



Prayer for the Persecuted Church

“Comfort, comfort my people,” says your God.” Isaiah 40:1

“Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.” Hebrews 13:3

Global Watchdog Open Doors reports that in just the last year...

- Over 365 million Christians live in places where they experience high levels of persecution and discrimination.
- 4,998 Christians were killed for their faith.
- 14,766 churches and other Christian buildings were attacked.
- 295,120 believers detained without trial, arrested, sentenced, or imprisoned.

These numbers are heart-breaking. And sadly, they do not tell the whole story.

General Pray:

- Whatever their circumstances, God will give persecuted Christians the right words. (Ephesians 6:19-20)
- That persecuted Christians will understand and find peace in the sufficiency of God’s grace, even in their weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- That Christians facing hardship will draw from a source of power larger than themselves. (2 Corinthians 1:7-9)
- God be present in their hardship, protecting them according to His will.
- That their witness would inspire those who seek to harm them.

Sudan

Persecution Type: Islamic oppression, Dictatorial paranoia, Organized corruption & crime, Clan Oppression, Ethno-religious hostility.

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Presidential Republic

Leader: Gen. Abd-al-Fatah al-Burhan Abd-al-Rahman

How You Can Pray for Sudan

- Please pray for an end to the violence in Sudan and for provision for Christians who have been displaced.
- Pray for strength and protection for brave believers who risk so much to serve others during the conflict.
- Pray that the positive steps towards religious freedom will not be undone, but built upon.

Iran

Persecution Type: Islamic oppression, and Dictatorial paranoia, Clan oppression, Christian denominational protectionism.

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Theocratic Republic

Leader: Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Hoseini-Khamenei

How You Can Pray for Iran

- Pray for secret converts from Islam in Iran. Pray they would find fellowship and that God would protect them from arrest and imprisonment.
- Ask God to change the hearts of the Iranian government, that they would allow freedom for all religions.
- Praise God that the church in Iran is growing! Ask God to continue to pour out His Spirit on Iranian believers.

Afghanistan

Persecution Type: Islamic oppression, Dictatorial paranoia, Clan oppression.

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Islamic Emirate

Leader: Hibatullah Akhundzada

How You Can Pray for Nigeria

- Please pray that secret believers will be protected from harm—and they will sense the prayers of their brothers and sisters around the world.
- Ask God to touch the hearts of the Taliban leaders, and any other extremist who would oppress Christians. Pray that God would reveal the truth of Jesus to every person who opposes Him.
- Pray for Afghan refugees. Many are in countries where it's still difficult to follow Jesus—and difficult to live comfortably. Ask God to help refugees find relief, and for the surrounding countries to allow refugees to work, attend school and worship freely.

India

Persecution Type: Religious nationalism, Dictatorial paranoia, Ethno-religious hostility, Clan oppression.

Main Religion: Hinduism

Government: Federal Parliamentary Republic

Leader: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

How You Can Pray for Pakistan

- The world was horrified by the violence in Manipur State in mid-2023. Ask God to help bring about healing and lasting peace in this troubled region.
- Pray that Hindu nationalists would accept Christians as fellow Indians and allow Indians of all faiths to flourish.
- Ask God to protect and grow His Church in every part of India.