

JULY 2022

### July 19

Iranian believers arrested for their faith face long sentences. Recent Iranian Supreme Court decisions hint at a change for the better, but believers who have been freed have also been rearrested and sent back to prison. Pray for the spiritual perseverance of imprisoned believers in Iran.

### July 20

As two pastors left church in Pakistan, suspected Islamic extremists on motorbikes opened fire. One pastor died; the other was severely wounded. Lift up Pakistani believers today.

### July 21

A Christian family in Bangladesh tried to send their son to a Christian hostel for a better education. Their Muslim family and community rose up and prevented it. They also hunted for other Christians. Ask God to cool religious anger and protect families

### Watching Jesus triumph

*The beautiful thing about the Holy Spirit is that He is not stopped by walls, languages, illiteracy or isolation. He can break through all these to bring God's beloved people into His family. Rejoice with some of the stories that are happening all over the world.*

### July 22

Basel\* was a boy in the Philippines when he stumbled into a children's Bible study. He came back for the good snacks but then learned to feast on Jesus as well. He saw his whole family come to Christ. Thank God for the creative ways He uses to bring His children to His side.

### July 23

Pastor Salim in East Africa catches a "motorbike taxi" driven by a believer so he can murmur faith and encouragement into his ear as they ride. He does this despite ongoing threats to himself and his church. Thank God for a strong pastor who puts faith above fear.

### July 24

Talitha\* (17) is a new, secret believer in Central Asia. She had no idea of the worldwide family of God she's joined. So many of you answered our request and wrote to welcome her to faith. Thank God for our precious sister and ask Him to guide her steps.

### July 25

Five believers in Bangladesh traveling to a church seminar were attacked and brutally beaten for their faith. They helped each other limp to the seminar, never considering missing it. Pray that their example will strengthen many.

### July 26

Peter\* hungers to see revival in his country and is working hard to reach young Chinese people there despite the fierce oppression believers endure. Pray Chinese youth will personally encounter Jesus.

*\*Name changed to preserve security.*

### July 27

Many creative ways of communicating the gospel came about during the pandemic due to lockdowns. Praise God for online teaching, microSD chips and new radio programs that are reaching hungry seekers.

### 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](http://ODUSA.org/Pray4ME) to learn more.*

### July 28

Many homes in Syria are without electricity. Church leaders in Latakia opened a special study space for students to work and spend time together in comfort. Over 1,000 students are using the space. Pray for them to see the blessing of God in this provision.

### July 29

The Islamic State group is threatening all Christians in Qamishli in Syria with the motto "Christians will vanish." Michel\* and his family are directly threatened with phone calls, demands for money and the insistence that they leave. Pray for believers in Syria who face constant harassment and threat.

### July 30

One Syrian Christian who had to flee his country said, "I can't go back because the people would kill me for becoming a Christian." This is true of many believers who have fled. Lift up these brothers and sisters as they struggle to build new lives

### July 31

An Open Doors partner organization in Syria is building a social media community where Christians can express themselves and discuss their thoughts safely online. Pray that God uses it to change lives and redirect this generation to Him.

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!



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# Prayer Force ALERT

Prayer request bulletin for  
persecuted believers worldwide



**JULY 2022**

## Finding Jesus, losing family

When people come to Jesus in countries where Christians are a minority, they often find they've joined the family of faith but lost their earthly family and community. This week, pray with brothers and sisters who have faced this heart-wrenching choice.

### July 1

Bhuttu came to Christ in Bangladesh after being raised Buddhist. His wife took their child, and his brothers beat him mercilessly. "They can persecute me, even take my life, but I will still follow Jesus," he shared. Pray others may come to Christ as he stands firm.

### July 2

Believers in Eritrea risk arrest for praying and reading the Bible together. Despite this, local partner Peter\* doesn't pray for persecution to stop but for nonbelievers to be drawn to the peace of believers. Pray with him!

