

PRAYER GUIDE

May – July 2021

MAY

01 China

After attending an Open Doors leadership course, Brother Herman* ran an evangelistic outreach for Buddhist monks. Praise God that over two dozen monks came to Christ.

02 Syria

Radwan, a Christian who converted from a Muslim background, was kidnapped in mid-2020. His location is still unknown. Pray for his protection and safe release.

03 Libya

Emmanuel* is an evangelist, who continues to share the message of Jesus, knowing it could cost him his life. Praise God for his faith and pray for his protection.

04 Bhutan

Pray the Bhutanese church will continue to grow in strength and numbers. Pray they will bless their community with the gospel and the hope it brings.

05 Uganda

Yusuf, a new Christian and former Islamic leader, was recently martyred. Thank God for his faith and pray his family left behind may come to know Christ as he did.

06 India

Rashmi's* husband held her captive when he discovered her faith in Jesus. She recently escaped to her sister's home. Pray for her physical and emotional healing.

07 Laos

Praise God that several Christian prisoners have been freed. Continue to pray for the safety and perseverance of those still imprisoned for their faith.

08 Morocco

Amal*, a young woman living in a small village, longs for fellowship with other believers. Pray for opportunities to meet with other Christians.

09 Arabian Peninsula

Many believers are afraid to meet for fear they may be reported to the authorities. Pray they may experience Jesus' peace and love through fellowship with others.

10 Sri Lanka

Pastor Nalaka* was attacked by a mob of Buddhist extremists. Thank God for his steadfast faith as he remains in this hostile community to share God's love.

11 Nigeria

Victor was recently shot by Fulani herdsmen, a Muslim-majority nomadic group. He lost his leg to infection. Pray for his healing, and provision for his family.

12 Ramadan Ends

Today marks the end of Ramadan, a holy month in the Islamic calendar. Pray the 1.8 million Muslims around the world will come to know Christ.

13 Indonesia

Christian training has been held online for the last year, and believers have been unable to meet due to COVID-19. Pray in-person training may safely return.

14 Ethiopia

The church in Ethiopia is divided, and persecution often comes from the Orthodox community. Pray God's peace will bring reconciliation amongst those who love Him.

15 Brunei

Pray God will be using young believers to share His truth in Brunei and that many will come to know the love of Christ and grow into spiritual maturity.

16 North Korea

Peter* is a local partner in China working with North Korean Christians.

It's a dangerous job. Secret agents are everywhere. But for Peter, standing with his North Korean brothers and sisters is worth every risk.

"I heard about a group of believers I trained who returned to North Korea. During the summer months, they sometimes go to the cornfields and hide at night. There they worship and pray to God. Once, about seventeen people gathered secretly.

"Among all the countries of the world, Christians in North Korea are the most persecuted... they go through tribulations and pain, but they still look to God.

"The important thing is we must continue to work until the country is restored and overflows with worship and praise."

Pray for partners like Peter, and that restrictions will not limit the amount of food, clothes, and other daily essentials delivered to North Koreans through secret networks in China.

17 Nepal

Praise God local partners in Nepal reached 10,000 believers with emergency relief last year. Pray they can bless even more Christians this year.

18 Democratic Republic Of The Congo

An attack in the country's north left 18 dead and a church burned down. Several other similar attacks have recently occurred. Pray for peace over the nation.

19 Vietnam

98% of families who received emergency relief from Open Doors in 2020 had been denied government aid. Pray all may receive the resources they need to survive.

20 Colombia

Violence is increasing to extreme levels. Pray the church can provide for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of those affected.

21 Central Asia

Praise God Bible distributions have brought many to Christ. Pray these Bibles will continue to nurture and grow the faith of these new believers.

22 Kenya

Peninah's husband was killed by extremists, leaving her to care for their children alone. Praise God she recently received a sewing kit to help her provide for her family.

23 India

Extremists attacked Ravi's* church and threatened them if they continued to meet. Pray for the church's perseverance, even in the face of violence.

24 Malaysia

Lockdowns have taken a toll on the livelihood and ministries of church leaders, leaving many discouraged. Pray God will bring renewed peace and passion.

25 Palestinian Territories

Thank God that online church services have been fruitful. Praise God that many have been introduced to Him through this technology in the last year.

26 Tunisia

Amira* was beaten by her family when they caught her contacting other Christians. Pray for her safety and perseverance, even in the face of persecution.

27 Iran

A conference has recently taken place for divorced Christians. Pray that it might have been a blessing to those struggling with their faith and a reminder of God's love.

28 Uzbekistan

Three underground churches have been infiltrated and shut down. Pray church leaders will be guided as they seek ways to continue leading their congregations.

