

january  
2012

# MY RESPONSE



# Open Doors PRAYER CALENDAR january 2012

Were you challenged by the testimonies of our persecuted brothers and sisters? Is the Lord touching your heart today to help them?

- Yes! Here is my gift to help meet their needs.** *"For I know your eagerness to help... (you) were ready to give..." 2 Cor. 9:2*
- Yes! I want to be part by supporting them on a regular basis.** *"...the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints." 2 Cor. 8:4*
- Yes! I want to increase my regular commitment for the persecuted church.** *"...men will praise God for... your generosity in sharing with them..." 2 Cor. 9: 13*

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<input type="checkbox"/> P4,000	<input type="checkbox"/> P3,000
<input type="checkbox"/> P1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> P500
<input type="checkbox"/> Others: P _____	

*"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable with what one has, not with what he doesn't have." 2 Cor. 9:7*

You may send your gift through the following:

- Mail your check payable to  
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Quezon City 1155  
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- Deposit to BPI Savings Account no. 1991-0028-35  
BPI Kalayaan (Pls. contact us for the amount and date of your gift)
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*"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." 2 Cor. 9:12*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Telephone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

## January 1 | Sunday - Nigeria

Praise God for each supporter who made it possible for many children & youth in Northern Nigeria to receive their own Bible this year. Pray that they will grow fond of their Bibles by studying & applying the Lord's instructions in their lives and make a difference in their communities.

## January 2 | Monday - Israel & Palestinian Areas

Pray for the Israel College of the Bible in Netanya. Recently it has been facing a lot of opposition apparently because of being Messianic. Pray for protection for the director, the teachers and the students.

## January 3 | Tuesday - Algeria

The government is now trying to control the Church after giving out the official registration notice to the EPA, the council for the Protestant Church of Algeria. Pray for wisdom for the pastors & church leaders.

## January 4 | Wednesday - Morocco

Pray for a new birth of the Moroccan Church with a vision for the whole country & a strong focus on discipleship. Pray for strong relationships that are based on prayer & love among the Moroccan Christian leaders.

## January 5 | Thursday - Lebanon

Though the Christians here leave the country, many Christians from the Middle East come for relative freedom. Please pray Lebanon's stability, for freedom to remain, and that the Church will make use of it.

## January 6 | Friday - Bangladesh

Although the national elections are still one year away, it is preceded by political instability. Parties vying for power want to be visible early in the game. The electoral season is a volatile period for minority Christians in Bangladesh, since religion is one of the issues confronting this nation. Pray that the pastors & believers here will respond with wisdom & discernment.

## January 7 | Saturday - Brunei

Many Malays come to Christ through the internet. Pray for the continued accessibility of resources that is essential to the spiritual growth of believers.

## January 8 | Sunday - Laos

The Khmu people comprise half of the Christian population in Laos but they are at the bottom of the ethnic groups in terms of social status. Historically though, they have been the most receptive to the Gospel. Pray that the Lord will bless & use them mightily as channels of the good news.

## January 9 | Monday - Maldives

Many Maldivians go to other countries, particularly to Sri Lanka, for educational & employment opportunities. They also get to hear the good news in these places. Pray that their hearts & minds will be open to Jesus. Pray that when they return to Maldives, they will be the salt & light to their families & friends.

## January 10 | Tuesday - Nepal

Rough roads & hours of trekking deter Christian leaders from evangelizing & equipping believers in the rural areas. Please pray that that they will be sustained spiritually, physically & financially.

## January 11 | Wednesday - Southern Philippines

Sulga assists a teacher in two literacy classes in Sangali from Mondays to Thursdays. Her desire, however, is to really be a teacher. Please pray that the Lord will open the door for her to become one.

## January 12 | Thursday - Central Asia

Praise God that we are able to help several believers by providing them a place of refuge in our safe houses, especially when pressure & persecution are too heavy & exhausting and they need a place of rest, encouragement & training.

## January 13 | Friday - Afghanistan

Pray for those involved in the follow up of Christian radio & TV programs. This is an area of intense spiritual warfare where there are often verbal assaults. But one team member said, "We never get discouraged when people swear at us. We get discouraged when people ask us for Bibles and we can't give them one."

