

Prayer Guide

August–September 2026

“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith.”

– 1 Corinthians 16:13

August

Underground Christians

01 Pray for wisdom and resilience for underground churches in places like China, Laos, Yemen, and Iran as they navigate intensified surveillance and pressure. Ask the Lord to provide creative ways to grow in their faith and to continue sharing the gospel.

02 During a police raid, Jinyi*’s husband, Zhang*, was imprisoned for his involvement in their house church, leaving her alone with two children. She asks, “Please pray for us. Our youth gatherings must remain underground. People are still overshadowed by persecution and remain fearful of gatherings.”

03 Zhang has recently returned from prison and is having trouble acclimating. Pray that God will comfort him and remind him of His promises to be “close to the broken-hearted” (Psalm 34:18).

04 Kanya* and Phonesay* have lost nearly everything for their faith, including their home in Laos. Still, they continue to worship in secret. Kanya asks: “Pray that whatever happens, we will stand firm and never deny Him.”

05 Pray for the children and youth of displaced house church leaders. Many are banned from school because their parents refuse to renounce their faith. Pray these children will grow in knowledge and faith.

06 Please pray for the underground student and youth groups throughout China. Ask God to protect and strengthen them with His mighty hand.

07 Today, pray for Open Doors’ presence ministry. May our partners be led by the Holy Spirit, grounded in truth, and filled with God’s love. Lord, let this ministry bring glory to You.

08 Pray for persecuted leaders and workers, such as Fuxi*, who serves ethnic minorities and faces the risk of surveillance and harsh measures. Ask God to grant her wisdom.

09 Pray with Ling* for perseverance. She’s an underground believer we met during a recent Open Doors discipleship training. In Southwest China, her family returned to their mountain village to share their faith.

10 Pastor Khoun*, a 59-year-old tribal believer and leader of a house church in Laos, has seen his home destroyed. But Pastor Khoun continues to press on. “The Bible teaches that nothing can harm me—not ghosts, black magic, poison, or others who want to hurt me,” he says. “I stand strong in my faith, and I know that my life is safe in Jesus.”

11 Today, pray that authorities will allow displaced church leaders to return to their homes. Pray for softened hearts and that authorities might see God’s love through these leaders’ witness.

12 Pray for endurance and protection for imprisoned underground pastors and church members. Ask God to comfort, strengthen, and provide for their families.

13 Pray for those who persecute underground believers. Ask God to lead them to encounter His loving kindness and saving grace.

14 Pray for strong discipleship and leadership ministries within underground churches, that they will produce faithful and obedient followers of Jesus.

15 Pray especially for the next generation in China, the country’s most vulnerable group of believers, that they may grow in their knowledge of God, and that He will raise up more workers to minister among them.

16 Pray for new underground converts, especially for the boldness to practice their faith. Pray their lives become living testimonies.

17 Satan has blinded the eyes of many in Laos and sown seeds of deception about Christianity. Ask God to break down these spiritual strongholds and replace lies with truth.

18 Praise God that leaders and believers in Laos have received training. May our local partners be used mightily as they train participants to examine biblical principles.

19 Pray also for leadership workshops focusing on women and children. Leaders are working together to strengthen teaching materials. Pray for their wisdom and discernment.

Colombia

20 Last year, Pastor Fredy* was shot and killed by an illegal armed group after refusing their demands. His wife and three children are still grieving deeply. Please pray for them.

21 Pray with 13 families forced to leave their community in Nariño, Colombia for trusting Jesus. Pray that these families will remain united and strengthen each other.

22 Pray for the displaced Church, where violence and criminal control have driven entire congregations from their homes. Pray for stability as these believers rebuild their homes and lives.

Sub-Saharan Africa

23 We recently spoke to Ruth* whose daughter and stepdaughter remain missing, captives in the 2014 attack on a Chibok girls’ school. She asks us to pray with her: “Brothers and sisters in Christ, help us with prayers... pray we will see our girls with our own eyes.”

24 Alheri* was 12 when Boko Haram fighters took her captive. She escaped and came to Open Doors’ trauma centre. Praise God! Alheri asks, “Pray that God will strengthen my faith and take away my dreams about Boko Haram.”

25 Meet 27-year-old Blessing. She’s a former captive of an extremist group and received trauma care from Open Doors. “I’ve learned to forgive,” she says. Ask God to perfect her healing.

26 In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the violence against majority-Christian communities has reached alarming proportions. Pray for the strengthening of the Church in the face of these attacks.

27 Pray with DRC leader Reverend Kitika: “We ask for the prayers of brothers and sisters across the world for the return of peace... so that we may continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

28 Praise God for justice today. In Nigeria, almost 400 terrorists linked to known extremist groups were convicted in a mass trial and received prison sentences ranging between five years to life in jail.

Sri Lanka

29 Pray with your sister, Sunisha*, for strength to forgive. She watched her brother burn her Bible and endured beatings. “God will not give me a trial I cannot bear,” she says.

30 Surrendering to Jesus has cost Jerusha* her family. Pray that our sister can reconcile with her father. He uses both bribery and harassment to compel her to return to her Buddhist roots.

