

# PRAYER GUIDE

February 2023 – April 2023

## FEBRUARY

### 01 Myanmar

Many displaced believers are living in difficult conditions in displacement camps and the forests. Pray for God's provision of shelter and food.

### 02 Lebanon

Many Lebanese people have no savings and are struggling to find enough money for daily food. Ask God to provide and help His people trust in Him for their daily needs.

### 03 Arabian Peninsula

Praise God for the new believers coming to Christ every week. Pray that they will grow in their knowledge and wisdom of God's Word and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

### 04 Vietnam

When Duy converted to Christianity, people in his village attacked him and pressured him to give up his faith. Pray for Duy and his family to remain steadfast in their faith.

### 05 Brunei

Thank God that the number of people converting to Christianity is growing. Pray for the churches' plans for 2023 and that they will be able to show God's love to the community.

### 06 China

Pray that the activities planned by Open Doors' partners will see the growth of Christians spiritually. Pray that they will respond to persecution biblically.

### 07 Bangladesh

Around 500 adults who converted from Islam to Christianity attended an annual conference. Pray that what they learnt will grow and strengthen their faith.

### 08 Indonesia

Thank God for Agus and Sri who have discipled hundreds of converts from Islam and sheltered many who were forcibly removed from their homes for their faith.

### 09 Laos

Pray that the Lord will provide the right people to be future partners in areas where Christians are being jailed or kicked out of their villages for their faith.

### 10 Mexico

Drug trafficking is a serious problem in Mexico and one of the main sources of corruption. Pray for peace for the country and for leaders who will fight for justice.

### 11 Afghanistan

Shafika is a secret believer in Central Asia as a refugee. Pray for Shafika and her house group as it continues to be dangerous to be a Christian in her community.

### 12 Sri Lanka

Even in the midst of the economic crisis, Christians are being persecuted. Pray for those who now have the added burden of financial pressure on top of facing persecution.

### 13 Tajikistan

As registration applications from churches are no longer honoured, one house church has been closed. Pray that the congregation can safely come together again.

### 14 Maldives

In recent years, Maldives has had a high number of foreign terrorist fighters joining IS and al Qaeda. Pray for the government to tackle the issue and for hearts to change.

### 15 North Korea

Lady Da Hyeon was unable to return to her hometown after the pandemic began. Pray that God will use this difficult time to equip her as a strong and faithful believer.

### 16 Central Asia

God helped Brother Yunus on a trip across a border by transforming a security guard's heart. Praise God the security guard came to know Jesus and could help Brother Yunus.

### 17 Philippines

Many converts from Islam to Christianity come from dysfunctional families. Pray that their lives will be living testaments of God's love to their families and neighbours.

### 18 Colombia

Thank God for the Bible training that took place across the country. Pray for those who completed the training, that they would be encouraged in their work in their churches.

### 19 Indonesia

In Indonesia, 127 ethnic groups are considered unreached people groups. Praise God that tribes who were once very secretive are starting to open up to hearing the gospel.

### 20 India

In the states of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, persecution has increased, and churches are being closed and damaged. Ask God to strengthen believers in these areas.

### 21 Malaysia

Some schools put pressure on non-Muslim children to participate in Islamic programs. Pray for the Christian children in these schools to be a light to their peers.

### 22 Philippines

Nasra is a convert from Islam and has been experiencing persecution in her community. Ask God to strengthen her and give her courage as she teaches Sunday School.

## 23 Nepal

Nirmaya Raut and her family were persecuted in the past and are now struggling financially. Pray that God blesses them and maintains their faith in the economic crisis.

## 24 Central Asia

Church members of an unregistered church are at risk of being arrested. Pray that the church will be able to be registered so believers can gather safely.

## 25 Myanmar

Praise God for the discipleship training in equipping the next generation of believers. Ask God to deepen the understanding of Scripture for believers.

## 26 Afghanistan

Sitara came to faith after fleeing Afghanistan but is now facing having to go back. Pray that Sitara and other secret believers won't be forced to return to Afghanistan.

## 27 China

Lixin is a church leader who has been under surveillance by authorities and may face criminal charges for organising a trip to a conference. Pray for his protection.

## 28 Syria

Many are struggling to feel hope with the lack of electricity and petrol, and the increase in poverty. Ask God to provide practical solutions as well as His hope.

# MARCH

## 01 India

The persecution of Christians has increased as many states are implementing anti-conversion laws. Pray for pastors and leaders to remain strong in their faith.

