

December 2025

Prayer Calendar

Persecuted Children

1. When 11-year-old Robin* and his family were targeted for their faith in Bangladesh, it cost them everything. Pray for Robin and other children like him, who are isolated and ridiculed for following Jesus.

2. Robin's father initially accepted Jesus but when political chaos gave way to extremist threats on Christians, his father returned to Islam. Pray that he will find his way back to Jesus.

3. Pray with Robin today. His Christmas wish is friendship. He asks that kids at school will stop mocking him and that he can make new friends.

4. At only 12 years old, Alicia* (pictured on cover) has experienced significant persecution in Oaxaca, Mexico. Her family has lost access to basic services and faced violent threats. Pray for the freedom to follow Jesus.

5. Pray for the local community leaders in Alicia's area who restrict faith. Pray that God would soften their hearts to allow the building of a local church where they can gather and fellowship without fear of discrimination or violence.

6. Ask God to bless Alicia's family and other families like them this Christmas. Pray that "Emmanuel—God with us" wouldn't just be a nice Christmas slogan, but a reality they fully experience in their homes and churches.

7. A few years ago, Manuela* and Alaia**'s family fled Nicaragua due to religious persecution. Their father, a pastor, was imprisoned. Ask God to strengthen them as they continue to adjust to a life far from everything they know.

8. Pray that Manuela and Alaia's faith remains unshaken, and they rise to become leaders in the next generation of pastors, missionaries and evangelists.

9. Living so far away from home, Manuela and Alaia's family has been forced to rebuild their lives from scratch, including how they celebrate Christmas. Pray for a meaningful time together.



Dayang's Christmas message

10. Dayang*, is a 15-year-old quiet and shy girl from a Muslim-majority village in the southern Philippines. At school, she is mocked and easily attacked for her faith. Pray for her protection.

11. Pray for peace and salvation within Dayang's family. Pray that her father and extended relatives will come to know Christ through the faithful witness of Dayang and her mother.

12. Pray for perseverance for Dayang and her mother. Ask God to shield them from further harm and to strengthen their faith as they endure rejection, hostility and isolation from their community.

13. Pray with 11-year-old Inaya*, also from the southern Philippines. She's from a Muslim family and must practice her faith in secret. Pray for her protection for this secret believer.

14. Pray with Inaya for boldness as she grows in her faith despite the surrounding dangers. Father, we pray for our young sister, that she will feel ever-close to You and will walk in Your strength.

15. Inaya participates in a safe story-telling program led by Open Doors local partners where she can learn the Bible and find hope and courage to keep trusting Jesus. Pray for these believers who run this initiative.

16. Pray that persecuted families throughout the world find hope this Christmas. As believers

celebrate quietly or in secret, pray they experience the joy, comfort and presence of Jesus.

17. Open Doors is uniquely placed to identify and support children living with persecution in the most dangerous parts of the world to be a Christian. Pray for our teams and local partners as they follow God's call in their lives.

18. Pray for a grieving family whose 8-year-old boy Khristopel from Indonesia succumbed to internal injuries after being senselessly beaten by a group of older students for his faith. Pray for God's transcendent peace.

19. Pray with Khristopel's father: "Please pray that we may find strength to face this reality, even though our hearts struggle to bear this pain."

20. Open Doors local partners are practicing the ministry of presence and praying with Khristopel's family. "Thank you for coming all the way here to help and support us," Khristopel's father shared. "We hope our son will be remembered by many—and that such a tragedy never happens again."

Nigeria

21. For one horrifying week, armed Fulani militants ravaged villages in Nigeria's Benue State. When they left, at least 200 people were dead and thousands displaced from their homes. Pray for God's provision for shelter and food.

22. Most of the Benue State villages were Christian. Pray for comfort and strength for people mourning the loss of family and friends. May they be encouraged knowing their loved ones are with Jesus.

23. Pray for protection for the church in Nigeria. Christmas is often a time of increased attacks for churches who risk so much to gather and celebrate their Savior's birth.

24. Pray with our Nigerian family who lost loved ones in attacks last year on

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Pray for their peace and that they would be reminded they are not alone.

25. And He shall be called Immanuel, Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father. Pray that our brothers and sisters worldwide would experience Jesus' birth anew.

IRAN

26. Pray with your Iranian family today as mass arrests increase throughout the country. Some of the recent cases involve charges related to possession of Bibles. Pray for the gospel to go forward despite these setbacks.

27. Pray by name for 43-year-old Christian convert Aida Najafloo who faces multiple charges, simply for praying, performing baptisms and sharing Christian content online. Pray that God would keep her under His wing.

28. Pray for the families of prisoners who are missing their loved ones. Ask God to uphold their families by His grace. Pray that Jesus' love will shine even in places of deep darkness.

MEXICO

29. Pray for families of nine victims of an attack on a Christian-based rehabilitation center in Sinaloa. Pray they will cling to the promise, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted" (Matt. 5:4).

30. The center's director was likely targeted by drug cartels. Faith-driven social initiatives are often seen as threats, and he worked to keep youth out of crime. Pray for area Christians who "live in fear," says an Open Doors volunteer. "Some are too scared to leave their homes."

31. Remember Christians throughout the world who are hoping and praying for peace and freedom in 2026. Father, we pray that You would bring change in the lives of our sisters and brothers who risk so much to follow You.