## January 14 | Saturday - Tajikistan

Pray for the Christians here to be brave in preaching the Gospel to their countrymen because many are quite hostile to them, especially if they are Tajik or Uzbek.

## January 15 | Sunday - India

Please pray for protection on Christians against the series of attacks reported from various states which spreads out fear & tumult in the community. States like Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka recently reported attacks in Maharashtra.

## January 16 | Monday - China

China's rapid urbanization has caused many people to become aware that they need more than wealth to fill the spiritual vacuum in their lives, thus contributing to the strong growth in the urban churches. Pray that the renewing of their minds will gradually transform the way they live their lives. Pray also for wisdom for Open Doors in Asia as they assess where and how they can help the church to strengthen these believers.



#### January 17 | Tuesday - Ethiopia

Another church in western Ethiopia has been looted by Muslim suspects. The area is notorious for Muslim's hostile behaviour towards believers. Just recently, two MBBs were beaten to death for attending secret believers meetings. Church leaders say the situation is getting worse and ask supporters to earnestly pray for the church elders to lead with divine wisdom and to be strong for their members.

#### January 18 | Wednesday - Arabian Peninsula

Praise God for the growing opportunities to distribute Bibles and materials in the Arabian Peninsula. Pray that the Lord will protect those who are involved and that more doors will open for literature distribution.

#### January 19 | Thursday - Yemen

Thank the Lord for the growing demand for the New Testament. Local believers, who distribute to those they know, are requesting for more copies when they ran out. Pray that the Word of God will bring change to this country. Pray also for the protection of the believers.

#### January 20 | Friday - Iran

Pray for the release of Youcef Nadarkhani who is accused of apostasy. Pray for strength and comfort for his wife and two children Joel (7) and Daniel (9). Pray for his lawyer who is also facing legal difficulties.

#### January 21 | Saturday - Iraq

There will be many opportunities this year. Pray that God will give wisdom to make the right decisions and go for the right opportunities with regard to projects, distributions and trainings.

#### January 22 | Sunday - Tunisia

Pray for the political situation and instability in this country. Pray that the new constitution will give more freedom to the believers.

#### January 23 | Monday - Libya

Pray for this country after the demise of the Gaddhafi regime. Pray that a stable society will emerge in which there will be more freedom & trust for all believers.

#### January 24 | Tuesday - Mauritania

Because of the great pressure on the believers, leaders are often forced to operate in small networks. Pray for unity and cooperation among the networks. Pray for better coordination of help for individual believers in the areas of training, support for those who are ill and other difficulties in daily life.

#### January 25 | Wednesday - Vietnam

Some of Open Doors' programs are now reaching believers in the Northern provinces. The local coordinators go into great lengths to implement them without getting hampered by local police. Continue praying for God's protection and blessing upon these faithful workers and their families.

#### January 26 | Thursday - Mexico

The Zapatista community wants the Gospel but they are waiting for their leader's approval. Please pray that this leader will welcome the Gospel in their community.

#### January 27 | Friday - Bhutan

Bhutan presently struggles with a high rate of domestic violence and drug use among teenagers. Pastors and believers are in need of training opportunities that will teach them biblical principles on marriage, family and parenting. Pray that God will bring these kinds of programs to local churches in Bhutan.

#### January 28 | Saturday - Indonesia

Ministers have responded to a perceived rise in radicalism and religious intolerance by announcing a new "bill on religious harmony". Some experts warn that it may restrict religious freedom. Please pray for the Indonesian Government, especially the Religious Affairs Minister, so that wise decisions are made in relation to this issue.

#### January 29 | Sunday - Malaysia

Work among MBBs remains underground as the government relentlessly hinders Gospel sharing among Malay Muslims. Pray that the MBBs and the workers will be persistent in knowing and sharing *Isa Al Masih* (Jesus Christ).

#### January 30 | Monday - Myanmar

Dependency on others, even on God, is frowned upon by locals. That is why many Christian pastors here would like to have a job or livelihood of their own to be strong witnesses for Christ in their communities. But the lack of opportunities discourages them many times. Please pray for God's provision.

