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OpenDoors

PRAYER CALENDAR

JANUARY 2020

1 | WOMEN OF THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Christian women are doubly vulnerable to persecution because of their gender and faith. Pray that as God's female bearers of love, His angels will encamp around them as they shine His light amongst their families and communities amidst the dangers.

PRAY FOR OUR BEARERS OF LOVE...

2 | CHINA Dilnaz's husband disappeared two years ago after he was taken by police. The authorities regularly come to her home to question her, and she is worried that she may say something that could be used against her husband. "I live with constant anxiety," she says. "I so much want to get my joy back." Ask the Lord to restore her joy and strength, and pray for her husband's return.

3 | NIGER Marie and her husband Hamidou bravely keep sharing the Gospel with unbelievers and taking care of converts who often face severe pressure to return to Islam. Pray for wisdom as they continue to disciple new believers and for the Lord's provision for them.

4 | CENTRAL ASIA Praise the Lord that since the secret police stopped following Anastasia,* a house church leader, she has more freedom to carry out her ministry work. Pray that as she continues to work in God's Kingdom, her ministry will bear much fruit.

5 | INDONESIA Pray for former Muslims,

"Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."

Proverbs 31:30 (NIV)

INDONESIA continues

Dina* (57) and her husband whose son wanted nothing to do them with when they first became Christians in 2017. Pray that through Dina's love for Christ and for her son, he will be drawn to Christ too.

6 | INDIA Maya* is a widow who runs a house church. Even after being attacked by 40 extremists who threatened to kill her only son, she continues to conduct worship services. Pray for protection for Maya, her family and her church members. May God change the extremists' hearts.

7 | MALDIVES Hashima, a secret believer, has learnt during her Bible study with our contact that she has been chosen by God (John 15:16). Pray for God to choose many more Maldivians for His Kingdom. Pray that, like Hashima, they'll find safe ways to study the Bible.

8 | SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES Despite facing pressure for her faith, Lydia has courageously stood firm in the Lord. Her work as a literacy teacher has paved the way for her to share the love of God with her neighbours. Pray that she will be used mightily by God amongst her neighbours.

PRAY FOR OUR WARRIORS...

9 | SYRIA Thank the Lord for women in the Church and the important role they play. Last year, many of them attended training to prepare them for leadership. Pray that they'll apply all they've learnt to help grow the Church's work in the country.

10 | TANZANIA Jamila was physically assaulted and chased from her home after she was discovered to have become a Christian. Pray that she will receive good spiritual and physical care from her church family and that she will soon find a safe place to stay.



11 | NIGERIA Last year, Blessing Kogi and 11 of her relatives were attacked and shot by suspected Fulani militants. Blessing and her cousin were the only ones to have miraculously survived. She asks for prayer for God's grace and to stand for Him amidst the temptations she faces as a young Christian girl.

12 | CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC A few years ago, Caroline's* Muslim father forcefully converted her Christian mom to Islam. When he tried to force her to convert and marry a Muslim man, she refused and had to flee because of the threats and abuse. Pray for the Lord's grace and provision for Caroline as she remains in hiding.

13 | BANGLADESH Maria Akter has recently taken part in discipleship training for women run by Open Doors. She has a desire to share her faith with her friends who aren't believers. Pray that God will show her how to use what she has learnt to reach out to her friends with the Gospel.

14 | INDIA Pray for the many women in India who are persecuted for their faith by their husbands and family members. These women are often expelled from their homes and abandoned. Pray that God will provide for them and that the Church will be a true family to them.

15 | NORTH KOREA Open Doors partners run secret training for refugee women from North Korea who've been trafficked and sold to men in China. Pray for protection for these women, who if caught will be deported back to North Korea and punished.

PRAY FOR OUR MOTHERS...

16 | MIDDLE EAST Pray for the many Christian women who are isolated from their Christian community by their persecutors. Pray that they'll be able to hold on to Jesus, and that their persecutors will have an encounter with Jesus too.

17 | NEPAL When Tani refused to leave her Christian faith, she was expelled from her home by her husband, who mentally tortured and threatened her. She has been left to take care of her two daughters, who are studying, on her own. Pray for provision and support for them from other believers.

18 | SRI LANKA Pray for mothers who've lost their children in the fateful Easter Sunday bomb attacks – that the Holy Spirit will comfort them in their loss and heal them from the trauma. Pray for strength and courage for the women. May they remain strong in their faith.

19 | HORN OF AFRICA Anna,* who came to faith around 15 years ago, was divorced by her husband when he found out. She courageously perseveres despite having had to flee her home with her 11 children because of the danger. Pray for the Lord's protection and provision over Anna and her family.

20 | BHUTAN Dolma Tshering* is a middle-aged mother who has recently begun her journey in her new faith. Pray that as she grows in her walk with God,

BHUTAN continues

her faith will deepen, and her husband and children will see the light of salvation through her witness.

21 | EAST AFRICA Since becoming a Christian, Sarah's Muslim majority community and family are pressuring her to renounce her faith. Despite these hardships, Sarah wants to minister about Christ to her people. Pray that God will show her ways to share her faith with other women in her community and family.

22 | NIGER Rose (35), who lost her husband at the beginning of the year, was kicked out by her husband's family along with her three children because they felt her newfound faith had brought shame on them. Pray for God's provision in her and her children's lives.

PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS...

23 | TUNISA Pray for Afef* and Leila,* two young women who recently came to faith. They are growing quickly in the faith. Pray for them to find a way to sustain themselves in their new identity in Jesus Christ and for God to lead them to other believers for fellowship.



24 | HORN OF AFRICA Lily,* a Believer from a Muslim Background, is facing difficulties in her marriage after her Christian husband backslid into his old faith. Pray for the Lord to be at work in her marriage so that her husband will repent and follow Christ wholeheartedly.

25 | INDIA Meghna,* who feels called to ministry, has been expelled from her house after continuing her theological studies against the wishes of her father. Pray for God's comfort and provision for Meghna, and that God will restore her relationship with her father.

26 | SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES Fely,* a literacy class teacher and facilitator, sometimes feels discouraged because she struggles to keep up with her duties because of her age and because of her students' attitudes. Pray for teachers like Fely – for perseverance and strength to continue serving in the tribes the Lord has called them to serve.

27 | BANGLADESH After attending a literacy class, Rekha (20) who never shared about her faith with anyone, shared the Gospel with her friend. After several months, her friend gave her life to Christ. Pray that through Rekha's testimony many more will come to know Christ.

28 | CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Delphine (27), who works as a nurse, barely survived after she was tortured and left unconscious on false accusations of adultery in the Muslim-dominated area of Ndele earlier this year. Pray for emotional healing and courage to remain firm in the faith despite the constant threats she faces for her faith.

29 | BHUTAN The greatest joy for Bida* (in her 50s) was the moment she could

BHUTAN continues

read her Bible. She is eager to share what she reads in the Bible with others. Pray that God will give Bida wisdom on how to share her faith with those around her.

30 | VIETNAM The Priscilla Women's Training Programme is Open Doors' answer to Vietnam's need to disciple its female believers. Pray that the women attending Priscilla will become lights and role models in their communities through all that they learn at this training.



31 | CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN SOUTH AFRICA Pray that the women in our churches will be spiritual mothers to the children around them as well as pillars of strength for our single mothers and widows. Pray for a Christian sisterhood to be built amongst the Christian women in South Africa. May they also be a voice and prayer warriors 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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