April 20–21
Pray Acts 16:5 for church congregations in all 50 countries on the World Watch List—that they would be strengthened in their faith and increase daily in number.

Terror for Cameroonian Christians
Boko Haram first started crossing the Nigerian border into Cameroon in 2013 and now terrifies Christians there with the same horror they have brought to northeastern Nigeria. Each attack leaves believers like Sarata* suffering physically, emotionally and spiritually. Her husband died of a stress-related heart condition, and her daughter was killed in a Boko Haram attack. Sarata is part of the Christian community that Open Doors works to help not only survive but live fruitfully.

April 22
Thank the Lord for Sarata’s life and that despite her suffering, she still seeks His Word and remains faithful.

April 23
Ask God to show Christians in this region how best to be salt and light in the darkness hanging over the Far North region of Cameroon.

April 24
Pray the Lord will bless Open Doors’ programs to be fruitful in strengthening believers in Cameroon and that Christians in the Far North will be encouraged, knowing their brothers and sisters worldwide care for them.

April 25
Thank the Lord for local church leaders and lay leaders—like Sarata’s pastor, Hamadou—who strive so hard to support widows. Please ask God to instill the discernment needed to lead and teach.

April 26
Ask the Lord to heal Sarata from her trauma and bring peace to her heart.

*Representative name or photo used to protect identity.

April 27
Pray for peace in all areas touched by violence and for wisdom and accountability for the local government and regional forces fighting terrorists to restore that peace.

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 persecuted believers in Iraq and Syria. You can also visit ODUSA.org/Pray4ME to learn more.

April 28
Some 200 believers are returning to their homes in Mosul and the Nineveh Plains after ISIS invaded and displaced them in 2014. Pray for courage, peace and strength as they return.

April 29
Pray for churches who have lost their pastors and priests to COVID-19. Specifically, pray for the Syrian churches once led by Pastors Haddad and Khalouf, Father Shaedeh and Father Tamer.

April 30
Iraq continues to struggle with unrest. When a missile hit their home in Baghdad, two women and five children were killed. Pray that conflict on Iraqi soil will end.

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A vision for sub-Saharan Africa

Christians across sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) encounter pressure each day, including high levels of persistent, targeted violence fueled by an extremist agenda to spread radical Islam. Attacks leave the most vulnerable Christians destitute, with dire consequences for individuals and the Church at large. Open Doors’ vision is to help these believers remain resilient and ensure they can live fruitfully—courageously sharing the gospel in the face of persecution.

April 1
Pray that Open Doors’ efforts will glorify God and be fruitful in helping Christian communities be resilient.

April 2
Pray for Christians across SSA who are vulnerable to attack, abduction and even murder for their faith in Christ. Ask God to protect His children and provide for all their needs.

April 3
Violence against them affects every aspect of Christians’ lives, often leading to trauma, displacement and economic hardship. Pray for comfort and hope.

April 4
Pray the Lord will continue to instill in violently persecuted believers an urgent desire to keep sharing the Good News with their persecutors.

April 5
Open Doors is coming alongside the Church across SSA through essential trainings—discipleship, trauma care, persecution awareness and evangelism. Please pray for strength for all those involved in this critical work.

April 6
Please pray for women and children who often are left even more vulnerable through attacks. Pray God will show mercy.

April 7
Pray governments will find constructive ways to protect their people against terrorist attacks.

April 8
Thank God that His Word is “alive and active; sharper than any double-edged sword” (Heb. 4:12).

April 9
Pray that Central Asian believers in Tajikistan will continue to walk in boldness even after they were fined for their work in translating the Bible.

April 10–11
Pray for the work of Open Doors’ partners in Central Asia as they provide Bibles and Christian books when believers are excluded from their families and communities, deprived of their livelihood, or imprisoned because of their faith in Christ.

April 12
In Malaysia, our teams gifted 23 new believers with their own Bible to celebrate their recent baptisms. Pray that as they read God’s Word, He would strengthen them, revealing more about who He is.

April 13
When COVID-19 restrictions halted her monthly Bible studies, Ligaya*—an Open Doors partner in the Southern Philippines—worried the participants’ growth would stall. Praise God! When they gathered again, many shared testimonies of answered prayers.

April 14
Pray for safety for Open Doors partners as they travel to rural areas to encourage local believers and distribute Bibles.

April 15
Church buildings continue to be closed in Algeria’s major cities as part of the government campaign against Christians. Pray for God’s intervention.

April 16
In the Indonesian region of Aceh Singkil, believers are struggling with the government to rebuild their destroyed churches. Pray God will soften authorities’ hearts.

April 17
Pray for provision of thicker windows for Pastor Jeevan’s church in Sri Lanka; police advised this change after neighbors made unreasonable noise complaints.

April 18
Ask God to watch over Ai* and Liem’s* house church in Vietnam—they are currently banned from meeting together.

April 19
Pray with Pastor Ranjit’s church in Sri Lanka. They’re facing repeated challenges to building a church and home for their pastor. Villagers set fire to their building supplies, followed by setting up a roadblock to the church’s property. Pray for justice when the case gets to court.

The power of one Bible

If you take a good look at the photo of Samira’s extended family in Central Asia (above), you can count more than 50 women, men and children. Samira shares: “Except for one aunt and her two daughters, everyone in this photo came to Christ because of the witness of my sister, who became a believer after she received a Bible.”

Hebrews 10:24 tells believers not to neglect meeting together. We often talk about how the Church is not a building, but in World Watch List countries one very effective persecution tactic focuses on making it impossible or very difficult for believers to physically meet together. Churches are burned down, ransacked or destroyed, and believers are threatened. And yet our faithful brothers and sisters persevere.

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The Church under attack

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