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OpenDoors

PRAYER CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2019

1 | MEN OF THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Christian men face various pressures for their faith, such as at work, conscription into the army or militias, and violence. Pray with Open Doors for these men – that God will equip them for the persecution they face as leaders, mentors, disciple-makers, fathers and brothers.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH LEADERS...

2 | INDIA Pray for Pastor Vinay, whose church service was stopped by a group of extremists. Pray for his protection and the believers he leads, as well as for courage for them to persevere despite the persecution.

3 | LAOS Sua* has been visiting churches to encourage and pray with believers in north and central Laos. During his visits, believers often share about the struggles they encounter as Christians. Pray that God will give Sua wisdom in his ministry to these believers.

4 | ALGERIA Church leaders in Algeria are making a huge effort to serve their church members as well as reaching out to isolated believers. Pray for strength for the pastors and leaders as they expose themselves to pressure and persecution during this time of political unrest.

5 | TUNISIA Pray for unity amongst church leaders in Tunisia. Pray that the churches will stand together amidst the already tense situations due to outside pressures.

“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)

6 | BANGLADESH Pastor Anadi Biswa, his wife and children, barely escaped with their lives when their church was burnt down in April. Pray for Pastor Anadi, his church members and their families, that God will strengthen them to continue serving Him, even when they're afraid.

7 | UZBEKISTAN "The persecution is growing day by day and we're learning to live in the midst of it," says Pastor Oleg. Pray that with God's help, pastors like Oleg will be able to withstand the pressure and that God will bless their ministry work.

8 | IRAQ Pray for the protection of priests that are involved in advocacy. The work they do is important, but also dangerous. Pray that God gives them wisdom and guidance in all they do to serve the Church in Iraq.

9 | SYRIA Thank God for pastors and priests like Pastor Abdallah who chose to stay in Syria during the war. Such pastors encouraged many of their members to stay too. They also developed all kinds of activities to help the needy. Pray that God will provide for them in all their needs and continue to equip them for this work.

PRAY FOR OUR MENTORS AND DISCIPLE-MAKERS...

10 | CENTRAL ASIA Ilmur* who in his own words used to be a "very bad guy", now travels as an evangelist to remote places, taking food and clothes to those in need to show them God's love, and when it's safe to do so, to share the Gospel with them too. He asks that we pray that this people will continue to be strong in the faith.

11 | BRUNEI A youth pastor asks us to pray for the discipleship of young people in Brunei. "Pray for the older, mature believers to help the younger believers

BRUNEI continues

to walk through life, face temptations, meet their needs, have a clear vision and direction, and keep their bearing in God."

12 | CHINA Jacob*, a young Believer from a Buddhist Background, has a passion for his own unreached people and plans to start an indigenous church. Despite being regularly persecuted, he's determined to start a church after graduating from high school. Pray that he will be strengthened in his faith and his resolve to reach the lost.



13 | KENYA When Wario came to faith, he got involved in evangelism. In February his house was torched by villagers because of him evangelising. Thankfully no one was injured in the attack. Pray that the Lord will bless him as he courageously continues his ministry work.

BANGLADESH continues

by his older brother and some villagers. He, his wife and children had to flee their home which was destroyed by his brother and the villagers. Pray for God's protection over Mizanur and his family.

14 | CAMEROON Abdias*, a Believer from a Muslim Background, was beaten because he disobeyed the injunction to neither preach or share the Gospel with Muslims. Some church leaders advised him to leave the area that he was in because this had happened before. Pray for strength for Abdias in his ministry and as he sees his children being turned against him.

15 | COLOMBIA Earlier this year, Pastor Javier García became chronically ill after someone used witchcraft on him. He regained his strength after finding the ritual bag for the witchcraft buried in his yard. He believes this was done by someone who wanted him to stop evangelising. Pray for his protection as well as for others who face such witchcraft because they share the Gospel.

PRAY FOR OUR FATHERS...

