

## December 20

Tun Tun\* described how believers in Myanmar live like unwanted foreigners in their own country. Ongoing civil war has been used as an excuse for raids on camps, church bombings and displacement of Christians from their homes. Pray God will give them relief from the violence and will keep them safe as they follow Him.

## December 21

A new constitutional draft in Tunisia will leave Christians vulnerable to abuse as it takes the country from being a secular state to more officially tied to Islam. Authorities will be able to interpret religious rights in more restrictive ways. Jesus, put an umbrella of protection over Your Tunisian family.

## God gives gifts to His Children

**Christmas is a time of joy and remembrance for Christians around the world. For those in peaceful countries, it's hard to imagine having to keep their faith secret and their children away from community influences against the Lord. Yet faith survives! God gives good gifts of perseverance and secret joy to His people! Rejoice with them this week, and remember them as you celebrate.**

## December 22

In Colombia, Valentina's\* family lives where people practice witchcraft and persecute those who believe otherwise. Praise God that Valentina was able to live at a Children's Center supported by Open Doors and receive an education, spiritual and psychological help, and be safe from the danger in her community.

## December 23

Layla\* lives in Egypt and became a believer. But those around her tried to turn her back to her previous faith. God blessed her with a Christian friend and then a discipleship group to bolster her faith. Thank Him for His faithfulness!

## December 24

In places like Iran, where it is dangerous to celebrate Christmas, believers combine their celebrations with children's birthdays or other events and sing softly together. Thank God that, as one believer said, "limitations bring out creativity."

## December 25

For Christians who have converted from other faiths, Christmas is often a day of separation from their families and communities. Father, as believers weep for the loss of family, surround them with a warm sense of the family of God.

## December 26

At the height of unrest in Sri Lanka this year, believers took to the streets in prayer walks, demonstrating their faith and their compassion for everyone around them. Pray that God will use them to light the way for many others to believe.

## December 27

In Malaysia, over 1,500 people have received the gift of audio Bibles in the last two years, and vital nutritional and medical supplies were carried over rough terrain to remote villages. Praise God!

## December 28

The gift of hope was part of what Sri Lankan believers distributed during the recent economic and governmental crisis, as they handed out refreshments and meals to those in their communities. Pray that God would use this public witness in Sri Lanka to bring more people to Him.

## 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 multiyear 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](http://ODUSA.org/Pray4ME) to learn more faith. But the light of faith burns on.

## December 29

During the dedication of a church in Syria, terrorists sent two explosive drones to attack the ceremony and its participants. One person was killed and six injured. Thank God that one drone failed to explode. Dear Jesus, encourage Your people and protect them from such violence.

## December 30

In Iraq, Mimi's family didn't want to leave the country despite the economic crisis. They were able to stay and start a farm with the blessing of an Open Doors microloan. It supports their family and others they've been able to hire, helping the small Christian community continue to grow. Praise God, the giver of all good things!

## December 31

In Syria, the economy has completely collapsed. Pastor Edward sent a message thanking the worldwide body of Christ for standing with them and supporting them in prayer. Pray God will bless the efforts of Pastor Edward and other Syrian church leaders, and will help Christians survive the crisis.

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!



Open Doors USA  
P.O. Box 27001  
Santa Ana, CA 92799 USA  
[OpenDoorsUSA.org](http://OpenDoorsUSA.org)

DEC 2022



# Prayer Force ALERT

Prayer request bulletin for  
persecuted believers worldwide

\*Name changed to preserve security.



## When Family Turns Against You

Christians who convert from another faith often have to hide their new belief in Jesus from those who know them best: their immediate family. When they are discovered, it can mean anything from verbal abuse to beatings to being cast out of their home. Ask God to give strength these brothers and sisters.

### December 1

Gulya\* in Central Asia became a Christian with her family, but they left their new faith. Now they persecute her so much she lives with a friend and is separated from her children. Father God, stir the embers in the hearts of Gulya's family to return to Your side.

### December 2

Hanif\* was attacked by his entire family in Bangladesh when they found out he was a believer. They broke his nose—but he still lives with them because he has nowhere else to go. Lord, wrap Hanif in Your protection and make him a living witness of faith.