## 02 China

Lewis converted from Buddhism to Christianity at a secret youth camp organised by Open Doors' local partners and has since experienced persecution. Pray for strength.

## 03 Bangladesh

Many Christians who converted from Islam and have needed to practise their faith in secret. Pray for those fearing persecution, especially children.

## 04 Mexico

There are proposals to modify laws in Mexico that have the potential to endanger the free expression of the Church. Pray for wisdom for legislators.

## 05 Indonesia

Praise God for the thousands of contextual Bibles that have been distributed on Nias Island. Pray for God to provide thousands more Bibles to bless people.

## 06 Philippines

Praise God for Ethi and other converts from Islam who could attend an annual gathering to have their faith strengthened. Pray for them as they continue to face persecution.

## 07 Maldives

There has been an increase in attacks related to political agendas. Pray that God will bring peace to the political instability and that innocent bystanders are protected.

## 08 International Women's Day

Pray for the Christian women and girls facing persecution. Ask God to help them remain steadfast in their faith and to change the hearts of those oppressing them.

## 09 Syria

Thank God for the different trainings, including the sports ministry training directed at youth. Pray that the Church will be strengthened through these activities.

## 10 Malaysia

Many families who are already struggling financially are being hit with rising food prices. Pray that God will provide for the needs of families.

## 11 Brunei

There is currently a year-long youth program in place to strengthen Muslim converts. Pray that Christian youths will have discernment when exposed to the program.

## 12 Indonesia

Islamic fundamentalists are working to establish Sharia (Islamic) law in the country through influencing the military, education, and politics. Pray for protection against this.

## 13 Myanmar

There are many Christian children who are unable to continue their education due to living in conflict zones or remote areas. Pray that God will provide access to education.

## 14 Arabian Peninsula

Praise God for the new leaders emerging among the local believers. Pray that they will lead like Jesus and teach others truthfully with servant hearts.

## 15 China

Thank God for Sam, a Han Chinese missionary trained by an Open Doors local partner. Pray for Sam as he ministers to youth at a local high school through music and Bible reading.

## 16 Colombia

Changes will likely come to the country because of the new government that came into office in 2022. Pray for God's wisdom, protection, and mercy for the new government.

## 17 India

Pray for the new President of India, Droupadi Murmu, who was elected in mid 2022. Ask God to give her wisdom in leading the country and that He will work through her.

## 18 Vietnam

A draft decree released by Vietnamese authorities could bring oppression to small, unregistered churches in remote areas. Pray for the protection of these churches.

## 19 Central Asia

Christians can only gather to worship the Lord at night in groups of two or three people at a time. Pray that they will continue to gather for fellowship and grow in their faith.

## 20 Sri Lanka

Many students in government schools come from Buddhist family backgrounds and Christian students can be ridiculed. Pray that they will not waver in their faith.

## 21 Lebanon

Please pray for a change in the country, and that leaders and other influential people will turn away from sin and discover Jesus' love and salvation.

## 22 Nepal

Sarmila Rasaili, her husband, and son were persecuted by her in-laws, causing them to leave their home. Pray for a change of heart for her in-laws and for God to provide.

## 23 Philippines

Students like Jimalyn have been struggling with their studies since the pandemic. Pray for God's help for these students and for wisdom for their teachers.

## 24 Iraq

The Christian population in Iraq has decreased over the years. Pray for the church to see growth with new people coming to faith and Christians returning from abroad.

## 25 Malaysia

There have been reports of authorities arresting individuals speaking against Islam. Pray for justice and that God will lead those who are trying to make a difference.

## 26 Indonesia

Missionaries with a heart to serve unreached people groups need contextual Bibles for their ministry. Pray that more can be produced to bring people closer to Jesus.

## 27 Myanmar

It is becoming riskier for believers, especially youths, to gather for fellowship in churches and homes. Pray for their safety and that God will strengthen their faith.

## 28 Sri Lanka

Many Christians are finding it increasingly difficult to gather on Sundays due to lack of fuel and public transport. Pray that God will make a way for them to gather.

## 29 Vietnam

Pray for the local and national governments. Pray that the national government would protect the rights of all, and local governments won't be used to aid persecution.

## 30 India

Religious extremists and leaders are demanding to delist tribal Christians from the tribal schemes and privileges. Pray for God's provision for the tribal communities.

## 31 Brunei

The number of children and adolescents needing mental health care is rising. Ask God to provide opportunities for churches to minister to people in need.

# APRIL

## 01 Syria

The number of people living in poverty is increasing, with children at risk of homelessness and child labour. Pray for God's provision of shelter and food.

