



PRAYER CALENDAR

July/August 2023



“Remember also those being mistreated,
as if you felt their pain in your own bodies.”

HEBREWS 13:3

| Egypt

July 1

Many young Christians in Egypt suffer persecution and discrimination because of their faith. Please pray for their protection and that these vulnerable youths will remain steadfast, growing in their faith.

July 2

Egypt is predominantly Muslim, but there are many Christian converts, even though life can be hard for new believers. Pray that converted followers will be salt and light in their communities.

July 3

Pray that God would reveal Himself to radical Muslims and extremist groups. May God break their chains and restore them back to the Way, the Truth and the Life. As we see in Saul-to-Paul conversions, God still changes lives.

July 4

Young men in Egypt live under immense pressure to provide for their families. With few jobs available, many must work in the dangerous quarry where accidents are frequent. Pray for improved health and safety standards.

July 5

At just 13, Baher* had to work in a quarry. In a traumatic accident, he lost an arm. Now he is 25—pray that Baher would sense God's peace and strength as he lives with this disability.

July 6

After his injury, Baher said, *"I gave up on life.*



Christians like Baher* are treated as second-class citizens and forced to work dangerous jobs.

I hated myself and I hated God." With help from Open Doors partners, he has started to heal emotionally. Praise God that Baher loves God again and worships regularly.

July 7

Our partners in Egypt are creating more job opportunities, helping locals start their own micro projects to earn a living and care for their family. Pray blessings over these projects.

July 8

Christians in small Egyptian villages suffer persecution, humiliation and oppression. Recently, some of the believers' houses have been looted and burned. Pray for the protection of these vulnerable Christians.

| Iraq

July 9

The Iraqi church continues to dwindle, as people leave the country for a better life. Church leaders are working to provide community and bring hope to those who have stayed. Pray that the church will grow, and that fellowship will sustain these congregations.

July 10

Bishop Mar Chimon Daniel explains the urgent situation facing the next generation of Iraqis: *"Our existence is threatened. Many of the young people only think of leaving Iraq."* Pray for opportunities and hope for Christian youth in Iraq.

July 11

Open Doors' partner organizations are helping people establish businesses through our church-based Centers of Hope ministry. Pray these initiatives continue to grow and thrive.

July 12

There are now 150 Centers of Hope in Iraq and 287 in Syria, established to help hurting people meet and walk with Jesus. Pray that those who come through the doors will encounter Christ and know His love.



July 13

Open Doors partners offer leadership training to all generations Iraq and Syria. Please pray for those sessions in the Middle East and that God would continue to raise up leaders and churches.

July 14

Praise God for Sermad's upholstery business. He started with a loan from a Center of Hope, and now his business is thriving. Thank God that he is now able to provide for his wife and two young children.

July 15

Please pray for Iraq's upcoming parliamentary elections on November 18, 2023. Pray against corruption and that everyone will have equal access to voting, with no pressure to choose a specific candidate.

| Syria

July 16

Pray for families in Syria who lost their homes in the earthquake in February. Through your support, many families still benefit from rent assistance.

July 17

Pray that Christians will demonstrate practical love to Muslims by serving them. May the love of Jesus be reflected to Muslims in Egypt, Syria, Iraq and the rest of the region through the lives of believers.

July 18

In Syria, 72 young believers recently took part in training workshops focused on servant leadership. Please pray that this training will transform the participants' hearts and they will pursue leadership roles in the church.

| Israel/Palestine

July 19

Please pray for peace in these lands. Pray that all citizens learn to love and respect one another despite the difficulties of religious extremism.

| Iran

July 20

Despite ongoing protests and international pressure, the Iranian government continues to

enforce the mandatory hijab (head scarf) law. Please pray for the safety of women and girls and for a change in attitudes.

July 21

The ongoing unrest in Iran has caused an onslaught of people suffering from depression and spiritual oppression. Please pray for Iranian believers who feel hopeless. Pray that the Lord will draw close, reminding them of their hope in Him.

