

### SYRIA

1. In Syria, violence continues to erupt in waves and often Christians are caught in the crossfire, even targeted. Pray for much-needed peace and stability and for solutions to solve tensions.
2. The new President of Syria, Ahmed al-Sharaa, has promised reforms that would offer greater inclusivity and reconciliation. Pray for him for both wisdom and strength to deliver on this promise.
3. Elias\*, a Syrian brother (pictured with his family on cover), lost seven family members in last year's church bombing in Damascus. He shares: "We ask you to pray that we can resist every enemy, seen or unseen, and every thought that keeps us from glorifying God."
4. There is real fear of increased Islamic radicalization in parts of Syrian society. Pray that the Lord would cast out all fear, and that God would draw potential extremists to Him instead.
5. Elias' wife Hanan\* asks: "Pray for us to feel safe, to see our children growing up, and to be happy here. We need to live a beautiful life, not a life of fear."
6. Christian leaders don't seek to be shielded as a religious minority, but hope to stand as equal participants in their country's future. Ask God to turn this hope into a reality.
7. Dozens of Christians in Syria recently started or expanded their small businesses with a microloan from Open Doors' local partner. Pray their businesses will flourish and grow their community.

### YEMEN

8. Pray with Zaid\*, a Christian university student in Yemen. He has started a local church and has a vision to plant 40,000 house churches nationwide. Pray for wisdom and protection as he sets out to "live like Paul," he says.
9. Pray for Christian mothers in Yemen and throughout the world who take great risks to raise their children to know Jesus and follow

Him. Pray they will find favor with their family and community.

10. In the wake of a government crackdown on Yemeni Christians, many believers were detained, arrested and even imprisoned. Pray for strength for those facing interrogations, imprisonment or family pressures for their faith.

11. Pray for wisdom, insight and discernment for church leaders in Yemen. People sometimes act like they are Christians, looking to blackmail or extort the church for money. Ask God to pour out His Holy Spirit over their churches and ministries.

### SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

12. Pray for the children's storytelling programs that our local partner leads. Ask God to instill these Bible stories into the minds and hearts of these children.

### CHINA

13. Pray for China's next generation. A Chinese youth ministry leader shared, "The fiercest spiritual battle is for the faith of the younger generation. Campus ministry workers often face risks, and we need more prayers."

### NIGERIA

14. Today is Leah Sharibu's 22nd birthday. Since she was kidnapped by Islamist militants with 100-plus other schoolgirls in Nigeria, we've been praying for her return. When the other girls were released, Leah was held back because she refused to deny Christ. Pray with her family today.



Leah Sharibu

### IRAQ

15. In Iraq, choosing to follow Jesus can mean losing your job and long-term unemployment. Ask God to open doors for jobs in safe workplaces.

16. Iraqi pastors who work with converts face great risk for their ministry. One pastor shared: "Please pray for me and my family, that God will strengthen our faith to persevere."

17. Pray for Luay, 41, who received a microloan from Open Doors' local partner. With it, he purchased new appliances for his shop. He asks us to pray that God will grow his business so he can employ more people.

18. Pray that the church of converts from a Muslim background will continue to grow in Iraq—both in places where a secret church is already there and where Christians have no others to meet with and grow.

19. Praise God for the blessing of rain this winter in Iraq after so many dry seasons. For many Iraqi people, including generations of Christians, farming is their livelihood.

20. Pray with an Iraqi church leader for Christian youth. "Young people are distracted by things that pull them away from faith," he says. "Ask the Lord to guide them back to the truth."

### SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

21. Pray for Filipino fathers today and all fathers facing persecution for their faith. Ask God to give them courage and equip them to be the spiritual leaders in their families.

### IRAN

22. Pray with the underground church in Iran as they respond to the ongoing grief and confusion after this year's deadly protests killed more than an estimated 38,000 people nationwide.

23. Ziba\*, an Iranian Christian, shares: "We want to bring truth and hope to our nation ... Please pray that God shows us how to love our community with the hope of Jesus."

24. Pray by name today for Ghazal Marzban, a Christian convert in Iran. She is one of a rising



Silhouette of Maryam from Iran

number of religious minorities who have been rearrested. Ask God to be ever-close to our sister.

25. Pray with Maryam\*, a Christian woman serving the underground church in Iran. "Please pray for our people. What they have seen with their own eyes and heard with their own ears has deeply affected them."

26. Pray for those who serve Christians inside Iran—also affected by what they hear and carry. Ask the Lord to protect them and give them discernment and wisdom to know how to pray and comfort leaders.

27. Iranian Christian Majid\* asks for prayer for his parents and brother. His brother was kept in prison and beaten during the protests. Pray for healing and resilience.

28. Pray with 20-something Setareh\*, who leads small discipleship groups in Iran. "Pray that God brings a partner into my life—someone who shares His vision and calling."

29. Pray for Iranians, especially young people, who are seeking purpose and direction. Ask God to place people in their paths to guide them to Him.

