

Tear out and
keep in your Bible



**“Lord, I have heard of your fame;
I stand in awe of your deeds,
Lord. Repeat them in our day,
in our time make them known;
in your wrath remember mercy.”**

Habakkuk 3:2 (NIV)



OpenDoors

PRAYER CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2019

1 | THE PERSECUTED CHURCH Despite affectionately calling persecuted believers ‘family’ or ‘brothers and sisters’, it can be difficult to fully comprehend the rollercoaster of emotions they experience or the perseverance they need to stay positive. Pray that as we pray for them – God will give us a deeper understanding of all that they experience.

2 | UGANDA When Mercy (16) refused to return to Islam, her father, in an attempt to get her to return, paid a witch doctor to cast a spell on her. She had a seizure and bit into her finger. She lost the finger as her family refused to help her with medical care. Pray that the Lord will help her come to terms with the rejection from her family.

3 | NIGERIA Around 1 300 Christians were killed in Fulani-militant violence in Nigeria, leaving their families bereaved, traumatised and some with destroyed properties. Pray for the Lord’s comfort for all those who lost loved ones and pray for His continued provision in their lives.

4 | TOGO When Mesoukouba, a Believer from a Muslim Background, came to Christ, her parents tried to force her to marry a Muslim man. When she refused, they disowned her. Pray that she will continue to grow in the faith and experience the Lord’s provision in her life.

5 | IVORY COAST Rose (22) has been facing pressure and ridicule for becoming

IVORY COAST continues

a Christian. Last year September, youths dismantled the area where she was taking a shower, exposing her nakedness to many in the community and causing her excruciating shame. Pray for her as she recovers from this ordeal and for wisdom in living out her faith in her hostile village.

6 | TUNISIA Pray for peace in the lives of believers in Tunisia who face persecution for their faith. Pray that they will concentrate on their identity in Christ amidst their struggles and that the Church will become rooted in the faith.

7 | HORN OF AFRICA Ruth* (in her 20s) has been on the run from her family for 14 years because she left Islam to follow Jesus. Now married, she and her husband Samuel* face attacks for their faith. Pray for the Lord's protection and provision over this couple as they continue to follow Him.



8 | SRI LANKA A team of believers will be coming to Sri Lanka for a prayer trip this month. Pray that it would be a blessed time of prayer for the country, the people and the government. Pray for all preparations for the trip as well as for the safety of the staff, believers and visitors.

9 | ETHIOPIA Gizachew (26) was kicked out of his home and rejected by his family when they learned that he had become a follower of Christ. Pray that he will remain strong in the Lord and that his life will be a living testimony to those around him.

10 | SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES Two years after Islamic State affiliates invaded Marawi, more than 2 000 families remain in temporary shelters, almost 500 families are still in evacuation centres, and more than 11 000 families are still living with relatives and friends. Pray that these people will be able to return to Marawi soon.

11 | BRUNEI Christians are not allowed to share the Gospel with anyone under the new Sharia law. Pray that God will guide the Church under this new law and that He will give believers wisdom in living out their faith.

12 | INDONESIA Pray for 30 families who are searching for the truth outside Islam. They are in contact with one of our local partners. Pray for God to guide our partner so that he can share the Gospel with them, and that through this they will come to know Christ.

13 | MALAYSIA Leaving Islam is illegal for Malay Muslims in almost every state of Malaysia, resulting in Malay Christians often hiding their faith. Pray for wisdom and protection for these secret believers, and that they will know the presence of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives.

14 | ETHIOPIA In 2018, Airedin gave his life to Christ. One night after returning from Bible study, local Muslims confronted him and beat him up, breaking his leg. Pray for his healing, provision in all his needs and the Lord's protection as he continues to serve Him.

15 | INDIA Pray for the Christian families in different villages in central and east India who are socially boycotted by their neighbours because of their Christian faith. Pray that God will change the hearts of their neighbours towards them and will provide for all their needs.

16 | INDIA Pastor Saksham* was falsely charged with converting people to Christianity and a court case has been filed against him. Pray that bail will be granted, and that he will be cleared of these charges.

17 | BANGLADESH Open Doors literacy classes are equipping persecuted Christians not only with vital skills for improving their lives, but also the confidence to share what they read in the Bible with others. Pray that God will continue to use these classes to strengthen believers, and also draw many to faith in Him.



18 | NEPAL When Arun*, a retired army official, accepted Christ while serving in military, he experienced persecution for his faith. He has a vision to form a forum to help and encourage Christians who are in the military. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance in turning his vision into a reality.

19 | BHUTAN Open Doors is supporting young Bhutanese believers to study at theological seminary. Pray that God will give these young men and women, wisdom to learn, understand and live His words. Pray that through these studies, they will be strengthened to serve other believers.

20 | LAOS Tou* has faced a series of attacks from those in his village because of his Christian faith. Pray for the Lord's protection over Tou and other believers in his village. May they continue to hold on to God in all circumstances.

21 | VIETNAM When Giang* became a follower of Christ, his parents worked with the police to persecute him and he was chased out of his own village. Pray for Giang and his family, and other families in Vietnam who suffer for the name of Christ. Pray that the Lord will be their stronghold in trying times.

22 | CHINA In Guangzhou, southern China, the Religious Affairs Bureau is offering informants financial rewards for information that leads to the closure of unregistered house churches or the arrest of foreign missionaries. Pray for wisdom and perseverance for China's house churches and for foreign Christians working in Guangzhou city.

23 | NORTH KOREA Many of the secret North Korean believers are willing to receive Bibles, even though it could cost

NORTH KOREA continues

them their lives if they are caught. Pray for the safe distribution of Bibles and audio Bible devices to North Korean believers.

24 | GULF In the Muslim majority region of the Gulf it can be almost impossible for Christians to come together safely. Pray for protection and strength for our church family in this region and that God will continue to use our local church partners to strengthen and encourage them.

25 | YEMEN Pray for three young women who are new in the faith – that they will grow stronger in the faith and for opportunities to meet others who can encourage them. May the Lord protect them and other believers from doubt, discouragement and the effects of war.

26 | IRAQ Pray for the almost 50 Christian families who returned to Telkef. They are struggling with the lack of basic services and security. They don't feel safe as there is still military tension in the area. Pray that God would give them peace and a sense of security.

27 | CENTRAL ASIA Eldos, a Believer from a Muslim Background from Kyrgyzstan, who was beaten for refusing to deny his faith in Jesus is currently in another country where Christians take care of him. Pray that Eldos will be able to find a safe country not too far from Central Asia where he can stay, as he only has a three-month permit in the current country.

28 | AZERBAIJAN Pastor Hamid Shabanov has been trying to register his church since 1994. Twenty-five years later, his church is still not legally allowed to come together. Pray for Pastor Hamid and his church – that God will undertake in this matter. (Source: Forum 18)

29 | TAJIKISTAN Please keep praying for Pastor Bahrom – for his spiritual growth despite his imprisonment as well as his emotional and physical health. Pray also for perseverance for his wife and children as he sits in prison for another couple of months.

30 | TAJIKISTAN When Pastor Bahrom's church members celebrated Easter in their church building, they were expelled even though the premises, which the authorities confiscated when he was arrested two years ago has been unoccupied ever since. Pray that God will strengthen this church and will provide them with a new building for meetings.

31 | THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH The South African Church needs a revival and our nation needs God. Join us in praying Psalm 80:18 over our churches and our nation – that God will revive us so that we can call on His name again. May we become His mouthpiece in our land and a mouthpiece for His persecuted children.

*Names changed and representative images used for security purposes.

Persecuted  But never alone.



Open Doors

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide



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