16 | HORN OF AFRICA Sibsaba* (43) is a married father of three children. When locals heard he had converted to Christianity, they beat him and stripped him of his clothes then destroyed his crops and coffee trees. He was forced to run for his life and go into hiding with no hope for justice. Pray for the Lord's protection and provision for Sibsaba, his family and his hosts.

17 | CHAD Ousmane (34) became a Christian in 2017. When his extended family heard about this, they threatened him and he faces rejection by his community. Pray for strength for Ousmane to continue to hold firmly to his faith and that his wife and children will also come to know Christ.

18 | BANGLADESH In August while having devotions with his family, Mizanur Rahman (25), a Believer from a Muslim Background, was beaten and tortured

19 | CHINA Praise God that earlier this year Ammar*, a Believer from a Muslim Background, was released from one of China's so-called 'Vocational Training Centres'. Pray that, as he has been reunited with his wife and children, God will undertake as they recover from the period of forced separation.

20 | VIETNAM After Vuong became a Christian, he lost his job with the Communist Party and faced harassment and violence from his community. Eventually, due to the persecution, he was forced to flee his home with his wife and children. Pray for Vuong's livelihood – that the Lord will continue to provide for him, so he can feed his family.

21 | EGYPT Magid became a single father after his wife was killed in the 2017 Palm Easter bombings. He and his two young children are doing better but Magid still misses his wife, and his children, their mother. Pray that God will continue to be with Magid and his children as they live life without a wife and mother.

22 | SRI LANKA Jegan lost his five-year-old daughter, Anjaleena and his wife, Sinhuri in the Sri Lankan bombing earlier this year. He had stopped going to church before the incident but now it's even more unlikely that he will return to church. Pray that he will find his way back to Christ and that God will continue to comfort him as he mourns his loss.

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS...

23 | INDIA Bhima* was socially boycotted by his community because

INDIA continues

of his faith in Jesus. Open Doors local partners helped him open a grocery shop so that he can support himself. But when religious extremist saw this, they had people run over him with a motorbike causing Bhima to break his leg. Pray for his speedy recovery and for provision for him.

24 | NEPAL When Ashu* helped two other people to remove a cow from the riverside, he was arrested and falsely accused of killing the cow which is considered sacred in Nepal where Hinduism is the majority faith. Pray that his name will be cleared, and he will be able to return to normal life.

25 | LIBYA Mahmoud* is the only believer in his extended family but he chooses to continue to live with them. Pray for protection and wisdom for him in how to live out his faith and that his life will be a living testimony to his family members.

26 | IVORY COAST Tiekoma (33) came to faith in Christ in 2018. When he started going to church his family was furious and threatened him. They've also confiscated his farmland, making it very hard for him to survive. Pray for God's protection and provision for Tiekoma as well as for the salvation of his family.

27 | UGANDA Hamuza, who used to be an imam at a mosque in Kampala, became

UGANDA continues

a Christian, along with two of his friends, after he received a copy of one of the Gospels. He fears for his life after one of these friends was killed in December. Pray for the Lord to sustain Hamuza's faith and that He will protect him from harm.

28 | EGYPT When Mostafa's cousin, Mohammed became a Christian, he was ordered by his family to kill him for disgracing the family. Instead, Mostafa himself became a Christian and today they worship Christ in secret. Pray for these two men – that they will continue to grow in the faith.

29 | MEXICO Earlier this year Marcelino and his pastor were imprisoned for two days, and Marcelino was asked to sign a document in which he would agree to drop the legal action against those who had assaulted him and meet all the legal costs they had incurred. Pray for justice for Marcelino as the court case against his attackers continues.

30 | CHRISTIAN MEN IN SOUTH AFRICA Pray for the men in our churches – to rise up as father figures for those who've been abandoned, that where they're unemployed God will provide them with work and that God will use them mightily in our country to be His male-image bearers in their communities and workspaces and to be a voice for our persecuted family.

*Names changed and representative images used for security purposes.

Persecuted  But never alone.



Open Doors

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide



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