Open Doors PRAYER CALENDAR



Friday 1 I North Korea – People in North Korea face pressing needs for their survival. Please pray that they will be reached with food and medicine through Open Doors networks in China, especially during the winter.

Saturday 2 | Colombia - Colombia's peace treaty with illegal armed groups is not yet a reality. Violence is still a part of life and pastors find themselves in the crosshairs. Ask God to protect church leaders and help them to serve Him despite the danger.

**Sunday 3 | Cuba** – Pray that Cuba's leaders would allow churches to meet openly and legally. For Christians who have to meet in house churches, ask God to help them to be wise and for their fellowship to glorify Him.

Monday 4 | Yemen – Sadly Yemen has been ravaged by war in recent years, leaving many Yemenis as refugees. Amidst this difficult situation, there is an opportunity to evangelize in camps. Pray that people who hear about Jesus in camps will become disciples. Pray that amidst the growing challenges, God will continue to give Christians in Yemen the opportunities and means to share the gospel.

**Tuesday 5 | Mexico** – Mexico is ranked 3rd in the world for criminality according to the Global Organized Crime Index. Pray that God may move in the most dangerous areas so that Christians can profess their faith.

Wednesday 6 I Nigeria – There have been ongoing attacks on Christian communities in the middle belt of Nigeria. Many have lost their lives in the onslaught. Pray for the victims of violence and their families, ask for hope, healing and restoration. Ask God to bring stability to the parts of Nigeria where militants seem to attack with impunity. Pray for order and an end to the violence.

Thursday 7 I Nepal – Pray for those Christians who have been rejected by their families because they follow Jesus. Ask God to help these believers know they have a worldwide family of God.

Friday 8 I Women – Today is International Women's Day. Christian women in many countries are often at a high risk of abuse for the faith. This usually comes in the form of sexual violence, forced marriage and trafficking. Please pray for women and girls who are vulnerable to attack.

Saturday 9 I Malaysia – Pray for peace and tolerance among various ethnic and religious communities in Malaysia and that division and partiality will no longer have a foothold in this nation. In addition, let us continue to pray for religious freedom so that all citizens can practice their faith without fear of discrimination or persecution.

## **RAMADAN BEGINS**

Sunday 10 I Ramadan – Today marks the beginning of Ramadan, a month of daytime fasting and prayer for Muslims around the world. As Muslims seek to gain eternal life, may they encounter Christ, the true giver of eternal life.



Monday 11 I Central African Republic – Ask God to preserve His people who risk violence to follow Him, particularly in areas where they are targets of extremists. Pray these believers would be protected.

Tuesday 12 | Iran - Praise God that the church in Iran is growing! Ask God to continue to pour out His Spirit on Iranian believers.

Wednesday 13 | Eritrea – Imprisoned Christians in Eritrea's extensive prison network are often tortured and medical treatment is withheld when they are sick. Pray that God's Spirit will be their comfort and companion in prison.

Thursday 14 | The World – In parts of the world, Islamic extremism is on the rise. It's gaining ground in Asia, and extremist attacks are growing across sub-Saharan Africa. Ask the Lord to thwart the plans of those seeking violence, and to strengthen His church in these regions.

Friday 15 | Myanmar – Thank God for the courage of Christians who continue to follow Jesus even after the military coup two years ago. Ask Him to sustain His people who risk so much from the military leaders.

Saturday 16 I Kyrgyzstan – Even though their relatives are against them going to church and practicing their faith, Mahri\* (24) and her widowed mother attended a house church. When her mother passed away, Mahri had to face persecution from her family all by herself. She is forbidden from practicing Christianity or meeting with other believers. She is also being kept from going to school. This has been going on for over five years. Going to church is a big risk for her. She is exhausted from all the scrutiny. We ask that you pray for God to intervene in her situation and open doors for her to practice her faith freely. Pray also for her education.