### July 3

In Myanmar the concept that "to be Burmese is to be Buddhist" has led to military forces targeting Christians with violence to uproot and drive them out. Pray the Holy Spirit will protect the seed of faith God placed in their hearts and that they will remain true to Him.

### July 4

Dhea\* was led to Christ in prison. Her family was outraged by her faith, and she had to flee to a neighboring country. Now she helps people from her former country when they come for medical attention. Praise God for what He's done in Dhea's heart and the way He is using her!

### July 5

Ang's\* family was forced out of their village in Vietnam because of their faith. It was winter, and they had nothing. Open Doors partners responded with rice, blankets, warm clothes and financial help. Pray that Ang's family will be encouraged that his God is merciful and is protecting them.

### July 6

After Latifa\* came to faith in North Africa, her family rejected her. They forced her husband's employers to fire him and their landlords to evict them. Yet Latifa remains strong: "I will never give up my faith." Ask God to draw others to Him as they see her witness.

### July 7

Many who flee in haste in Myanmar do so with nothing. When our local partner Michael\* worked to provide blankets and warm clothes, a recipient told him, "We thought everybody had forgotten us." Ask God to bring the warmth of His presence and compassion into the lives of displaced Myanmar refugees.

## India still bathed in persecution

So many stories have come from India in the last several months as persecution accelerates. Each report carries the pain of individuals and families as they seek to live their lives in Christ. Please remember your Indian family

### July 8

Many Christian families in India have been attacked by their neighbors because they wouldn't recant their faith. When they tell the police, they are ignored. Lift up these brave believers who won't abandon Christ.

### July 9

Despite India's constitution protecting all faiths, over a dozen states have passed anti-conversion laws that require anyone changing religion from Hinduism to register and answer questions. Pray with new believers for boldness.

### July 10

In Kistaram, India, the police threatened believers if they didn't stop gathering in their tiny church. The next day, the church burned down. Police refused to take a report on it. Pray for godly reactions so the face of Jesus may be seen.

### July 11

After seeing Jesus in a dream, Geetika says she was physically healed. Many people in India have experienced special healing that drew them to the Lord. Pray for His power to be poured out on open hearts.

### July 12

Responding to shunned Christians who are often left without resources, Open Doors partners offer them income-generating projects. Thank God for our generous partners who sacrifice so others can live.



### July 13

Imagine if a prominent religious leader in this country called for the beheading of Christians to stop conversions. That's what has played out in front of Indian believers over the last year. Pray for an awakening in India that no rhetoric or threat can stop.

## When bad things happen to believers

It's hard to read stories about believers who have had terrible experiences. We may wonder why God allows it. And yet, His Word says He works all things for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. It is often the reaction of a believer to life's tragedies that best demonstrates Jesus in their lives.

### July 14

Non-Muslim worship in Algeria is regulated and discouraged. Any building used for worship must have a license, but not one has been issued since 2006. Many non-licensed churches have been closed. Pray with Algerian believers as they fight this injustice and seek to have their churches reopened.

### July 15

Martin\* and his family in Bangladesh live in constant fear. Their Muslim neighbors want their land, and so they attacked their house and beat Martin nearly to death. Pray for believers who are disregarded by their community because they are a minority.

### July 16

Young Amin\* was raped and beaten by her taxi driver on the way home from church in Central Asia. The attacker didn't kill her because she begged him to spare her in the name of Jesus. Ask God to mend Maria's body, heart and spirit.

### July 17

Cuban Pastor Arteaga gave sweaters and calendars with Bible verses to prisoners. Afterward, his home was raided, his electronic devices were confiscated, and he remains under house arrest. Pray for the pastor's comfort and encouragement.

### July 18

Saydul Amin,\* a Rohingya refugee, fled Myanmar because of the persecution. In the refugee camp, he was moved from the Christian to the Muslim area, beaten and falsely charged with crimes. Ask God to give Saydul and others in camps the stamina to follow Christ.