#### January 31 | Tuesday - Sri Lanka

The lack of theological materials continues to be a serious problem for the church leaders and pastors here. Printed resources for the large Sinhala-speaking church are very few. The language is spoken only in Sri Lanka, hence the scarcity. Pray that God will call more skilled translators and writers.

*"Whenever the rainbow appears, I will remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures on the earth."*

*Genesis 9:16*



**OpenDoors**  
Serving persecuted **Christians** worldwide

**PRAYER CALENDAR**

**jan**  
**2012**



february  
2012

# MYRESPONSE



# Open Doors PRAYERCALENDAR february 2012

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### February 1 | Wednesday - Ethiopia

Sintayehu, a widow who lost her husband in 2009 because of persecution, recently lost another loved one in an explosion- his son Abush. Please pray for God's comfort and strength for her & her children to overcome the tragedy.

### February 2 | Thursday - South Sudan

The construction of the Emmanuel Christian Training Centre (ECTC) has been completed. Praise our Father in heaven who made it all possible.

### February 3 | Friday - Bangladesh

There are over one hundred literacy classes running, mostly in the Southern and Western districts of Bangladesh. Open Doors provides training to the teachers as they will go to the far flung villages to start these classes. Many are met though with hostility from locals. Pray for divine protection, strength and courage for these teachers.

### February 4 | Saturday - Bhutan

Sixty-three percent of the country's 700,000 population are 24-years-old and below. There is a high rate of juvenile delinquency, drug abuse and prostitution. The Church in Bhutan can play a vital role in alleviating the prevalence of these social evils. Pray that the body of Christ will be an agent of transformation for the Bhutanese youths.

### February 5 | Sunday - Brunei

The few believers among citizens of Malayan origin are most likely practicing the Christian faith in secret. Although being a secret believer mitigates much of the risks, there is much stress in keeping Christ's light hidden to a certain degree. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give them much wisdom especially when there are opportunities for them to share about their faith to others.

### February 6 | Monday - Indonesia

The House of Representatives passed the Zakat Management Bill (Islamic mandatory alms) into a law. It is hoped that this will play a greater role in supporting the government's efforts to alleviate poverty. Pray that the Lord will intervene in every policy that the government makes; that the policies will be for the welfare of all citizens, regardless of the religious background.

### February 7 | Tuesday - Laos

For any believer to flourish in his relationship with God, access to His Word is non-negotiable. But most of the believers in Laos cannot afford to have a copy of the Bible. Those who have the means cross the borders to Thailand in order to purchase one, since the printing and selling of Bibles within Laos is prohibited. Pray for the Lord's provision so they can have a personal copy of the Bible.

### February 8 | Wednesday - Malaysia

The Restricted Residence Act in Malaysia allows police to hold people, suspected of illegal activity, for exile and confinement in a designated remote area. It is possible that this law has been used on Muslim citizens who convert to Christianity as part of their "re-education". Thankfully, this Act has been repealed last year. Praise God for this development!

### February 9 | Thursday - Maldives

The culture of suspicion in Maldives prevents the few believers from coming together for prayer, worship and training. They are careful for people around them who may be watching them. Because of this, believers are isolated and ministry workers are neglected. Please pray for their situation.

### February 10 | Friday - Myanmar

Out of great compassion, church worker Myat (not her real name) has adopted nine children from her hometown after Cyclone Nargis in 2009. Last year, Open Doors gave her a sewing machine so she can earn a living. Continue to pray for Myat's livelihood to be successful and for the Lord's joy to strengthen her.

### February 11 | Saturday - Southern Philippines

The Tausug tribe tops the hierarchy of Muslim tribes in Southern Philippines. They are also the most dominant and territorial, exhibiting fierce commitment to the Islamic faith and traditions. Pray for God to prepare their hearts for Jesus Christ. Pray also for the few MBBs among them to grow in their spiritual walk in spite of the pressure from families and communities.

### February 12 | Sunday - Sri Lanka

Open Doors, through a local organization in Sri Lanka, purchases and distributes sets of theological books and references to students of Bible schools. This year, 150 book sets are slated to be given, so please pray for these resources to be a blessing not only to the seminary students, but also to the churches they desire to start in the future.

