February Prayer Guide** 



"Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated, as if you yourselves were suffering." – Hebrews 13:3





# Your prayers for God's people are so important!

# Please pray for the following requests throughout the GLOBAL SUMMER OFFENSIVE...



My Friend,

I recently heard about some believers in India who experienced severe beatings, unjust arrests and other painful circumstances because of their faith. Their prayer request wasn't for the persecution to stop, but this: "Pray that God will help us stay strong in this persecution, up to the point of death."

This prayer guide has been designed to fit neatly into your Bible, so you can carry it with you daily and be reminded to pray for persecuted believers. Thank you!

Jan Gouws, Executive Director Open Doors Southern Africa

## **DECEMBER PRAY FOR ASIA**



"The Church is growing rapidly in Hindu countries like India, and pockets are growing in Buddhist countries like Bhutan, Myanmar and Vietnam. So it's really exciting to see how God is building His Church in the midst of persecution."

— Wybo, Open Doors International

**Week 1 – NORTH KOREA** Christians here face the most severe persecution in the world. Pray for protection and strength for believers – especially the thousands languishing in prison. Pray for religious freedom in North Korea.

Week 2 – NATIONALISM The governments of many Asian countries are becoming more nationalistic and have an "unholy alliance" with the dominant religion – to the detriment of minority Christians. Pray for greater freedom for believers.

Week 3 – NEW CONVERTS Many people across Asia have come to faith in the past two years, and they need to be discipled. Pray these new converts will receive Bibles, join churches and resist any pressure to deny their faith in Christ.

Week 4 – CHINA There's a renewed crackdown on Christianity and anything the communist government considers "foreign religion." Pray for the protection of Chinese Christians – who now number up to 97 000 000 million – and for restrictions to ease.

### **JANUARY PRAY FOR AFRICA**



"It's a very bad situation in West Africa. It's a crisis. They need our help now. We can't wait for another year, or they may give up hope. They may give up their faith or leave the region. This is their hour of need."

— Wybo, Open Doors International

Week 1 – WEST AFRICA There's increasing violence, and many believers have been killed and traumatised. In Nigeria, 2 500 abducted Christian girls are still missing. Pray for protection and healing for believers, and for stability in the region.

Week 2 – EAST AFRICA Christians in parts of the Horn of Africa face severe persecution if their faith is discovered – some have been killed on the spot. Pray for the Church to be protected and to keep growing, even under severe restriction.

Week 3 – TRAUMA VICTIMS Thousands of Christians in many nations have been attacked, raped, bereaved, and witnessed murders and other atrocities. Pray for emotional healing and for churches to be effective in supporting trauma victims.

Week 4 – SPREAD OF ISLAM Islam continues to sweep across the nations of Africa, destroying lives and dividing communities. Pray that people will resist this religion and instead find salvation, strength and power in Jesus Christ.

**Week 5 – PERSECUTORS** Pray for the salvation of Islamic militants, Fulani herdsmen, government leaders and the relatives of believers who persecute them. Pray that the persecutors of the Church will be transformed by Jesus.

### FEBRUARY PRAY FOR THE MIDDLE EAST



"Egypt is still the country with most Christians. The government has been trying to protect the Church, but Islamic extremists have killed thousands of Christians in the past years. So there's a lot of fear and poverty among believers."

— Wybo, Open Doors International

Week 1 – SYRIA Pray for stability in the country and for protection for the Christian minority. Pray also that many Christian refugees will return to Syria to rebuild their homes and churches.

Week 2 – PERSECUTION VICTIMS Christians face discrimination, imprisonment and violence in many parts of the Middle East, and even more so when they are from a Muslim background. Pray for courage and strength to endure, and that God will help them continue to be a witness for Jesus.

Week 3 – SECRET BELIEVERS There are many secret believers across the Middle East who have no fellowship with other Christians, and little or no access to Bibles and Christian teaching. Pray for encouragement for these isolated believers!

Week 4 – EGYPT Over two million Egyptians have turned their back on radical Islam and become atheists. Let's trust that as they find no hope in atheism either, many will turn to Christ. Pray the Church will embrace and disciple former Muslims and atheists.

Please pray for the R11 742 442 goal so together we can strengthen persecuted believers around the world