

PRAYER GUIDE

August – October 2021

AUGUST

01 Vietnam

Praise God a believer, Dhon,* refused to renounce his faith when his community pressured him. Pray he will continue to see God provide for all his needs.

02 Central Asia

Oram's* employers have been threatening to fire him for his faith. Please pray for his emotional health and wisdom as he seeks a solution.

03 Ethiopia

Local villagers have threatened to kill Haman* after he was baptised in February. Please pray for his safety, and for his family and church.

04 North Korea

Pray for partners in China working with North Korean Christians. Pray God will pour out His wisdom as they seek safe ways to reach the right people at the right time.

05 Bangladesh

Praise God Open Doors' partners are holding adult literacy training, where they educate those who cannot read and disciple vulnerable Christians.

06 Cameroon

Extremists pose a threat to churches in Cameroon. Pray congregations will find comfort in God's unchanging love.

07 Philippines

Praise God youth discipleship training has continued online. Pray over leaders as they seek effective ways to upskill local believers to strengthen the church.

08 India

New anti-conversion laws in the state of Uttar Pradesh have added pressure on the Christian community. Pray believers will continue to boldly evangelise.

09 Arabian Peninsula

Praise God He has made a way for a network of underground house churches to receive discipleship and leadership development. Pray it will be a blessing.

10 Myanmar

Pray for our local partners training up entrepreneurs. Pray it will lead persecuted Christians to fruitful work and a sustainable income.

11 Nepal

Some missionaries were recently deported for sharing the gospel. Pray God's Word will prevail and continue to spread, despite anti-conversion laws.

12 Syria

Many young people leave this war-torn country. Pray God will equip believers to remain in communities that desperately need the hope of Jesus.

13 Bhutan

Christian children are sometimes rejected from schools because of their faith. Pray these children may find opportunities for the education they need.

14 China

Praise God our local partners completed a training course for youth pastors. Pray more courses upskilling new leaders may go ahead soon.

15 Palestinian Territories

Pray that Christians in Gaza will have the courage and faith to share the gospel despite challenging circumstances.

16 India

"Soon after the lockdown was imposed, we could see that poor people were on the verge of starvation," Aman said. "So, we started helping with ready-made food, and then we got support from your organisation, and we started the distribution of groceries.

"The people were discouraged and anxious, but they were looking to the Lord for answers. When we reached them with help, that helped their faith. They were very happy and were praising God and thanking us again and again.

"Initially, I did not have any fear as we carried out our work, but seeing the aftermath of this disease, I became more cautious. The situation now is critical. We are following all protocols and safety precautions as much as possible."

Please pray for safety for our local Indian partners and for healing across the nation.

17 Sri Lanka

Reports of persecution are rising, particularly in rural areas. Pray the Sri Lankan church will be strengthened amidst opposition.

18 Guinea

19-year-old Rachel* was forced to flee when her family discovered her faith. Pray for protection and safe opportunities for her to return home.

19 Iraq

Praise God for the opportunities Iraqi believers have received to share the message of the gospel. Pray the Word of God will continue to spread.

20 India

Pray for safety and protection over all Open Doors partners and their families as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Pray for healing over the nation.

21 Libya

Mariam* is struggling without fellowship with any other believers. Pray she can connect with other secret Christians and have safe opportunities to meet.

22 Laos

Capor,* his wife, and their five children were kicked out of their home for accepting Jesus. Pray God will bless Capor's new farm so he may provide for his family.

23 Turkmenistan

Pray the Turkmen church will be able to access the Bible and other Christian material in the local language to grow in their knowledge and faith.

24 Burkina Faso

Praise God that Salamata* could attend a trauma workshop run through local partners after he was attacked by Islamic extremists and forced to flee his home.

25 Tajikistan

Pray for new Christians who convert from Islam and experience pressure from their families. Pray they will find community and know they aren't alone.

26 Central African Republic

The country is overwhelmed by political instability and violence. Pray the church will be equipped to share the gospel and aid those in need.

27 Brunei

Pray for Elora*, a Christian with a heart for young people in Brunei. Pray for wisdom and boldness as she shares the gospel with her friends.

28 Malaysia

Pray for believers who are forced to meet in secret. Pray God will bless them with safe and meaningful opportunities for worship and fellowship.

29 Vietnam

Vietnamese authorities have banned Dep's* Bible study from meeting together. Please pray for the Lord's guidance and wisdom in this situation.

30 Somalia

Ub's* husband divorced her when she converted to Christianity, leaving her alone with their nine children. Please pray for comfort and provision.