31 Pray with Open Doors local partners for wisdom as they continue to visit Sunisha and Jerusha. They are exploring ways to support the women and their families.



House Church, China

September

Iran

01 Pray with imprisoned Iranian believers like 44-year-old Aida Najafloo. Pray she will experience Christ's presence in specific, unmistakable moments.

02 Pray with our field partners, for unity within the body of Christ in Iran and that division will not take root amid any chaos or confusion created by war or other external situations.

03 Pray for believers in Iran. May the Lord preserve them and help them remain steadfast in their faith amid challenging circumstances.

04 An Iranian Christian shared this prayer. Please pray with him today: “Father, we pray that many in Iran and across the Middle East would turn to Christ, finding in Him the true foundation.”

05 Moussa*, one of our partners, reports that the government has intensified arrests. “We must continue to pray earnestly for their protection and safety,” he says.

06 Iran's intelligence has texted people, warning them that their social media activity is being monitored. Pray that our family will walk wisely.

Mexico

07 Pray that believers who have suffered in obscurity, those intimidated by organised crime, rejected within their families, or forced to practice their faith in secret, will know they are not forgotten.

08 Ricardo* was a coffee farmer in Chiapas. When violence forced him to flee, he lost everything. Open Doors provided a sewing machine and training. Praise God that Ricardo now has a small business as a tailor.

09 Open Doors' local partners ask, “Pray that the global Church would advocate for the persecuted Church in Mexico, to speak out on their behalf, to amplify their voices, and to stand with them in both prayer and action.”

10 Pray with Lía*, forced to flee her home and small shop in Chiapas after refusing to join a cartel war. Today, through your support, Lía was able to buy another shop. She asks us to pray for those she left behind: “Pray they will come to know God, and He will protect them from all evil.”

North Korea

11 The Kim regime publicly declared that underground churches are near extinction in the country. Pray with existing groups who follow Jesus in utter secrecy.

12 A North Korean Christian refugee reassures us that a large underground Church still exists. He encourages us by saying, “Your prayers are helping the underground Church in North Korea to grow.”

13 Reportedly, scammers in North Korea are exploiting families searching for loved ones who have been forcibly repatriated from China. Ask God to protect Christian families from these schemes.

14 Pray for North Koreans currently in Open Doors' safe houses outside the country. Pray they will see the love of Jesus and trust in Him

Cuba

15 Cuba's ongoing power outages have severely affected daily life, leaving hospitals unable to function, limiting access to clean water, and forcing schools to close. Pray for provision in scarcity.

16 Praise God with Cuban Pastor Sairo*. He says, "Church services continue... We trust in God's promises. Even in the most difficult times, we have seen His hand."

17 In this desperate climate, protests have emerged in several cities. Pray for peaceful and effective protests. May God open paths toward solutions in crisis.

18 "The situation is very harsh," says Pastor Ezequiel*, but he finds strength in your prayers. "We're not letting this affect us. We have God's words and promises to us."

Sudan

19 Sudan is now more than three years into its deadly civil war. Pray for this bloodshed to end. Pray today for the grieving loved ones of the 400,000+ Sudanese killed in the war.

20 More than 11 million people have been displaced. Remember families, especially children, living in overcrowded displacement camps with poor conditions.

21 Pray for church leaders like Pastor Tariq*, who had a large congregation in Khartoum before the war. He continues to look for ways to minister. "We are ready to share the Word of God," he says.

22 Because of their faith, Christians are often the last to receive humanitarian aid in this crisis. Pray that God will provide for their needs and remind them that He is their comfort and peace.

Bangladesh

23 The influence of local Islamic groups in the country continues to increase. Please pray for new Bangladeshi believers who are suddenly isolated from their family and community.

24 Pray with Hosen*, 34, who was kicked out of home and was forced to leave his wife and children because of his faith. He needs our prayer and support.

25 Pray with our brother Mothy*. An influential Islamic political leader came to his house and damaged his home. He asks, "Please pray for our safety and security."

Honduras

26 After a corrupt election, ask God to guide the country's new government to act with integrity and transparency. Pray that He will restore trust among the nation's people.

27 Pray with the Church in Honduras where in several areas, violence from criminal groups has increased insecurity and targeted church leaders. These church leaders are often the ones who influence the youth to stay away from criminal recruitment.

28 Pray with Norma*, a Christian leader whose son has been missing for almost a year. Our partners are counselling and encouraging her. Ask God to strengthen Norma and bring her son home safely.

Philippines

29 Pray with Pria*, a house church leader. Her husband has strictly forbidden her from attending church. Pray for safe and encouraging meetings with Open Doors local partners.

30 Praise God that our partners are leading marriage enrichment programs for Christian couples from Muslim backgrounds. Pray for resilience for families who have lost their homes and livelihoods because they chose to follow Jesus.

***Names changed for security purposes**



OPEN DOORS LIVE

Faith from the field.

Stories from a persecuted believer told up close and personal. Coming to a city near you.

Brisbane Sydney Melbourne

For more information, please visit

opendoors.org.au/live

Or contact us at churchteam@od.org.au

See you there!