January 27
Pray the Taliban will respond to the world’s outcry against its methods of punishment for its own people and will scale back the persecution and intimidation.

January 28
God is not stopped by guns or governments. Pray for a powerful, miraculous outbreak of belief in Jesus, despite what seems to be a hopeless situation in Afghanistan.

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 the Islamic State group. 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.

January 29
Thank God for the charity kitchen in Marmarita, Syria, which distributes three meals every week to 120 elderly people who can’t afford to buy food. Pray the kitchen continues as a blessing to their bodies and souls.

January 30
Raise your prayers for religious leaders in Iraq who risk their lives when they speak out against the instigators of persecution. Ask the Lord to give these leaders wisdom to continue serving His church in Iraq.

January 31
Wael,* a 38-year-old Syrian man, was fired from his job because he is a Christian: “When the company management changed, all my Christian colleagues were fired with me, and Muslims put in our places.” Pray for believers in Syria who face this kind of prejudice and persecution every day.

*Representative name or photo used for security.

Afghanistan faces uncertain future
The Taliban has once again taken control of Afghanistan and plans to institute strict Shariah law, which forbids any belief except the Muslim faith and takes a radical approach to all aspects of society. Though thousands of people have fled the country, millions remain and brace for what is to come.

January 20
Pray the persecution that believers in China endure turns into the seeds of greater faith and more believers, as they see their unwavering belief in Jesus.

January 21
Pray that God would move in a supernatural way to ease restrictions on Christians so they can gather without fear and minister to those around them without regulation.

January 22
All believers in Jesus are secret believers in Afghanistan. Lift them up to God and ask that He put His hand of protection over them so they are not attacked by the Taliban.

January 23
Many of the people who fled Afghanistan are in dismal conditions in refugee camps over the borders in countries where it’s almost equally dangerous to not be Muslim. Pray for their physical needs and that believers can find and encourage one another.

January 24
Pray for Afghan women and girls, who face significant restrictions under the Taliban. Ask God to encourage their hearts in the secret places of their homes.

January 25
Children are being lured into betraying their parents and exposing their faith, with tragic consequences. Pray for them to think before they respond to bribes or threats and to protect their own families.

January 26
Pray for Christians who have made the conscious decision to remain in Afghanistan to stand as a witness for Christ. They are in immediate and constant peril. Ask God to protect them and use them to show the love of Jesus to others.

Open Doors USA
P.O. Box 27001
Santa Ana, CA 92799 USA
OpenDoorsUSA.org

Prayer Force
Prayer request bulletin for persecuted believers worldwide

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!
Empowering India through its women

Persecuted women in India are vulnerable to many forms of discrimination and outright attack, especially for their faith. Over decades of abuse, many have come to believe they are weak, deserving of whatever happens to them, and powerless to overcome their circumstances. Open Doors partners are working to empower persecuted women to live victorious lives.

January 8
Thank God for the training seminars women in India are receiving that teach them their legal rights, lift their spiritual self-image, and help them network and unite in their communities.

January 9
Pray for Open Doors partners in India who lead the training seminars. It is common for anti-Christian extremists to say these women are forced to convert, or to bring other accusations to stop their work.

January 10
Pray for Reema,* who attended a training session: “I had been thinking that women are inferior to men, but we learn from the Bible that women are not inferior vessels but instead a helping hand of man. Women are part of the purpose of God.” Pray she continues her spiritual growth.

January 11
Kusum* was married to an unbeliever at an early age and beaten when she refused to take part in Hindu rituals. Although she is now safely away from that situation and lives with her Christian parents, please continue to pray for believing women who are trapped in this way.

January 12
Lovely* attended a seminar to learn to be a leader. “We know our Master is victorious, so why should we be discouraged?” she said. Pray for the leaders that are rising up as a result of training, discipleship and encouragement in India.

January 13
Mala* accepted Christ despite her Hindu background, and has been rejected by her community and isolated ever since. Many believers in India suffer the same discrimination and persecution. Lift them to the loving hands of God today.

More Christians in China

With a population of nearly 1.4 billion people, it is easy to overlook the millions upon millions of believers in China. But it’s been said the greatest revival of all time has occurred there due to the number of Christians. Still, true believers struggle to stay below the government radar.

January 14
Nita* attended one of the seminars and learned: “God isn’t deaf and blind to the cries of His children. He rescues them and lifts them into high places and blesses them.” Pray for Nita as she continues her journey to spiritual wholeness.

January 15
Christians face overt persecution from the government in China. Pray the believers there will be filled with wisdom and will stand strong.

January 16
Lift up the leaders of new house churches in China. Pray the church will be unified and grow stronger, multiplying in spite of being divided into smaller groups.

January 17
Pray for Chinese Christian parents and youth ministry workers to find time and strategies to teach and disciple the next generation. Pray the young people choose to passionately follow Jesus, and not give in to worldly desires.

January 18
Ask God to protect and anoint our China-focused devotional materials that will be distributed across the country. Pray they will be a life-changing blessing and encouragement to millions there who face increased persecution.

January 19
Pray for local partners in China who reach out continually to evangelize and disciple. Pray the team is strengthened, and their effective reach is increased.

Hands reaching into North Korea

North Korea prides itself on being a completely closed country. Nevertheless, God has helped local partners find creative ways to reach inside North Korea to bring the gospel to hungry hearts and to encourage secret believers who need discipleship and hope.

January 1
Pray for the secret believers who listen to Christian radio programs broadcast over the border at night. Pray they can listen without discovery and that the encouraging messages will continue to remind them that they are not alone, that they are loved, remembered and supported by their global Christian family.

January 2
Pray for the radio ministry team, that God will pour His wisdom, power and protection over them. Pray their voices will creatively reflect God’s loving words for His North Korean children.

January 3
Pray for the biblical teaching that Open Doors workers are able to provide North Korean believers when they come across the border into China. Ask God to help them be clear in their teaching and for open hearts to receive the training.

January 4
Pray for the network of safe houses in China that minister to North Korean believers with practical aid such as food, medicines, clothes and Bibles.

January 5
Pray for the many North Koreans who were on the Chinese side of the border when it was closed due to COVID-19. They are unable to return home, but have access to the gospel, shelter and biblical training while they are there.

January 6
Pray for the safe house leaders, as they prayerfully discern the needs of those who come to them and determine how to keep them safe, as well as how to feed them spiritually.

January 7
Pray for the believers who are being trained in leadership in China, that they may be able to lead secret North Korean churches when they return to their country.