



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.

Congo

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression

Main Religion: Christianity

Government: Semi-President Republic

Leader: President Felix Tshisekedi

How You Can Pray for Congo

- The violence in the eastern part of the DRC is staggering. Pray that God's hurting people will know that He is near.
- So many Christians have lost everything and have been forced to flee their homes. Pray these displaced followers of Jesus will find stability and hope.
- Despite the ongoing attacks on mostly Christian communities, people continue to come to faith in Christ in eastern DRC. Pray for their faith to grow strong and that they will be well disciplined.

Bhutan

Persecution Type: Religious Nationalism

Main Religion: Buddhism

Government: Constitutional Monarchy

Leader: King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck

How You Can Pray for Bhutan

- Pray for believers in Bhutan who can only attend churches that exist in a legal grey area. Pray they will be able to meet together to encourage one another (Hebrews 10:25), no matter what.
- Ask that God will protect and preserve believers who have converted from Buddhism. Many experience rejection from their families, pray these believers will see that they have a new family in Christ who prays and stands with them.
- Christians can be denied citizenship and other civic rights in Bhutan. Pray that God will help these believers find their worth and citizenship in Him.

Mozambique

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression, Dictatorial Paranoia, Clan Oppression, Organized Corruption and Crime

Main Religion: Christianity

Government: President Republic

Leader: President Filipe Jacinto NYUSI

How You Can Pray for Mozambique

- Pray for protection for believers in northern Mozambique as the region remains unstable and vulnerable to attacks from extremist groups.
- Please pray that God will comfort and heal Christians who are severely traumatised because of the violent attacks.
- Pray for Open Doors partners who work in Mozambique to be protected as they seek to strengthen the faith of believers.

Kazakhstan

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression, Dictatorial Paranoia, and Clan Oppression

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Presidential Republic

Leader: President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

How You Can Pray for Kazakhstan

- Pray for Christians who can be targeted for violations of Kazakhstan's Religion Law. Ask God to protect churches from misuse of these regulations.
- The government of Kazakhstan regularly monitors church leaders. Ask God to protect His servants.
- Many believers in Kazakhstan have trouble getting regular access to Bibles and Christian literature. Pray that God's Word will find its way to every believer in the country.