31 Mauritania

Those who convert to Christianity can receive the death penalty. Pray new believers are reminded their freedom in Christ is far greater than their fear of the law.

SEPTEMBER

01 North Korea

Please pray over children in North Korea. Pray God would bless them with the message of the gospel and draw their hearts towards Him.

02 China

Praise God Brother Marcus* has been released from prison. After six years away from his family, pray for a smooth transition and protection from authorities.

03 Bangladesh

Pray local churches would be well equipped through persecution preparation training. Pray they can hold on to Jesus in the face of persecution.

04 Nigeria

In their attempt to escape after being captured by extremists, Hannatu's* two children were fatally shot. Please pray over her mental health and wellbeing.

05 India

Open Doors' local partners are currently planning for upcoming children's programs. Pray God would bless these activities and the families involved.

06 Syria

Pray for perseverance for young girls like Ranim* who are forbidden from attending church by their families. Pray they will stand firm in faith.

07 Cameroon

Pray God would be changing the hearts of those in extremist groups. Pray many would come to know and follow Jesus.

08 Myanmar

Pray for peace and stability in the wake of the military coup. Pray the church will serve as a source of hope for the weary and strength for the weak.

09 Brunei

Pray God's will would be done through Brunei's authorities. Pray God would pour out His wisdom to the nation's leaders, including the Sultan.

10 Iran

Many Christians are currently imprisoned for their faith. Pray they will remember the love of Jesus and know He is worth every sacrifice.

11 Sri Lanka

Several survivors of the 2019 Sri Lankan church bombings are still undergoing surgery for their injuries. Pray for physical and emotional healing.

12 Saudi Arabia

Persecution has scattered the church, leaving many new Christians isolated and searching for fellowship. Pray they will find faithful mentors.

13 Burkina Faso

Isaiah struggled to feed his family after they fled from extremists. Praise God they received emergency relief from Open Doors' local partners.

14 Morocco

Moroccan law criminalises "shaking the faith of a Muslim". Pray the transformative message of the gospel will continue to spread.

15 India

Members of Raju's* household are refusing to speak to him because of his faith in Jesus. Pray for opportunities to restore his relationship with his family.

16 Philippines

Pray for wisdom over Open Doors' local partners running youth camps as they adapt to COVID-19 restrictions and the changing needs of the local church.

17 Kuwait

Pray for the many expatriate Christians who work and live in Kuwait. Ask God to give these believers opportunities for fellowship and evangelism.

18 Sudan

Praise God for the progress Sudan has made in protecting people's right to freedom of religion. Pray for diligence to see the changes through.

19 Bhutan

Pray for perseverance for our local partners as COVID-19 restrictions make it challenging to organise programs for persecuted believers.

20 Kenya

Leah's* teenage daughter was attacked last year. Praise God their family accessed legal aid, counselling, and education from local partners.

21 Arabian Peninsula

Pray for new energy, creativity and wisdom over church leaders who are struggling to navigate lockdowns and persecution. Pray for fruitful ministries.

22 Colombia

Communities in the city of Tumaco face frequent threats and violence from criminal groups. Pray those suffering will find hope and comfort in God.

23 Central Asia

Chalpona's* two sons are pressuring her to renounce her faith. Pray their hearts would be softened and their love for Chalpona would be stronger than their fear.

24 Myanmar

Myanmar is in the midst of the longest civil war in the world. Thousands of Christians have been displaced. Pray for peace and provision for those in need.

25 Vietnam

Poh's* father violently attacked him when he discovered Poh's Christian faith. Poh was forced to flee his home. Pray for forgiveness and reconciliation.

26 Comoros

The increasing pressure on Sylvie* to send her daughter to an Islamic school has become so great she has withdrawn from her community. Pray for strength.

27 Lebanon

Instability and conflict have created an atmosphere of distress and loss. Pray believers would be reminded of the hope and freedom they have in Jesus.

28 China

Authorities have been calling many Christians, including Sister Zhang*, for questioning and interrogation. Pray believers will stand firm in faith.

29 Democratic Republic Of The Congo

Pray for sustenance over widows and children struggling to survive. Pray God would care for their needs and comfort them in their suffering.

30 Afghanistan

The Islamic State and Taliban continue to have a strong and violent presence. Pray God would be at work in their hearts, drawing them nearer to Him.

OCTOBER

01 Pakistan

Pray for those who persecute Christians in Pakistan. Pray they will become bold and faithful believers themselves, knowing Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

02 Laos

A local partner has asked for prayer over the Akha tribe. Pray God would raise up a new generation of faithful leaders to make and mature new disciples.

