

# AUGUST

## PRAYER CALENDAR

*\*Representative names used for security reasons*



Photo: Tara\* in Nepal

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY

**1**

Praise God today for a women's ministry that has impacted more than 500 women. The ministry was born out of a persecution preparedness training organized by Open Doors partners.

**2**

The ministry is the result of seven women who attended the training and worked to get their church to understand the necessity to prepare for persecution. Pray blessings over these women.

**3**

Pray with your sister Auristine who leads the ministry. The group has planted groups in 12 communities. *"I am able to see the women fulfilled and ready to face persecution,"* she says.

### EGYPT

**4**

Pray with Mariam, an 18-year-old girl who lives in a poor home in a slum village where Christians face severe persecution. Growing up, Mariam struggled with her self-worth.

**5**

Mariam started going out with a Muslim man who gave her the attention she longed for. Over time, he manipulated her and began pressuring her to convert to Islam and marry him. Pray for her healing and restoration.

**6**

Mariam had no idea she had become prey to a tactic of Islamic groups that lure young vulnerable Christian girls. Ask God to shield Mariam from future dangers and pressures.

**7**

Pray for peace and comfort for all vulnerable Christian women throughout the world. *God, we ask You to be our sisters' refuge and source of hope.*

### NEPAL

**8**

Pray with your sister Tara\*. Her husband Ramesh\* threatened to divorce her if she did not renounce her faith and stop attending church.

**9**

Ramesh attempted to burn Tara's Bible and has now hidden it from her. He has threatened to throw her out of the house. Pray that God grants His strength to Tara.

**10**

Ramesh has restricted her from attending church and associating with other Christians. Pray for encouragement and comfort in Tara's emotional and mental distress.

**11**

Pray that Tara experiences God's presence intimately in this time of loneliness and finds encouragement to grow spiritually.

### NIGERIA

**12**

Pray for strength with your sister Grace, who witnessed the brutal murder of her husband, Joshua, because he was a pastor.

**13**

With the support of Open Doors partners, Grace received trauma care at our Shalom Center, where she found comfort and the will to forgive her husband's killers. *"Here, I was finally able to let go,"* she says. Pray for her continued healing.

**14**

Pray with Pastor Elam, one of many church leaders in Nigeria's Taraba State, who is participating in leadership training led by Open Doors local partners. Thank you for making this training possible.

**15**

Pastor Elam asks Open Doors supporters to pray: *"Pray for unity in the church. Traditional beliefs have also caused many problems. Pray for God's wisdom on how to speak to our sheep."*

**16**

Pastor Elam asks: *"Pray that God grants us wisdom on how to become credible leaders before those we lead and serve."*



Photo: Young boy in Philippines

## PHILIPPINES

**17**

Pray for 9-year-old Ehsan who followed Jesus out of Islam. He's facing intense pressure at school for his faith, as he refuses to wear a kopiah (Muslim headwear). He was punished and isolated by his teacher.

**18**

Pray that God would strengthen Ehsan to withstand the bullying and isolation. "I feel sad and scared when they tell me to wear the kopiah. My friends laugh at me when they move me to the back of the class," he says.

**19**

Ask God to strengthen Ehsan's faith to stand firm in Christ. He feels alone in his faith, with little support beyond his praying parents. Pray that God would reveal tangible examples of His love and care.

**20**

Pray for Ehsan's teachers and classmates ... that God would soften their hearts and provide opportunities to share the love of Christ with them.

**21**

Ehsan refuses to conform due to his love for Jesus. Pray for Christians who followed Jesus out of Islam. Ask Him to protect and encourage them when they stand for Him.

## NICARAGUA

**22**

Please pray for your brothers and sisters in Nicaragua where 50,000 men and women were asked to join the country's security forces.

**23**

Pray for the local church, that the Lord will help it stay strong and protected. Ask God to shield vulnerable families and communities in the face of increased repression.

**24**

Pray for wisdom and courage for religious leaders to continue to guide God's people with faith and hope. And pray for government officials ... that the Lord would touch the hearts of those in power, bringing repentance and a change in the country's direction.

## SRI LANKA

**25**

Pray for comfort and trauma care for our sister Sasha. She has endured vicious death threats for her faith. Her father, a devout Hindu, threatened to burn her alive.

**26**

Pray the opposition from Sasha's father will stop and she can go to church without fear. Pray that Sasha's father will also come to know the Lord.

**27**

Ask God to strengthen Sasha, as she shares the gospel; pray she will have more divine encounters with others who need to hear Christ's hope.

## OPEN DOORS' LOCAL PARTNERS

**28**

Pray for our local partners as they cultivate strong leaders for churches of believers from a Muslim background who will disciple new believers.

**29**

As soon as Open Doors partners are in contact with a new believer, they attempt to connect them to a local (underground) church. The work is risky. Pray for guidance.

**30**

Our staff in the Middle East need your prayers. When they visit secret believers, they often must travel to isolated areas. Pray the Lord will "blind" the eyes of persecutors.

**31**

Pray for stamina for our local partners. Ask God to revive them when they're weary and strengthen them when they're weak. Pray especially for good physical and emotional health.

\*\*\*

*"He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us..."*

2 CORINTHIANS 1:10