

continued

Praise God for brave women who traveled many miles and risked their lives to participate in the four-day Women of Worth training.

### March 21 | YEMEN

Pray for believers to continue being equipped so that when the war ends, they will be qualified and ready to build the country again. Ask God to use the country's suffering to strengthen believers and deepen their dependence on Him.



### Women

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

### March 22 | TUNISIA

Halima is still out on her own after being expelled by her husband. Serious persecution began when her 15-year-old daughter became a believer like her. Halima received short-term help. Please pray with her for a long-term solution.

### March 23 | CHAD

Achta (in her 20s) is one of a few Christians among her Muslim-dominated tribe. She has faced significant pressure from her peers but remains passionate about sharing the gospel with children. Ask God to bless her ministry in church and her testimony at school.

### March 24 | ERITREA

Aster\* is married and the mother of four. Since her pastor-husband was imprisoned, she must provide for their family. But she has received great care from the church through Open Doors. She asks us: "Pray fervently that we get to worship God freely in our country. Keep praying for us."

### March 25 | IVORY COAST

Please pray for Louise, a wife and mother of two. When she became a Christian, her husband and all her Muslim relatives rejected and abandoned her and the children. Pray for God's protection and provision over her and her two kids. She asks that we pray for the conversion of her entire family.

### March 26 | KYRGYZSTAN

Pray with Aygul,\* a Christian convert from Islam, who recently saw her brother beaten for his Christian faith. Because of the shock of the attack, doctors said she miscarried the baby she was carrying. Pray for her emotional and physical recovery.

### 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

### March 27 | ARABIAN PENINSULA

Pray for community and safety of believers where Islam is the dominating religion. Pray that God would strengthen their ties and give them safe ways to secretly meet and fellowship.

### March 28 | IRAN

Please pray with Iranian believer Nasvard Gol-Tapeh who has been in Evin Prison (known as the country's "torture factory") for over a year.

### March 29 | CHINA

Reports of increasing Christian persecution continue, including efforts to indoctrinate the next generation. Pray with children in the Zhejiang Province who were asked to fill out a form in school stating they did not follow a religion.

### March 30 | LIBYA

Pray for the protection of expatriate believers in Libya. Many sub-Saharan Africans have lived and worked in Libya for years. They suffer discrimination for both their skin color and their Christian faith.

### March 31 | IRAQ

Pray with Christian families whose family members are still missing after ISIS invaded five years ago. Many are still uncertain of their family's whereabouts. Pray for safe return or information that would reveal where they are or what happened to them.

*\*Names changed to protect identities*



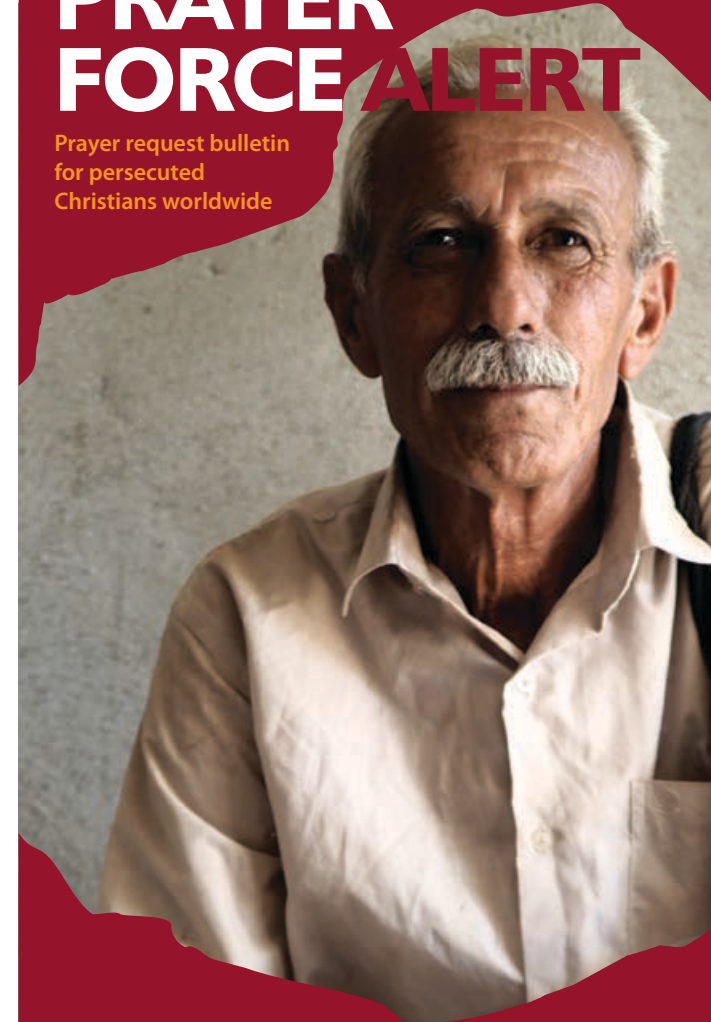
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MARCH 2019