**Sunday 17 | Kazakhstan** – Pray for believers in Kazakhstan to have access to Bibles and Christian literature to help them grow in their faith.

Monday 18 | Brunei – Pray that the churches in Brunei will be united and cooperative as they serve the Lord. Pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire more people, especially youth, to study God's Word deeply, understand it, and put it into practice.

Tuesday 19 | Open Doors Canada – Today, Open Doors Canada staff will be presenting the 2024 World Watch List to Members of Parliament in Ottawa. Pray that our MPs will be receptive and moved to action to support our brothers and sisters around the world who suffer because of their faith.

Wednesday 20 | Libya - In society's eyes, there can be no Christians in Libya, and sharing the Christian faith is illegal. Pray for Jesus to touch the hearts of Libyans, despite oppression from those in power.

Thursday 21 | Kenya - Pray for Kenyan Christians who live in places where the Islamic militant group al-Shabab is active. Ask God to protect His people.

Friday 22 | Somalia – Somalia has ranked near the top of the World Watch List for years. Pray that believers who risk everything to follow Jesus will have the perseverance to continue to live for Christ in such a hard place.

Saturday 23 | Indonesia – Though Christians worship freely in some parts of Indonesia, believers are forced into the shadows in other regions. Ask God to protect these secret communities of Christians.

Sunday 24 | Libya – Please pray that God will give Christians in Libya the strength to persevere. They face immense pressure. Pray that they will encourage and support one another. Pray that Christians will have the freedom to practice their faith openly in Libya. Ask God to give the Libyan church the ability to meet.

Monday 25 | Bangladesh - Pray for healing for Bangladeshi Christians who have been attacked or physically abused for their faith. Ask God to bind up their wounds, both physical and emotional.

Tuesday 26 | Afghanistan – Ask God to touch the hearts of the Taliban leaders and any other extremists who would oppress Christians. Pray that God reveals the truth of Jesus to every person who opposes Him.

Wednesday 27 | Malaysia - Please pray for the newly elected state leaders in Malaysia. Pray that they will govern with integrity, upholding the rights of all citizens and protecting individual liberties. Pray that they will work to foster religious freedom and promote unity and understanding.

Thursday 28 | Algeria - Pray for Christians who are accused of "shaking the faith of a Muslim," which is illegal in Algeria. Pray these believers would not be unfairly targeted, and pray that unjust laws like these will be overturned.

Friday 29 | Central Asia - After discovering that he had become a Christian, Ahmad's\* relatives, friends, and neighbours began to shun him. Please pray for his faith to be strengthened even in the face of pressure and danger. Pray for the Lord to touch the hearts of Ahmad's relatives, friends, and neighbours. Pray for God's protection to be upon Ahmad and keep him safe from more attacks. Also, pray that the Lord will continue to work through him, bringing the gospel to the local people.

Saturday 30 | Maldives - After the presidential election in September of last year, the Maldives is now led by Dr. Mohamed Muizzu. Considering his previous work, many believe that he has plans to build relations with China to improve the economic landscape in the country. Pray for the future of Maldives and more freedoms for our brothers and sisters.

Sunday 31 | Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) -Christians in eastern DRC are targeted by Islamic militant groups like the Allied Democratic Forces, which has ties to the Islamic State. Pray that God would protect His people from violent attacks.

\*Names changed for security reasons.

## WHAT IS RAMADAN?

Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, a time that all Muslims fast and pray from sunrise to sunset. It is believed that there are greater spiritual rewards during Ramadan. This year, the month of fasting will be from March 10 to April 9, beginning and ending with the appearance of the crescent moon.

It is important for us as Christians to pray for Muslims at all times, but especially during Ramadan, as Muslims seek to earn eternal life. Pray that they will encounter Christ, the true giver of eternal life that is not earned but freely given to those who believe in Him as their Saviour.

## Open Doors

STRENGTHENING CHRISTIANS WHERE FAITH COSTS THE MOST

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