January 2025

Prayer Calendar

NORTH KOREA

1. Continue to pray with us for Kim Jong Un and his family, especially his daughter, Kim Ju Ae, widely considered to be his successor. Ask God to do the impossible in this new year and beyond.

2. Evangelist Cho* hiked through the mountain forests bordering North Korea to find and help fleeing North Koreans and share the gospel. “My purpose in life is to save souls,” he shared. Pray with us that God would raise up more leaders.

3. Communities of faith in North Korea are often small gatherings of families or close friends. Pray that God would protect these beautiful expressions of His Church.

SOMALIA

4. Somalia is one of the most dangerous places to follow Jesus. Islamic extremist group Al-Shabab targets anyone they suspect to be Christian. Pray that the small number of believers would find shelter and safety.

5. Pray with your Somali brother Aweis Ali who every day makes a life-or-death decision to follow Jesus. “It could really cost me my life,” he says.

6. Somalia is a traumatized nation, and Christian Somalis like Aweis even more so. Pray that God’s Spirit will minister to them and that He would bring healing to their minds and spirits.

ERITREA

7. Many Christians are stuck in Eritrea’s notorious prison system—some of them detained simply for practicing their faith. Pray they will keep hope alive and be set free.

8. Pray by name today for seven Eritrean pastors imprisoned for their faith: Dr.

Futsum Gabrenegus, Rev. Gebremedhin Gebregiorgis, Dr. Kufllu Gebremeskel, Rev. Million Gebreselassie, Rev. Halie Naziga, Rev. Pastor Kidone Weldou and Rev. Dr. Tekieab Menghisteob.

9. Eritrea is ruled by a brutal dictatorship. Pray that President Afwerki’s heart would be turned away from oppression and toward the love of Jesus.

NIGERIA

10. It seems the violence in northern Nigeria is never-ending. Ask God to bring peace to this country. Just this year, thousands of Nigerian Christians were displaced from their homes.

11. Pray for Christian widows like Grace* who watched extremists beat and murder her husband because he was a pastor. Pray for healing, comfort and strength. Pray they would cling to Jesus.

12. Pray that Nigeria’s government would do everything possible to protect people from violence. Ask God to work on the hearts of both officials and the people who would inflict violence on His people.

AFGHANISTAN

13. Pray for Christians in Afghanistan who still endure after four-and-a-half years of Taliban rule. Ask God to protect His people and to give them a spirit of hope and peace.

14. Pray with Aisha* who met Jesus in a dream and left Islam to follow Him. She asks us to pray: “Please pray that we may raise many disciples and that the followers of Christ would grow in number across the country.”

15. Pray that God will change the hearts of the Taliban leaders. Ask God to soften their stance toward Christians and other religious minorities.

IRAN

16. In the aftermath of the war with Israel, many Iranian Christians report even stricter treatment from authorities. Pray that God will ease

tensions. Secret churches are growing! But they are always at risk.

17. Pray for believers who risk everything to gather and worship. The number of church leaders imprisoned in Iran skyrocketed this year. Pray for their release and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

18. Pray with Shima*, who knows firsthand the pain of deception. She was betrayed by someone in her house church who led authorities to them. Shima continues to lead ministry. Ask God to restore her trust.

YEMEN

19. Yemen continues to be a country torn apart, wracked by violence. Pray that peace will finally come to this country on the Arabian Peninsula.

20. The small number of Yemeni believers is growing—but each believer lives with the daily risk of violence and even death. Pray for courage and hope.

21. Khaled* found Jesus through an online ministry. Pray that God would raise up more believers like him to share the gospel. “Pray for believers in Yemen, that they grow in their faith and for the people of my country to know Jesus,” he says.

LIBYA

22. Violence in May 2025 rocked Libya’s capital, Tripoli, serving as a stark reminder of the country’s instability. Pray for peace and the emergence of a central government capable of restoring order.

23. Pray for justice for 11 Christian converts recently imprisoned for alleged offenses. While they have the right to appeal, the initial verdict reflects the immense risks that Christians face today.

24. Pray for strength and release for believers sentenced to long prison terms, that their appeals would lead to acquittal and freedom.
25. Few Christians live in Libya. If they’re

discovered, they could be targets. Pray for these believers ... that they would be able to follow Jesus in safety.

SUDAN

26. The brutal civil war in Sudan continues. Ask God to bring about a peaceful resolution and for the church to be peacemakers in this war.

27. Pray that Christians in Sudan can carefully live as salt and light and show that Jesus’ peace is a better way.

28. Pray for the future of the church in Sudan and wisdom for her leaders. Even if the warring parties are able to come to a peaceful resolution, neither are favorable towards the church.

PAKISTAN

29. Pray for Christians accused unjustly of blasphemy and ask that God will help them avoid imprisonment or vigilante “justice.”

30. Many Pakistani Christians are forced into menial jobs because of their identity as Christ followers. Pray these believers will be sustained and know their value and worth in God’s eyes and economy. Pray for significant change in Pakistani society.

31. Pakistan’s recent conflict with India left believers in both places filled with fear. Thank God that a ceasefire has held and pray that God’s perfect peace will reign.



In photo: Pakistani men