29 Maldives

56% of young people are unemployed and not receiving an education. Pray they may receive God-driven hope, and employment and education opportunities.

30 Somalia

Pray over the families of martyred believers. Ask that they would find emotional healing and that those responsible for the killings will come to know Jesus.

31 Sri Lanka

Pray for our local partners planning to install a well and filtration system for Christians who have been denied access to the communal water supply.

JUNE

01 North Africa

Praise God for the online training sessions that recently took place. Pray that those who attended may use their new skills to witness to those around them.

02 China

A 365-day devotional for secret house church leaders in China is being made. Pray it will reinvigorate the faith of persecuted believers and produce good fruit.

03 Myanmar

Pray for the recipients of recent literacy training and Bible distribution. Pray they will wisely share their knowledge with those who need it.

04 Egypt

Pray for boldness as the underground church continues to face restrictions and violence. Pray for fruitful fellowship and safe opportunities to meet.

05 Syria

Social media training is taking place teaching young Christians to share the gospel online. Pray the students may use these skills to be faithful witnesses.

06 Yemen

Many Christians are taking great risks to disciple new believers. Pray God will use them to raise gifted, servant-hearted, and bold leaders.

07 Bangladesh

Pray good fruit may come from those who recently attended persecution preparation training and women's discipleship training. Pray it will be a blessing.

08 Iraq

Pray God would be turning the hearts of Iraq's leaders towards Him, strengthening them to lead the nation with God-given wisdom and mercy.

09 Central African Republic

Praise God local partners could deliver food, soap, medicine, and financial aid to 5,133 vulnerable Christians. Praise God that He is the God who provides.

10 Saudi Arabia

Pray for wisdom, discernment and spiritual maturity as Christians from a Muslim background seek to follow Jesus. Pray they find mentors and discipleship.

11 Mexico

The presence of criminal groups and violence is increasing. Pray for the softening of their hearts, and that they would come to love Jesus.

12 Eritrea

Since Shiden* was released from prison for attending a worship service, he has wrestled with depression. Please pray he will be comforted by the Holy Spirit.

13 Comoros

Pray believers will be faithful and fruitful in their work for God's glory. Pray they will be strengthened to be the salt and light in their communities.

14 Philippines

Pray for the livelihood projects helping persecuted Christians make a living. Pray they bless Christian families and the communities they live in.

15 Jordan

Pray that believers who leave Islam to follow Jesus will receive the guidance and spiritual support they need, and will be disciplined in their new faith.

16 Maldives

The Christian population in the Maldives is mostly immigrant workers. Pray God will be using them to reach more local Maldivians, despite the risk.

17 Burkina Faso

Local partners report that parts of Burkina Faso have no open churches. Pray God will be building up His people, rooted in community and fellowship.

18 Mauritania

Blasphemy laws have made it extremely dangerous for Christians to openly share their faith. Pray believers may share the gospel, no matter the cost.

19 Sri Lanka

Many new Christians are ostracised from their families. Pray they will be reminded of their prayerful Christian brothers and sisters around the world.

20 Indonesia

A local partner has been leading a community of believers through the book of Job. Pray they will be challenged and strengthened through this teaching.

21 Mali

Pray for provision for Christians attempting to rebuild their lives after violence and displacement. Pray they will be reminded of hope in the Lord.

22 Nepal

Hindu extremists are targeting and secretly monitoring Christian activities. Pray they will come to know Jesus as a testament of His love and power.

23 Sudan

Praise God that Sudanese authorities are demonstrating a willingness to allow Christians to live for Jesus in safety.

24 Colombia

Churches in indigenous communities face strong and often violent pressure from locals. Pray God will strengthen believers to follow Him, no matter the cost.

25 India

Many Christians in rural communities are banned from collecting clean water from communal taps. Pray God would provide for their needs.

26 Uganda

Members of a local mosque slaughtered Dembe's* livestock when he chose to follow Jesus. Pray they repent and come to know Christ as their saviour.

27 Myanmar

Praise God more local believers are being trained to facilitate persecution preparation, women's discipleship, and family enrichment training.

28 Pakistan

Pray that God will comfort women who have been abducted and placed into forced marriages. Ask they will know of His love and give their lives to Him.

29 Arabian Peninsula

Praise God the church in the Arabian Peninsula is increasing in number. Pray Christians will boldly share the gospel and the church will continue to grow.

30 North Korea

Pray over Bible studies being held for trafficked women from North Korea. Pray these women will be reminded of God's love, even in their darkest moments.

JULY

01 Afghanistan

It is impossible to live openly as a Christian in Afghanistan. Pray that despite isolation, Afghan believers will be strengthened and encouraged in their faith.

02 China

Pastor Chai* uses his church to house Christians fleeing persecution. Pray that those he shelters will be encouraged in Christian community.

