

continued

## Churches



*And He is the head of the body, the Church ...  
– Colossians 1:18a*

### January 20 | MOROCCO

The Moroccan government is monitoring Christians. Pray for our brothers and sisters to be wise in how to deal with this kind of surveillance.

### January 21 | MIDDLE EAST

Churches in the Middle East are eager to explore online opportunities to be present with a friendly face or to serve their city or country. Pray that believers will find fellowship.

### January 22 | ALGERIA

Continue praying for the situation of the Algerian church. Since the end of 2017, the church experienced an ongoing wave of pressure, which weighs heavily on church leaders.

### January 23 | INDIA

Christian villagers in a rural district have been told that one church will be closed down every week because Christians have been “destroying” local tradition and culture by “luring” others to Christianity. Pray with believers there.

## Women



*My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.  
– Psalm 73:26*

### January 24 | CENTRAL ASIA

Rina’s\* faith in Jesus is becoming stronger! She has chosen to devote her life to Him and get baptized. Please pray for her safety—she’s in danger every time she visits Christians.

### January 25 | KYRGYZSTAN

Mila’s\* parents and brother are Muslims. Recently, her brother severely beat her because she left their family’s

religion. But Mila trusts God. Pray with this bold sister in Christ today.

### January 26 | NIGERIA

A Christian woman was recently taken away from her Christian husband and forced to marry a Muslim man. Pray for justice.

### January 27 | TUNISIA

Please pray with Halima.\* Her Muslim husband kicked her out of the house when she led her 15-year-old daughter to Christ. Halima’s daughter remains with her father.

## Believers



*We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.  
– Romans 6:4*

### January 28 | TANZANIA

A young man has been falsely accused of desecrating the Quran after he converted to Christianity. Pray with this young man for justice and quick release.

### January 29 | NIGERIA

Remember 15-year-old Leah Sharibu, who was kidnapped by Boko Haram. Leah remains in Boko Haram captivity while the rest were freed because she refused to deny Christ.

### January 30 | LIBYA

Today, pray with African believers who live in Libya. They are under immense cultural pressure because of their skin color as well as their Christian faith.

### January 31 | IRAN

Many believers in Iran are dealing with the effects of trauma from physical, psychological or sexual abuse. Please pray with them—that they will accept the counseling Open Doors provides and find healing.

*\*Names changed to protect identities*



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JANUARY 2019



# PRAYER FORCE ALERT

Prayer request bulletin for persecuted Christians worldwide



YES, AND ALL THAT WILL LIVE GODLY IN CHRIST JESUS SHALL SUFFER PERSECUTION.

(2 TIMOTHY 3:12)

*\*Representative photo used to protect identity.*

As we look ahead to 2019, Open Doors is excited to partner with you to come alongside persecuted believers in a number of countries. We ask you to pray with us about this year's vision focused on strengthening the Church in the Middle East, Nigeria, India, Colombia and Egypt, among others.

### January 1 | HOPE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

Pastor Musa\* has now opened a Center of Hope in Safita, Syria, focusing on children. Open Doors continues to partner with churches for more Centers of Hope in Syria, so please join us in praying for these efforts!

### January 2 | NIGERIA

Seven-year-old Rashida is scared and tired, as she recovers from the physical and emotional wounds suffered during recent Fulani militant attacks. Pray with her.

### January 3 | INDIA

In India, Christian persecution continues to spread and intensify. Pray with Indian Christians like Preeti\* and her husband who were tied up and beaten because they refused to participate in a Hindu ritual.

### January 4 | COLOMBIA

Guerillas murdered both of Sofia's parents, who were training to be pastors. Pray that Open Doors' Children's Center continues to be a training ground for many other Christian children suffering from persecution.

### January 5 | EGYPT

An Egyptian court handed down one-year suspended jail sentences to the 15 attackers of a local church, with a fine equivalent to \$28 each. This kind of injustice is rampant throughout Egypt. Pray with us for the church in Egypt.

### January 6 | BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Open Doors was founded by Brother Andrew who began his ministry to the persecuted church by smuggling "illegal" Bibles to believers. We continue to carry on this ministry, putting Scripture into the hands of believers where it's illegal or difficult to purchase a Bible.

### January 7 | NORTH KOREA

Today, remember our ministry partners that are discipling young North Korean women who were trafficked into China and sold as slaves. Pray that God would bless this ministry and continue to open the hearts of these women.

## Pastors



*And I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.*  
— Jeremiah 3:15

### January 8 | INDIA

Recently, a Hindu extremist group attacked a pastor and his church. Please pray with our brothers and sisters throughout India that they will continue to stand strong in their faith.

### January 9 | MEXICO

When a hitman entered his home, Pastor Polo Lopez could have easily become part of the grim death statistics in Ciudad Juarez, but he fought and escaped. Please pray for him and his family as he recovers.

### January 10 | IRAN

Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani is no stranger to Iran's inhumane prison system. He was again violently arrested and sentenced to 10 years for propagating house churches. He has reportedly been taken to Tehran's notorious Evin Prison. Pray for protection, strength and comfort for him and his family.

### January 11 | UKRAINE

During a worship meeting, a church was recently raided—the latest in a series of raids on religious communities. Pray that this church community will stand strong together, drawing on each other for support.

## Refugees



*But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.*  
— Philippians 3:20

### January 12 | NIGERIA

Recently, Open Doors visited and brought food and supplies to displaced Christians in makeshift camps who fled when Fulani militants attacked and wiped out 12 Christian villages near the city of Jos. Pray for peace in the region and for God's continued provision.

### January 13 | YEMEN

Yemen is facing the worst human-made humanitarian crisis of our time. Pray for relief for the 22 million people in need of aid, and for the Christians who live in these conditions even as they are persecuted for their faith.

### January 14 | LEBANON

Approximately one in three people in Lebanon are refugees. Pray that the Lebanese church will continue reaching out to these refugees and that through this interaction these refugee families would come to know Christ.

## Discipleship



*Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me."*  
— Matthew 16:24

### January 15 | CHINA

Former Muslim Amin\* recently moved back to his hometown with his wife to share the gospel. The response has been amazing. Pray that God continues to open Muslims' hearts to the gospel.

### January 16 | GUINEA

Diarraye was born into a Muslim family but accepted the Lord last year. She told her Muslim husband, who told her to choose between Jesus and being married to him. She chose Jesus. Remember Diarraye today.

### January 17 | SAUDI ARABIA

Peter\* lives in a remote area in Saudi Arabia. He has come to faith but, for two months, has not responded to invitations to meet with a local Christian. Will you pray that the Spirit reminds him of Jesus' love for him?

### January 18 | YEMEN

Pray for young Muslim people in the country to have visions and dreams when they are searching for answers and seeking truth.

### January 19 | SYRIA

Violence and heartache are front and center in Syria. But a lot of good is happening, too. Open Doors has started two discipleship trainings for Kurdish Syrians. Praise God for His fruitful work among His people!