**Neighbors and informants**

For secret believers, it’s not always easy to determine who’s trustworthy. After the arrest of a Christian couple in Somalia, a police colonel encouraged citizens to report anyone who’s spreading Christianity. Inside Gushi County in China, officials held a month-long campaign, offering monetary compensation for photos or video of religious gatherings. In Iran, 13 Christians were arrested after an informant infiltrated house churches.

**March 21**

Pray for discernment for believers as they discern who they trust, who they’ll share the gospel with and who they will welcome.

**March 22**

Pray God would make the seeing eyes of informants blind to the activities of Christians—similar to what God did for Open Doors’ founder, Brother Andrew, when he smuggled Bibles.

**March 23**

Pray the detained Somali couple and their three children will experience God’s closeness, peace and comfort. Pray for their expedient release and that God would use their suffering to further His Kingdom.

**March 24**

Pray that believers in Gushi County will find creative ways to meet.

**March 25**

Pray the charges against the 13 Iranian believers would be dropped.

**March 26**

Pray nothing would stop the gospel from being proclaimed in countries like China, Somalia and Iran.

**March 27**

Pray local Christian communities will be strong and courageous, overcoming their fear as they press into Christ.

*Representative name or photo used to protect identity.

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**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 ISIS. 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.

**March 28**

Pray for the families of two women and five children who were killed when a missile hit their homes in Baghdad.

**March 29**

Leftover explosives from the war are a widespread problem in Syria. A woman recently died trying to protect her 15-year-old son from a hand grenade he found in their yard. Pray God will protect His people living in this environment.

**March 30**

In Iraq, there is a lack of legal punishment for people who commit honor crimes—acts of violence, usually murder, by male family members against female family members who are perceived to have brought dishonor to the family. Pray for an end to honor crimes.

**March 31**

Pray for healing for Jina—her husband was kidnapped during the Syrian civil war and is still missing. Pray also for her young son, Apo.

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**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!**
March

15 women baptized in Bangladesh

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, 15 believers in Bangladesh took the brave step of publicly professing their faith. The new believers came to faith after attending an Open Doors adult literacy program, which uses the Bible to teach reading. The classes give people a vital skill for improving their lives and the confidence to share Scripture and the gospel with others. The women also received their own Bible.

March 1
Pray for sisters Dewanti and Mayna—who were some of the first women to attend the literacy program in that area—as they read Scripture and mature in their faith.

March 2
Thank God for the new life these 15 women have found in Him!

March 3
Pray for both boldness and discernment for local pastors and Open Doors’ staff as they spread the gospel.

March 4
Pray for many more Bangladeshi people would come to know Jesus through the adult literacy program.

March 5
Pray God will meet all Bangladeshi believers’ needs, according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

March 6
Pray for protection and safety for these new believers. In the Muslim-majority country, persecution awaits them.

March 7
Pray literacy would enhance and improve these attendees’ lives in fruitful ways.

No place to lay their head

Sadly, it is a common story we hear almost every week: A Christian is targeted by their community for their faith, pressured to return to the beliefs of their neighbors. And then the ridicule turns violent. Villagers attack homes with tools or crude weapons, and believers are forced to flee. Some homes are lost to arson. Our sisters and brothers know what it can cost to choose Jesus and follow Him.

March 8
Pray for healing and provision for Pastor Badal Day and his wife, Isona Rani, who are living in a tent in what’s left of their home. A powerful local politician’s henchmen beat them and destroyed their home and church in Bangladesh.

March 9
Pray for 11 believers in Laos who lost their homes—that they won’t waver in their faith but instead will continue to be God’s living testaments in their area.

March 10
Pray for provision and a new home for a Christian family whose home was lost to suspected arson in Central Asia.

March 11
Pray that despite losing their homes and the resulting trauma, believers will find refuge and comfort in the Lord.

March 12
Pray that three families of believers in Vietnam will be allowed by their village to build a new house and have enough funds for the construction.

March 13
Pray for peace to fill 75 Christian converts in India who were beaten by an angry mob of over 2,000 people. Their homes were also destroyed.

March 14
Thank God for Martina’s new house; pray it will be a blessing to her family and those she’ll minister to in this home.

March 15
Pray our teams can get trauma care to widows left alone after the violent murders of their husbands.

March 16
Rose lost her husband in a militant Fulani attack in Nigeria. Raising her daughters in the way of the Lord and providing for their needs are Rose’s greatest concerns. Pray with her for God’s provision, spiritually and physically.

March 17
Pray God would use government intervention to bring peace and provision to Christians in Africa.

March 18
Pray for provision for Abigail, a Christian widow like Martina, and other believers living in under-resourced internal refugee camps in Nigeria.

March 19
Pray Christians are protected from militant Fulani herdsmen, Boko Haram and other extremist groups that target them.

March 20
Pray God would place people and Scripture in the paths of Nigerian Christian widows, to bring them His hope and comfort.

A defender of widows

Our teams first met Martina Kura more than four years ago, just after her husband, Rev. Joseph Kura, was brutally murdered by suspected radical Fulani youths. Since that first visit, we have encouraged Martina through prayer and letter-writing campaigns. We have helped with her children’s school fees and, most recently, a newly built house. Martina represents just one of the many persecuted widows Open Doors has come alongside in Nigeria.

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