# 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.*

*In March, Open Doors is focusing on rebuilding hope for the church in the Middle East. This month, we invite you to pray specific and informed prayers for believers in Iraq and Syria as we remember our brothers and sisters in these extremely volatile areas.*

### **March 1 | IRAQ**

Since their displacement by ISIS in 2014, many Christians have returned to their towns and houses over the last 24 months. Pray their homecomings would provide great encouragement and that, through them, non-believers would discover the hope and strength Jesus brings.

### **March 2 | SYRIA**

In several areas of Iraq and Syria, Open Doors is partnering with local churches to help build Centers of Hope that will be a source of aid and community. Pray for the centers planned in Ma'arouneh, Kesab, Mashta, Al Helou and one on the outskirts of Damascus.

### **March 3 | IRAQ**

Pray with Father Afram in Baghdad who turned his declining church into a Center of Hope when he realized that Christians were not going out of their homes after work for safety concerns. Now, believers are able to meet together, play games, eat and more.

### **March 4 | JORDAN, LEBANON, TURKEY**

Pray with Iraqi Christian refugees waiting in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. They are running out of money and options. In some countries, they are not allowed to work and only a few of the Iraqi children are able to attend schools.

### **March 5 | IRAQ**

Thank God for the great gathering of youth in the city of Erbil. About 550 young people gathered to praise Jesus. Pray for Iraq's Christian youth, that God would powerfully call them to be the country's next generation of Christian leaders.

### **March 6 | IRAQ AND SYRIA**

Pray for increasing opportunities for churches' involvement in their countries' healing process. And pray for strength and perseverance of church leaders as they stand up for Christ.

### **March 7 | IRAQ**

God is using television, radio, social media and other platforms to accomplish His purposes in Iraq. Pray that through these channels, people will be renewed, strengthened, challenged and changed for His glory!

## **Pastors**



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

### **March 8 | VIETNAM**

A Hmong church leader, Pastor Chai,\* recently paid a fine equivalent to \$130 for distributing Hmong Bibles among the tribal believers in his province. Pray for his and his church's safety—and perseverance to continue to serve, following God's call on his life.

### **March 9 | SRI LANKA**

Our local partner recently visited three pastors who were threatened with expulsion by radical Buddhist monks and their adherents. Pray as we continue to assess the situation and discern how to best support 15 local believers who were also affected.

### **March 10 | SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES**

Open Doors conducts couples seminars, providing opportunities to share and grow and learn from God's Word. Pray with participating lay leaders who are struggling in their relationships with their spouses and children.

### **March 11 | MYANMAR**

Pray with the participants of a training for lay leaders—that God would give them wisdom, boldness and insight to implement their learnings in their local church context.

## **Churches**



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

### **March 12 | MIDDLE EAST**

As we prepare for Easter, pray that Jesus and His sacrifice will renew persecuted Christians and embolden their faith to be a source of blessing as they observe the Lent season in their communities and local churches.

### **March 13 | NIGERIA**

Five years ago, 20 churches were destroyed and more than a hundred Christians of the Tiv tribe were killed in month-long attacks by Fulani militants in Benue State. Pray with grieving pastors and believers today.

### **March 14 | CHINA**

Please pray with the leaders whose house churches have recently been raided and closed. Crosses have been torn down and church equipment, Bibles and other Christian materials confiscated. Some house church buildings have been destroyed completely.

### **March 15 | PAKISTAN**

Pray with believers as they remember loved ones killed in two church bombings on this day five years ago.

### **March 16 | MOROCCO**

Pray for the next generation of believers. As society tries to pull young people back into Islam, they are struggling with staying connected to the church.

### **March 17 | LEBANON**

Continue praying with us that the church in Lebanon would continue to stand strong as they reach out to refugees and to all the communities who don't know our Lord Jesus.

## **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

### **March 18 | SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES**

Praise God for lives touched in literacy classes. Suraya, from a class of 32, says: "My father is a janitor and my mother does other people's laundry. Now, I can read and write. I thank Open Doors, but most especially I thank Jesus Christ for this blessing."

### **March 19 | BHUTAN**

Praise God for the completion of the Women's Empowerment Workshop and that the women's accomplishments are already drawing more for the next workshop. Pray they will continue to mature in their faith.

### **March 20 | MYANMAR**