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Evangelism under fire

At least 10 of India's 28 states have passed anti-conversion laws, making it illegal to convert from one religion to another. Christians there are often falsely accused of offering bribes to lure people to Christianity. Other World Watch List countries have blasphemy laws and apostasy laws that, like anti-conversion laws, ultimately work toward intimidating those who want to change their religion.

August 21

Pray for the repeal of anti-conversion laws in India as they continue to spread from state to state.

August 22

Pray Christians in countries like Pakistan have discerning courage to speak about their faith, despite fears their words may be used against them.

August 23

Pray that laws making it illegal to leave Islam and follow Christ in countries like Mauritania would not stop people from choosing Jesus.

August 24

Pray God would soften the hearts of leaders in Indian states who are considering anti-conversion laws—and the officials who implement them.

August 25

Thank God that if Christ is lifted up, He will draw all men to Himself (John 12:32). Pray believers continue to lift Him up.

August 26

Pray believers imprisoned on charges of blasphemy in Pakistan, Algeria and Indonesia would experience God's presence in a tangible way.

August 27

Pray that India's anti-conversion laws would not be used to bring false accusations against Indian Christians.



Hope for the Middle East

Open Doors has a seven-year plan to pray for the church in the Middle East as Christians heal and rebuild in the years after being decimated by war and ISIS. Join our multi-year Hope for the Middle East Prayer Campaign as we lift up requests from believers in Iraq and Syria. You can also visit ODUSA.org/Pray4ME to learn more.

August 28

Pray for protection for Iraq's Christian communities, as well as believers' strength and courage to stay in Iraq.

August 29

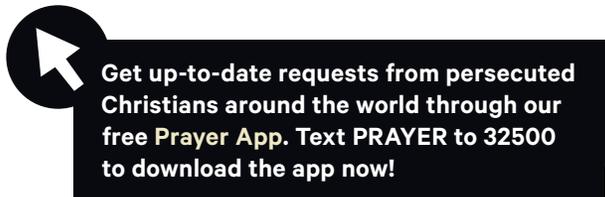
Pray for the growing church among former Muslims, Druze and Yazidis in Syria. Thank God that during the war, churches were planted in several areas.

August 30

Pray for the healing of deep wounds left on the hearts and landscapes of Christian communities in Iraq.

August 31

Ask God for an end to bloodshed, to oppression and to the economic crisis that affects almost every Syrian.



Get up-to-date requests from persecuted Christians around the world through our free Prayer App. Text PRAYER to 32500 to download the app now!



Prayer Force Alert

Prayer request bulletin for persecuted believers worldwide

August 2021



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*Representative name or photo used to protect identity.

August



'I will build My Church'

Jihadist violence has accelerated across the northern regions of Burkina Faso since 2015. Many villages do not have Christians anymore; churches sit empty. Believers have been slaughtered or have fled the violence. Yet there is hope for the church. "By the grace of God, the church in Burkina has been doing well despite the difficulties," Pastor Michel shares. "... the gospel is preached, and the Church is growing ... powerfully. Even in the most remote places, we have built churches, we have congregations and people that know the Lord Jesus Christ."

August 1

Pray displaced believers find Christian community to help sustain them.

August 2

Praise God for the 1,000 families Open Doors partners provided for, including aid packages with three months' supply of food.

August 3

When COVID-19 hit, believers often sacrificially shared what little they had to care for their communities. Pray God blesses them and provides for their families.

August 4

Praise God that, as Pastor Michel shares, "wherever [Christians] end up, the gospel is still being preached."

August 5

Ask God to be the church's defender—that He would watch over and protect His people in Burkina Faso.

August 6

Pray believers will be protected against attack by jihadists.

August 7

Thank God that the gates of hell will not prevail against His Church (Matt. 16:18).



A woman of faith

Last year, we introduced you to Kirti, a Christian mother in India whose husband was killed for his faith. After healing in a safehouse, Kirti returned to the village where her husband was killed to share Christ's love. In a recent visit with our partners, she shared: "I am illiterate, but whatever I hear from the Bible, I am sharing to others. Most of the people in my village come to me for prayer for their illnesses. I pray for them, and God heals them. I am still persecuted by some people from my village, but now I do not fear. God is with me."

August 8

"Please pray for my children's education and their needs," Kirti asks.

August 9

Glorify God that Kirti's father-in-law went from persecuting her to knowing Christ.

August 10

Pray that Kirti's crops and livestock would be healthy and bountiful.

August 11

"Pray for me, that God will use me for His Kingdom and for His glory in the coming years."

August 12

Kirti's mother-in-law's arm was broken in an accident, and her father-in-law is unable to hear well. "Please pray for their healing and restoration in the Lord," Kirti asks.

August 13

Praise God that about 10 families in Kirti's village have trusted Christ since the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdowns.

August 14

"Pray for the salvation of my villagers."



'My hope keeps me going'

In the 2019 Easter bombing in Sri Lanka, Zion Church lost 36 people, including 14 children. Praba, a Sunday School teacher at Zion, lost her 8-year-old son, Peter. When our local partners visited her again recently, she shared: "After we lost Peter, for about six months I could not pray. 'Jesus' was all I could say. But *people who had never even seen us* were praying for us when we could not. Because of their prayers, we have been able to stay strong in our faith."

August 15

Pray for healing for believers like Kuweni, who finds it too difficult to return to the church after her youngest son, Kevin, was killed in the attack.

August 16

Pray for grieving believers at Zion Church who continue to struggle. Pray God would heal their hearts as only He can.

August 17

Praba asks us to pray for her daughter, Anne, who has been very lonely since losing her brother. Ask God to fill moments of loneliness with His presence.

August 18

Pray the faith of the believers at Zion Church continues to deepen.

August 19

Pray for provision for Christians whose income was severely disrupted due to the loss of family members.

August 20

Praise God for the healing our wounded sisters and brothers—like Debbie, Rebekah and others—have experienced so far. Ask Him to continue to restore their health.