

continued

January 19 | VIETNAM

After her parents became Christians, 6-year-old Phouc* suffered head trauma when a villager hit her. Please pray for a full recovery.

January 20 | NEPAL

The adoption of a new, restrictive constitution has led to an increase in arrests of Christians for praying and even talking about Christianity. Pray for courage as believers live out their faith.

January 21 | SRI LANKA

At least 176 children lost either one or both of their parents in the 2019 Easter Sunday bombings. Pray that Jesus draws each of these young ones to Himself.

January 22 | ALGERIA

Please continue to pray for Christians in Tizi Ouzou province. Another church in the area was sealed by the government. Pray with believers as they find ways to continue to meet.

January 23 | BANGLADESH

Please continue to pray for believers who are losing their homes to political leaders who lure poorer people to give up their land by deceiving them. Pray that God would confuse the deceivers' plans and give discernment to believers.

| Women



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

January 24 | IRAN

Please join Darya*, a single mom and house church leader, in praying for her children. Pray for a godly mentor for her son, Reza.* Pray for her daughter, Sara,* to not be influenced by her non-Christian relatives.

January 25 | CAMEROON

In what may be a change in strategy, Boko Haram fighters chopped off the ears of women in an attack on a Christian village. Please pray for physical and emotional healing and that God would surround these villages with His presence.

*Representative name or photo used to protect identity.

January 26 | EGYPT

When Christian men move away to find work, Muslim extremists often target their wives. In Marina's* case, an extremist first tried to seduce her. Then he threatened her children. Pray for protection for women like Marina.

January 27 | NIGER

Please continue to pray for Tchima who, sadly, returned to Islam and became the third wife of a Muslim man. Ask God to be near to her. Pray she feels His comfort and strength.

| Hope4ME



Join our multi-year
Hope for the Middle East
Prayer Campaign.
Visit ODUSA.org/Pray4ME
to learn more.

January 28 | IRAQ

Pray for new Christian converts. Most practice their faith secretly out of fear for their lives and jobs. Pray these seeds would grow deep roots.

January 29 | SYRIA

Due to fuel shortages, Syrians go many hours without electricity, forced to sit in darkness. A lack of fuel for cars and cooking meals also contributes to the difficult conditions. Pray that God would guide churches to bring hope in these difficult conditions.

January 30 | IRAQ

Reports of child sexual abuse are on the rise. Recently in Dohuk, a 10-year-old child was murdered after a rape attempt. Pray fervently for protection.

January 31 | SYRIA

"Pray for new leaders to be called to our churches," Syrian church leaders ask. Teens and young adults need role models to show them how to live a life with God in difficult trials.



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Prayer Force Alert

Prayer request bulletin for
persecuted believers worldwide

January 2020

The start of a new year is about new beginnings and setting goals—what has God called each of us to this year? At Open Doors, January reminds us of the importance of clarifying our vision, to see clearly what God has for us to do. We're calling this effort 2020 Vision—an opportunity to see what the people of God are going through around the world; and then to stand with them in prayer and support.

Will you join us?

January | 2020 World Watch List

This week, pray with us as we focus on Christians living in countries on the World Watch List and bring you the prayers of your sisters and brothers who follow Jesus, no matter the cost.

January 1 | NORTH KOREA

In North Korea, “Hananim,” which means “God,” is considered a swear word with no connection to a spiritual reality. Pray with secret believers who are sharing the truth about this word with others.

January 2 | YEMEN

The civil war makes Christians additionally vulnerable. Emergency relief is mostly distributed through Muslims at secular organizations and local mosques who reportedly discriminate against non-Muslims. Pray that Christians will receive emergency relief.

January 3 | IRAN

The European Union extended its sanctions on Iran by one year due to serious human right violations. Pray that international pressure will make a difference in the lives of Christians.

January 4 | ERITREA

The situation continues to be very difficult. Eritreans are openly complaining against the president, even risking their food rations. Pray that President Afwerki's heart would be changed.

January 5 | AFGHANISTAN

Radical groups like ISIS are using universities to recruit new fighters. Pray that students and professors would discern ISIS' lies.

January 6 | PAKISTAN

The dispute between India and Pakistan over Kashmir has led to increased tension. Observers fear it could lead to a spike in Islamic extremist activity. Pray that both countries would consider religious minorities and work to stop extremists.

January 7 | SOMALIA

While Somalia has 8.4 million people, an estimated 10 million ethnic and migrant Somalis live in other countries. Pray with Christians attempting to share Jesus with their Somali neighbors.

| Praise



*Rejoice with those who rejoice ...
– Romans 12:15a*

January 8 | IRAN

Praise God that a senior legal advisor to Iran's president questioned the legality of closing a church in Tabriz. Pray the building will be returned to the church.

January 9 | KENYA

Recently, 20 non-local, mostly Christian employees at a government hospital warned workers of an imminent al-Shabab attack and then confronted the gunman—a surprising show of solidarity. Praise God for unity and His intervention.

January 10 | INDIA

An urgent request in our prayer app mobilized thousands of prayers for seven Christians surrounded by a drunken mob of 400. The believers left safely. Praise God for delivering them.

January 11 | CHINA

Praise God for faithful believers in China who choose to live by faith, not fear, in the face of increasing restrictions. Pray for young people to continue to be vigilant about following Jesus.

January 12 | MEXICO

Two years have passed since Manuel Martinez and his family were expelled from their community for refusing to participate in the village's rituals. “We are very grateful to Open Doors. Their support gives us courage to continue waiting for a solution,” Manuel shares. Thank God for His provision.

January 13 | KENYA

After she was attacked by villagers for leaving her faith to follow Jesus, Open Doors connected Esther* with trauma care. Pray for healing.

| Pastors



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

January 14 | KAZAKHSTAN

Falsely accused by those they welcomed into their homes, Pastor Maximov, his wife, Larisa, and Pastor Zaikn were taken to prison. Pray for protection and strengthened faith.

January 15 | COLOMBIA

Pastor Salcedo was murdered in his home. Open Doors quickly mobilized to send a specialized care team to be present. They ask us to join them in prayer.

January 16 | NORTH AFRICA

Sofia, a believer in an unnamed country, shares a request: “We need leaders who can guide us, who are able to forgive and especially able to know how to cope with questions like the changes in our country.”

| 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*

January 17 | BANGLADESH

Mizanur—a Christian convert from Islam—was having family devotions in his home when his older brother and villagers dragged him out and beat him. Then they destroyed his house. Pray with him for provision and strength.

January 18 | CHAD

Boko Haram has increased their attacks on citizens and are rumored to be planning church attacks. The church is asking for prayer.