July 22

A team of Open Doors partners support traumatized Iranian believers with counseling and prayers. Praise God for this vital work and the life-changing impact.

| Yemen

July 23

It may surprise you to know there is a thriving program of Bible distribution in Yemen. Please pray this initiative continues to multiply as more people gain access to the power of God's Word.

July 24

Thank God that so many people in Yemen are seeking Christ online, participating in discipleship classes. Pray they will be inspired and meet Jesus in new ways.

| Brunei

July 25

In the last year, divorce rates have dramatically increased in Brunei. Pray for marriages in this nation. Pray that people will be led to Christ through witnessing Jesus' love modelled in Christian marriages.



July 26

Thank God for a new football club in a slum area in Colombo. Established by a pastor, the club helps children stay away from drugs and fights and encounter prayer and God's Word.

July 27

Some Christian converts in the football club [see above] come from Muslim backgrounds and face opposition from their families. But their lives continue to inspire other children to follow Christ. Praise God for their witness!

| Maldives

July 28

Maldives has a large expatriate community, many of whom are Christians. There are no churches in the Maldives, so Christians gather in their homes. Pray for unity among the expat house churches.

| Indonesia

July 29

Praise God for the passion of Christians from Muslim backgrounds in Indonesia! They courageously share the gospel with their loved ones and neighbors, and more and more people are finding Jesus as a result.

July 30

Pray for miraculous signs and wonders in these Christian communities and that many more people would notice the supernatural presence of God and come to know Him better.

July 31

Pray that how Indonesian Christians live will be a testimony. Pray for God's protection over them and for resilient strength in times of hardship.

AUGUST

August 1

Thank God for the various programs, including adult literacy and discipleship, that Open Doors' partners in Bangladesh lead. Pray for God's power to transform and strengthen young believers through these sessions.

August 2

Mahafuza*, 48, was attacked returning home from evening prayer at her church. She was hospitalized for her injuries. Please pray for her rapid recovery and for protection for converts from Islam.

August 3

Mahafuza declared to her attackers, *"I love sharing the gospel, and so I do it!"* Praise God for her unwavering courage and her devotion to spreading the gospel. Pray that she will remain resolute in her faith in Christ.

| Mexico

August 4

Several Open Doors' teams in Mexico are training indigenous and urban communities in discipleship. Pray that Christ works through these trainers to help build strong believers who will be salt and light to their neighbors.

| Vietnam

August 5

Remote villages in Vietnam are particularly hostile to Christianity. Believers are asked to renounce their faith or risk losing access to water. Pray these believers remain strong and steadfast in their faith.

August 6

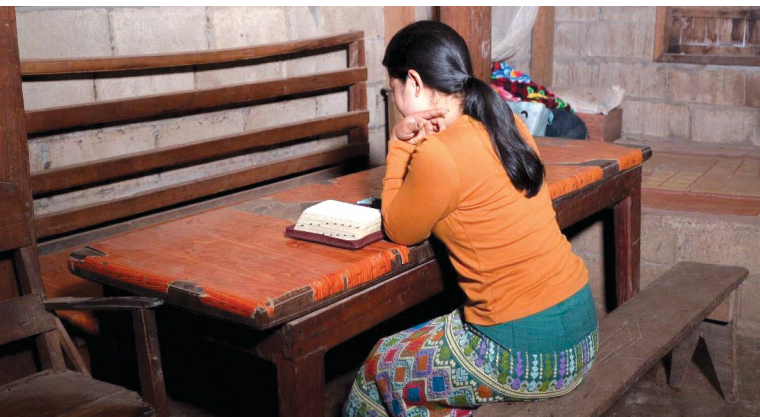
Pray for better plumbing systems in the villages so that all people can have access to clean water, and it cannot be used as a weapon of persecution.

August 7

Ask God to protect Christians in Vietnam and use their testimony as a powerful witness. Pray for more of their neighbors to be saved.

August 8

Pray for local churches in remote areas of Vietnam.