03 Kazakhstan

Police often raid underground churches, interrogating those who attend. Pray believers will not be discouraged from meeting but convicted to continue.

04 Bhutan

Anyone who converts from Buddhism is watched with suspicion and often rejected from their community. Pray for perseverance and opportunities for fellowship.

05 Mozambique

Literacy levels are low, and many Christians are unable to read the Bible for themselves. Pray for spiritual growth and education opportunities.

06 Laos

Many isolated tribes are yet to hear about the gospel. Pray God would be raising more faithful workers to evangelise and disciple them.

07 Syria

There are now over 40 Centres of Hope in Syria aiming to make the church a safe refuge for all. Pray they will be a blessing to communities across the nation.

08 Iran

Kouroush* became a Christian at an underground church service in Iran.

When police discovered his secret faith, they threw him into jail.

“I hadn’t committed any crime to deserve this,” Kouroush said. “All I did was surrender my heart to Jesus.”

Kouroush was tortured, isolated and deprived. After his release, he had no choice but to flee to Turkey. There, Kouroush established a Christian centre with the help of Open Doors.

Although separated from his loved ones in Iran, Kouroush found belonging through the support of the global Church.

He said, “Without the international family of God, we wouldn’t have been able to establish this centre. I feel like God’s hand was in this: He brought us all together.”

Pray that Kouroush’s Christian centre will be a place known for its love, acceptance and service of the community, and that God will be glorified through his ministry.

09 Bangladesh

Pray that adult literacy classes will empower more Christians to read the Bible and be strengthened in faith. Pray they may pass their skills on to others.

10 Malaysia

Pray that God will be raising bold leaders to shepherd the next generation. Pray they will disciple others with spiritual maturity and God-given strength.

11 Tajikistan

Pray for pastors and church leaders, especially those who are monitored and detained by authorities. Ask that God will sustain their faith in all seasons.

12 Lebanon

The last year has been difficult for those in Lebanon, especially refugees fleeing nearby countries. Pray 2021 will bring a new harvest and revival.

13 Cameroon

Pray for peace over Cameroon and for wisdom and insight over its leaders. Pray the church will be a source of hope and comfort to those suffering.

14 Central Asia

Evgeny* is an evangelist supported by Open Doors. Praise God for his faith and passion and pray He will be raising more faithful evangelists.

15 Turkey

Turkey is home to the world’s largest refugee population. Pray the Spirit will be moving and using the church to minister to the four million refugees.

16 Sudan

Pray for protection and perseverance over Christians from a Muslim background to withstand pressure to abandon their faith from their loved ones.

17 Myanmar

Pray that Christian children in Myanmar may grow in their faith and understanding of the Lord through Sunday schools and children’s camps.

18 Libya

Mario's* wife gave her life to Jesus when she discovered his secret faith. Praise God for their faith and pray a blessing over their family.

19 Sri Lanka

The pandemic has driven many pastors and church workers into financial hardship. Pray that God would provide for the needs of their families.

20 Palestinian Territories

Pray God would deliver guidance, creativity, and perseverance to church leaders as they learn to adapt to changing restrictions and community needs.

21 India

Anti-conversion laws are leading to the imprisonment of many who share the gospel. Pray believers will not be discouraged from sharing Jesus' love.

22 Arabian Peninsula

Pray God will be making peacemakers of His people, guiding the underground church in the Arabian Peninsula through difficult seasons of jealousy and division.

23 Afghanistan

70-80% of Afghan women are placed into forced marriages with Muslim men. Pray secret believers will stand firm in faith and find opportunities to share the gospel.

24 China

Pray for the health of Ammar*, a Christian who suffered from hypothermia while in prison. Pray he will experience healing and spiritual peace.

25 Kenya

Thank God that local partners could provide legal aid and counselling to Hubba* after she was assaulted. Please pray over her emotional and spiritual health.

26 Central African Republic

COVID-19 has placed additional pressure on those already affected by violence. Pray the church will be a source of support and comfort to those suffering.

27 Indonesia

Pray for our local partners holding Bible training for women. Pray the attendees are blessed and equipped to take the gospel into their communities.

28 Malaysia

Several church leaders who were kidnapped are still missing. Pray for endurance and wisdom over those working to find them.

29 North Korea

Praise God that the North Korean radio ministry is flourishing, delivering the Word of God into North Korea. Pray that more will hear the gospel and believe.

30 Egypt

Pray God would bring Egyptian authorities and extremists to Christ and use them for His good purposes. Pray they become faithful, committed followers.

31 Qatar

Sharing the gospel is forbidden and can lead to up to 10 years in prison. Pray believers will share the gospel with boldness, no matter the cost.

*Names changed for security purposes.