### February 13 | Monday - Vietnam

The 14-week Family Enrichment Program continues to bless house churches in Vietnam, even though it is still being piloted. Fathers begin to take leadership at home when it comes to the spiritual well-being of their families. Relationships are restored and there is better communication. Please pray for this program to reach more Christian families in Vietnam.

### February 14 | Tuesday - Azerbaijan

Please pray for much wisdom and courage for the Christians in Azerbaijan. No churches have been able to register over the past 2 years. There are constant legal changes while fines are increasing and imprisonment is also possible. Authorities are thoroughly checking the financial book keeping of all religious organizations to prevent the transfer of money to terrorist organisations.

### February 15 | Wednesday - Kazakhstan

Freedom to worship in prisons and detention centres has been curtailed. All places of worship (both Muslim and Orthodox) will be closed or turned into libraries. Please pray that Christians who have a ministry among detainees will find ways to continue.



#### February 16 | Thursday - Libya

Libya remains in transition. Pray for peace within the society and for the local church in this country. The new constitution is not giving them freedom.

#### February 17 | Friday - Arabian Peninsula

Pray for the many Asian expatriate workers (some of whom are Christians) who are in prison, often without trial or even charge. Pray that they will get Bibles and Christian literature from Christian visitors for encouragement and comfort.

#### February 18 | Saturday - Iran

As of this writing, Farshid Fathi is still in jail since Christmas 2010. Please pray for him and for other imprisoned Christians. Pray also that God will sustain and comfort their spouses and their children.

#### February 19 | Sunday - Israel & Palestinian Areas

Pray for the Messianic young believers who are about to finish their Lech L'cha training. They have followed a discipleship program over the last months after serving in the Israeli army. Pray that they find their place in the society and in their congregation.

#### February 20 | Monday - Iraq

Many Iraqis see their families split up in various countries. Please pray for their healing.

#### February 21 | Tuesday - Algeria

A big problem for the Christians in Algeria is 'Ordinance 03-06' which legalizes persecution and discrimination for faiths other than Islam. Please pray for an abolition of this law.

#### February 22 | Wednesday - Tunisia

It has been over a year since the revolution. Pray that the new constitution, which is being drawn up, will give more freedom for the believers.

#### February 23 | Thursday - Bhutan

Local pastors in Bhutan struggle with the lack of formal theological training, especially since Bible schools are not allowed to operate. They desire to learn more of God's Word and to grow in their understanding and application of it. Please pray that doors will be opened for training opportunities to reach these pastors.

#### February 24 | Friday - Laos

Because of political association with the US in the past, Hmong Christians suffer the impact of persecution in Laos. They are subject to the suspicion and close monitoring of the authorities. They also endure persecution from their own kin. Please pray for them.

#### February 25 | Saturday - Southern Philippines

Praise God for Daniel (not his real name) and Peggy (not her real name), who operate a day-care centre as an outreach ministry to their Muslim community. Pray for divine favour with government officials as they need to complete the registration process. Pray that God will use them in amazing ways as they witness to the families of the malnourished children who are in need of food and education.

#### February 26 | Sunday - Sri Lanka

Two years ago the civil war ended but traces of ethnic prejudice among the Tamils and Sinhals are still felt in many parts of Sri Lanka. Please pray for greater unity and cooperation among local churches. Pray that pastors and believers will be channels of peace, reconciliation and compassion regardless of ethnic backgrounds.

#### February 27 | Monday - Israel & Palestinian Areas

Pray for the small number of Christians in Gaza. It is difficult for aid workers to go there. Pray that visas will be given to Christians to encourage their brothers and sisters in Christ.

#### February 28 | Tuesday - Iraq

Many families and complete communities have to deal with all sorts of trauma. As the healing takes more than one generation, the people of Iraq are faced with a gigantic challenge. Pray for the hearts and minds of these precious people.

#### February 29 | Wednesday - Syria

Pray for the people of Syria that they will not lose hope for their country. Pray that they will continue to pray for their leaders and that true and divine change of hearts will be seen in the government.



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Serving persecuted Christians worldwide



*"If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing."  
I Corinthians 13:3*

**PRAYER CALENDAR**

**feb**  
**2012**