30. Pray with Iranian Christians imprisoned for their faith. Heavenly Father, as we remember our family in prison (Hebrews 13:3), flood their cells with Your presence.

# July 2026

## Prayer Calendar

1. We celebrated World Refugee Day last month. Pray with Christians forced to flee their homes for safety. Ask God to comfort them and open new doors of opportunity and encouragement.

### YEMEN

2. An underground church network in Yemen asks: "Pray for our social media ministry and for the team working hard to make this all happen. Pray for strength, protection, wisdom and creativity."

3. Another network in Yemen shares: "Pray for unity in the church ... that the Lord would bind our hearts in sincere love with fellow believers. Ask God to grant our church wisdom and courage to work together."

4. Pray for encouragement and hope for Yemeni believers who have chosen to remain in their land amid intense scrutiny and persecution. Pray they will clearly see the hand of the Lord at work in our lives.

### IRAQ

5. Church leader Ayat\* faces health challenges and asked us to pray for healing. "Please pray that the Lord would strengthen me, renew my strength and give me grace to continue serving Christ."

### CHINA

6. Pray for Christian students in China. Once-vibrant student fellowships on university campuses have largely disappeared, with only a few continuing in secret. Ask God to guide them.

7. Pray today with Christian university teachers who are often placed on watchlists, frequently questioned by leaders and pressured to avoid unregistered house churches. Pray that their faith will be deeply rooted and unshakable.

8. Pray with students and teachers subjected to disciplinary measures for their faith. Ask God to find favor with Christian students denied access to graduate programs and applications for government positions.

### LAOS

9. Pray with us for the Houang\* family whose home was destroyed by villagers angered by the family's decision to attend a nearby church. Pray for Open Doors local partners as they work to find a long-term solution for the family.

10. Pray for recent trainings for local churches, especially participants in a session designed to help Christians address cults and false teachers. Pray that believers will stay rooted in the Word.

11. Pray for the Salt and Light Project that helps local churches work closely with our local partners to build relationships with local authorities through community initiatives, like school support.

### CENTRAL ASIA

12. Pray with 16-year-old Hysam\* from Central Asia. After he was baptized, his Muslim parents beat him and kicked him out of their house. Because of your support, Hysam has a place to live.

13. Pray for steadfast faith for Ayaz, a 40-year-old widower with two teen daughters. He is a new believer, and the recent loss of his wife has been devastating. Pray for wisdom and perseverance.

14. Praise God for recent discipleship training courses. At one conference focusing on the calling of the church, 283 believers from several Christian countries participated. Your prayers and support make this possible!

### BANGLADESH

15. In north Bangladesh, Christian persecution, especially against converts, is rising sharply. Pray

for provision and protection over the families forced into hiding.

16. Pray specifically with Mamum\*, a local evangelist threatened by Islamic leaders. He faces warnings to shut down the house church he leads. Ask God to shield him from the arrows.

17. Saiful\*, a local church pastor, asks, "Please pray for us, that we may remain faithful to Christ until the last drop of our blood." Pray for courage and blessing for Saiful and his family.

### NORTH KOREA

18. In North Korea, 20 to 40 households are grouped under a local monitor who reports on daily movements, any visitors and loyalty. Pray with underground Christians under this oppression.

19. North Koreans must attend self-evaluation meetings to confess their shortcomings and denounce each other. Ask God to speak His truth to North Koreans in these sessions.

20. Today, let's pray for believers who worship alone, that they will experience fellowship with God when human fellowship is impossible.

21. North Korean Christians recently shared that medicines of any kind are almost impossible to get. Pray that God will make a way for medicinal treatment and healing.

22. One North Korean believer reminds us of the importance to pray for North Korean family every day. "We still exist thanks to your prayers and support," he said. "Thank you for praying."

### VENEZUELA

23. Pray for God's guidance and wisdom so that the church in Venezuela can be a light amid social tension in a time marked by electoral processes and momentous decisions.

24. Venezuelan Pastor Manuel\* shared specific prayer requests after the removal of the country's former president. "Pray for our peace," he says, "and that the levels of anxiety and uncertainty among Venezuelans decrease."

25. There is fear that the government could become much harsher, even prohibiting church gatherings. Pray with church leaders as they respond to these challenges.

### SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

26. Our sister Josephina is grieving the loss of her husband and four children who remain missing after extremist attacks in Mozambique. She and hundreds are displaced. Pray for comfort and restoration.

27. Pray with the Christian community of Bum in northern Nigeria, where nine people were killed in a Fulani militant attack. Ask God to surround them with His presence and strength.

28. A recent video released from extremist group ISWAP tells Nigerian Christians: "Convert or die" and that all Christians are "legitimate targets." Pray fervently for protection.

29. Pray with us for five Rwandan believers sentenced to prison for "refusing to stop witnessing their faith."

30. Pray with Binta\*, whose Muslim family expelled her from their home when she trusted Jesus.

31. Praise God! Several Christian prisoners were recently released from Eritrea's notorious prison system. Continue to pray for the release of seven prominent church leaders.

\*Representative names and images used for security reasons