03 Uzbekistan

Authorities recently shut down three underground churches. Pray for safe opportunities for Christians to meet.

04 Algeria

Algerian authorities have closed over 10 churches in just a few years. Pray Algerian authorities would see the church as a blessing rather than a threat.

05 Maldives

Pray the Lord will be transforming the hearts of government officials, especially President Solih. Pray God would use them as vessels for His good plan.

06 Oman

Pray those who leave Islam to follow Jesus will be strengthened in their faith. Pray for endurance, even in the face of persecution and pressure.

07 India

Hindu extremists recently attacked Pastor Sabu*. Pray he will not be discouraged but convicted of the need to share the love of Jesus in his community.

08 Central Asia

Timur* is an Open Doors local partner in Central Asia. He delivers aid and discipleship to vulnerable Christian communities. He risks his freedom and safety every day to deliver your generous support to the persecuted church.

He said, "We are very thankful that, even though we never met personally, we feel your presence and love. There will be someday in heaven when we will look back on the joys and on the work we could do together."

"I want to ask you to pray for all Christians around the world to have wisdom from God and unity in these times, on how we should go forward and be salt and light where we are located.

Story continues on next page.

“Secondly, for our team, I also pray for wisdom because we are in a period of tuning up our methods and activities, looking for new opportunities, how to do even more for God in our regions.

“We still have a few people [in our team] who are infected with COVID-19, so if you could pray for these members of our team to recover, that would be also very good.”

09 Saudi Arabia

Praise God the Saudi Arabian church is growing. Pray believers will be the salt and light in communities that desperately need the hope of Jesus.

10 North Korea

Pray for Open Doors' local partners as they provide supplies to North Korean Christians through networks in China. Pray their trips will be a success.

11 Iran

Pray for wisdom and guidance over those who advocate for the rights of Christians, both within Iran and outside the country.

12 Indonesia

Training has recently taken place to equip new Christian leaders. Pray participants may use what they have learnt to bless their local community.

13 Syria

Families have been scattered by conflict and violence. Pray God would make a way for them to be reunited and their relationships restored.

14 Colombia

Pray over our local partners who are running biblical training programs in dangerous regions across Colombia. Pray for the safety of all involved.

15 Nepal

Nepal is struggling under political instability. Pray government leaders would find Jesus and serve their nation with wisdom and compassion.

16 Kuwait

Pray for detained believers who have converted from Islam to Christianity. Pray God will give them boldness and perseverance to stand strong.

17 Yemen

Pray that secret believers and their house churches would be able to operate and support each other as they endure discrimination and persecution.

18 Vietnam

Praise God 18 believers attended a Sunday school teacher training session. Pray God may use them to teach the next generation of His love.

19 Cameroon

20-year-old Habiba started following Jesus last year. Pray her father will allow her to attend church and seek fellowship with other believers.

20 Iraq

In Iraq, many consider following Jesus an act of treason. Pray that believers in Iraq will place their identity in Jesus above all else.

21 Sri Lanka

Pastor Jeba* leads a church in a hostile area. Pray that despite constant disruptions, he will lead his congregation with patience, strength, and wisdom.

22 Nigeria

Nigeria is the most violent place to live as a Christian. Pray God will comfort those who have been displaced and are experiencing trauma.

23 Morocco

Pray God will reach the hearts of the country's leaders and that they will be a vessel for His glory. Pray for a new revival throughout the nation.

24 North Korea

Praise God that despite the risk, North Korean Christians continue to share the gospel with others.

25 Arabian Peninsula

Many secret believers are searching for Christian relationships. Pray God will provide opportunities for connection with other believers.

26 Burkina Faso

Rising cases of extremism have forced entire Christian communities out of some areas. Pray they will receive the resources they need to survive.

27 China

Brother Yusup* hopes to reconnect with young believers he led to Jesus. Pray God will make a way despite a crackdown on Christian communities in the area.

28 Palestinian Territories

Most Christians still meet for fellowship online. Pray that even in isolation, they will not feel alone and will continue encouraging one another in the faith.

29 India

Many Christians have been kicked out of their village and banned from using community wells. Pray for provision as they struggle to access clean water.

30 Algeria

Harassment, beatings, threats, and arrests are common for believers. Pray for safety and conviction to continue following Jesus, no matter the cost.

31 China

Pray that the wisdom and testimony of those who have endured persecution will strengthen the faith of the next generation of Christians in China.

*Names changed for security purposes.