### December 3

Tari\* came to Christ in Indonesia years after hearing a worship song and having dreams about the Lord. Her family found out and cut off all association with her. Jesus, be Tari's family. Be her Brother. Be her strength today.

### December 4

Alya\* is just 19. When her family in Central Asia found her Bible, they demanded she renounce her faith, calling her a disgrace. They have threatened to throw her out of the house if she doesn't comply. Father, shelter Alya under Your wings of compassion and protection. Fill her heart with faith.

### December 5

Galya\* was called to justify her new faith in Central Asia, and she did! She testified to the power of Jesus before her village. They backed her against her abusive husband who had demanded she renounce her faith. Praise You, Jesus, for giving Galya words of wisdom when she was before her tormentors!

### December 6

Widow Amia\* became a believer in the Central African Republic. Her in-laws took everything and her husband left her and tried to put

curses on her. Praise God that Open Doors partners provided money for education, housing and equipment for her to start a small business.

### December 7

The one thing these converts share is the desire to see their families come to Christ—not to stop the persecution, but to grow the kingdom of God. Lift your voice in prayer today for all who put this desire before their own safety.

## Alone in a crowd

People crave community. When a new believer realizes they've gained the Family of God but lost the support of their physical community, it can be terrifying. Faith in Christ is all it takes to turn people—into fearful enemies.

### December 8

In Egypt, Kirolos Nageh Mijli (30) was pulled off his motorbike and attacked. He died of his wounds. The family of his attacker subsequently forged documents saying he is mentally ill to avoid prosecution. Pray God brings clarity to the judicial process and justice to Kirolos' family.

### December 9

A church-affiliated health clinic in the Democratic Republic of Congo was set on fire while patients were inside. Four patients died. The militant force that lit the fire did so because of the faith of those who ran it. Pray for God to reach the hearts of the terrorists.

### December 10

Pastor Peter\* has been repeatedly blocked from constructing a small church in Sri Lanka. Ask God to make a way for Pastor Peter and his church to worship freely and openly.

### December 11

Nasra\*, who lives in the Philippines, is called a traitor by neighbors for following Christ, and her emotional pain is very deep. Pray Nasra would know that she has a loving family and Father through Jesus.

### December 12

Rani Ra'fat, a Christian in Egypt, was killed outside his workshop. His attacker posted a video, claiming he killed Ra'fat out of loyalty to Allah. Lord, take the scales from the eyes of those who think hurting Your people is something to cheer.

### December 13

Girilal Barmon gave his believing father a Christian funeral, despite community anger. Shortly after, his small convenience store was burned and he lost everything. Lift Girilal's sad heart to the Lord and ask Him to fill it with purpose once again.

### December 14

Mona\* was on her way to the fields to help her father in Egypt when a man attacked her with a sickle. He then said he was insane, so he could not be sentenced. Jesus, thank You that Mona survived. Mend her spirit and keep her strong in You.

## No protection under the law

The law shouldn't discriminate based on religion—but that's not the reality for millions of Christians all over the world. Pray with us for believers who face restrictions and human rights abuses simply because they claim the name of Jesus.

### December 15

A pastor in Colombia who ministers in an area owned by a local indigenous people's organization has been warned to moderate his messages. His church is under surveillance to keep him in line. Ask God to give boldness to pastors everywhere who feel pressure to conform and water down His Word.

### December 16

Around the world, governments are tightening controls on online activities, with the result of identifying and isolating believers. Pray that Christians would be able to use the technology to get around the censors, and that God's people can gather in safe alcoves online that governments never find.

### December 17

Church members in Bangladesh were heartbroken when their small church was burned by dissenting community members. They had built it outside the village to appease those who didn't want it there. Lord, move on the hearts of officials to hear the complaints of believers as they seek justice.

### December 18

Four young men were arrested in a church raid in Sudan, where they were worshipping. They were beaten and then charged under an apostasy code that was abolished in 2019. Pray the believers would be released and would receive impartial justice.

### December 19

Amid curfews, roadblocks and martial law in Uzbekistan, deaf Christians have been excluded from food aid, pension payments and other assistance. They are desperate for help, but hampered by both their faith and their deafness. Ask the Lord to walk with His people and give them a renewed sense of His presence.



\*Name changed to preserve security.