## 02 Nepal

Suman Bhandari and his family were forced to leave their house because of their faith. Ask God to bless and grow their shop so that they can meet their basic needs.

## 03 Central Asia

Local authorities and Muslim leaders are monitoring the spread of religious activities, especially Christian activities. Pray for the protection of Christians.

## 04 Indonesia

Many congregations struggle to find a place of worship each week because of strict legal requirements around building a church. Pray for God to make a way for these churches.

## 05 Bangladesh

Praise God for the annual youth camp giving Christian youths the opportunity to engage with each other. Pray that they will be a blessing to their communities.

## 06 Colombia

Pray for the Christian children in Colombia. Ask God to use them as a light in their communities, and that they will remain strong in their faith.

## 07 Good Friday

Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for our sin. Pray that persecuted Christians will be able to be a light in their communities this Easter so that more people can be saved.

## 08 Laos

Many believers have been disowned by their families and relatives. Ask God to provide them with new communities who will help them grow in their faith.

## 09 Easter Sunday

Praise God for Jesus' resurrection! Pray for Christians in countries where it is dangerous to celebrate Easter. Ask God for protection at church services on Easter Sunday.

## 10 Brunei

Many Christian students feel pressured at school and some no longer follow Jesus. Pray that they will return to Christ and stand strong in their faith.

## 11 Malaysia

Since the pandemic, there has been an increase in the number of domestic violence deaths. Pray that God will bring peace to the homes of families in Malaysia.

## 12 Mexico

Undocumented migrants travelling through Mexico face serious violations of their human rights. Ask God to protect those who need to leave their countries.

## 13 Vietnam

Many Christians are persecuted for their faith, especially those from non-dominant minorities. Pray that their faith will grow despite the persecution they face.

## 14 Indonesia

At a youth camp, many young people encountered Christ. Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to strengthen the hearts of the youth to share about God's love with others.

## 15 Nepal

Increasing trade deficit, rapidly declining foreign exchange reserve, and skyrocketing inflation have crippled Nepal's economy. Pray for those living in poverty.

## 16 Sri Lanka

Thank God for the church in Sri Lanka carrying out activities to spread Christ's love. Pray for the safety of churches and strengthened relationships with non-Christians.

## 17 Philippines

Rimna converted from Islam to Christianity and some of her family don't approve of her faith. Ask God to protect and sustain Rimna and others from Muslim backgrounds.

## 18 Arabian Peninsula

Recently, some converts from Islam to Christianity have been imprisoned. Pray for them to be strengthened in their suffering and to share the truth with other prisoners.

## 19 Israel and Palestine

Pray for the Christian minority, for peace in the Holy Land, and that all parties, including the international community, work together to bring equality for all people.

## 20 Myanmar

Some pastors have been arrested, wrongly accused and jailed. Pray for their release as well as good health and sustenance during their imprisonment.

## 21 Colombia

There are often trips to dangerous regions. Pray for opportunities for Open Doors' local partners to listen and encourage brothers and sisters in persecution.

## 22 Sri Lanka

Many believers and pastors in rural areas are struggling to make ends meet and have cut down to one daily meal. Pray that God will provide miraculously through His Church.

## 23 Maldives

There has been a rapid increase in drug abuse, particularly among young people between 16 and 30. Ask God to bring a positive influence in the lives of youth in the Maldives.

## 24 Brunei

Public Christian celebrations are prohibited as they are seen as potentially harming the Muslim faith. Pray for the churches to freely enjoy fellowship together.

## 25 Philippines

Miraj is a convert from a devout Muslim family and his father is currently in prison for charges related to drugs. Pray that Miraj will show God's love to his father.

## 26 Bangladesh

Christian students are persecuted and discriminated against by their teachers and their schoolmates. Pray that God would help them to deal with the issue wisely.

## 27 China

Religious laws continue to tighten and restrict the activities of many churches. Pray for creativity, wisdom, and boldness for Christians and churches in China.

## 28 Central Asia

Many Christians are struggling with no access to clean water and there is an urgent need for more wells. Ask God to provide clean water to Christians living in isolated areas.

## 29 Indonesia

Pray for the hearts of Muslim leaders to soften and accept religious differences. Ask God to increase their tolerance for Christians, and for Christians to show them Jesus.

## 30 Vietnam

There is a risk for Open Doors local partners in being detained and interrogated by authorities. Pray for joy, provision, and continued strength in all that they do.

\*Names changed for security purposes.