Pray that the fellowship in these congregations will nurture a powerful community of disciples who boldly share God's Word and live out the gospel in their villages.

| Laos

August 9

In Laos, local authorities try to stifle Christian gatherings and stop Christians from sharing Jesus. Believers who disobey face eviction from their villages. Ask God to soften the hearts of people in authority and pray for more tolerance of Christianity.

August 10

Sadly, some Lao Christians have renounced their faith due to pressure from local authorities and the community. Pray they will continue to worship God in their hearts even when they cannot publicly proclaim their faith.

August 11

Pray for the resilience of Lao believers ... that they would not give up on their faith, even under immense pressure. Ask the Lord to continue to meet their needs, practically and spiritually.

| China

August 12

Christians in China can be subject to strict monitoring and surveillance. Ask God to intervene, lifting any paranoia, and pray that our sisters and brothers remain deeply connected to Jesus amidst these challenges.

August 13

Some new Chinese Christians end up losing touch with their friends and family when they find faith in Jesus. Pray these young believers will find comfort and fellowship with other disciples.

August 14

Praise God that the New Testament has now been recorded in dialects of three Buddhist ethnic minorities in China. Pray for our team's continued safety as they begin work on recordings of the Old Testament in these same dialects.

August 15

Each year, Open Doors field workers provide support and training for around 150 to 200 North Korean women trafficked into China. Pray for protection for those attending these secret meetings. Pray they receive God's healing love.

| Nepal

August 16

Please pray for persecuted believers in Nepal, who tend to be extremely poor. Pray for financial provision and that God will meet their needs.

| Myanmar

August 17

Please pray for children in conflict zones. Pray that God will protect them, keep them safe, and help them heal from trauma.

August 18

Praise the Lord for prayers and support that enable Christian children in Myanmar to access education and continue their learning in safe places.

August 19

Open Doors' partners and aid workers deliver food and training in Myanmar. Please pray for their safety as they travel to different areas to pray with persecuted believers and assist them in practical and powerful ways.

| North Korea

August 20

Leaders of the secret churches in North Korea are worried about the future. Because of the risk, few want to step into a leadership role. Pray that God will raise up courageous leaders.

August 21

Open Doors runs safe houses in China for North Koreans who make the dangerous journey across

the border. Many refugees have told us they met Jesus in these shelters. Pray for God's protection over this ministry.

| Central Asia

August 22

In Central Asia, persecuted Christians meet in underground churches. Often, authorities disrupt their meetings and fine participants. Pray that Christians will be able to meet freely and safely.

August 23

As a means of intimidation, authorities often target Christian families in Central Asia. Some families flee the country—pray these families will find safety and security in new and unfamiliar lands.

August 24

Brother Hakim* and his family recently returned to their home country to restart their ministry. He faces pressure and scrutiny from the government. Pray for safety and Hakim's witness.

August 25

Open Doors organizes summer camps for children in Central Asia. Please pray for the children's protection and for the leaders who facilitate them.

August 26

Thank God for Open Doors' children's workers who support persecuted children in Central Asia. They often hear difficult stories from the children. Ask Jesus to give these servants His wisdom, strength and compassion.

| Malaysia

August 27

Pray that Christians in Malaysia will be salt and light to their community, family and friends. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel with those who have yet to hear it.



| Sri Lanka

August 28

A Hindu extremist group known as Hindu Siva Sena frequently disrupts Christian events and forcefully shut them down. Pray they will repent from their actions.

| Saudi Arabia

August 29

Believers in Saudi Arabia are restricted in the ways they can meet and worship. Pray that when they do gather, their time together is rich in fellowship, worship and God's presence.

| Colombia

August 30

Praise God that children at risk of violent persecution are being cared for and nourished in their faith at Open Doors' Children's Center in Colombia. Pray that each one will be a light in their generation.

August 31

Pray for volunteers who visit the Children's Center. Pray that their time will be encouraging and rewarding for both them and the children.