

# OPEN DOORS HONG KONG

# JANUARY PRAYER CALENDAR

*\*Names changed for security purposes*

## 1 Sudan

Islam is deeply embedded in Sudanese society, and Christians face serious restrictions, such as constant surveillance. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance as they worship Him under such circumstances.

## 2 Sudan

Praise the Lord that, after many years, the Sudanese government cleared a shipment of Arabic Bibles last year. Pray that God's Word will revive those who know Him and bring light to many still in darkness.

## 3 Uganda

Mary (39) and her six children were kicked out of the house by her husband after he found out they had become Christians. They are struggling to make ends meet, which has resulted in her oldest child dropping out of school. Pray that God will meet all the needs of this family.

## 4 Guinea

Ibrahim (31), a believer from a Muslim Background, husband, and father of two, was forced to find shelter with another Christian after his Muslim family tried to kill him. Pray for the Lord's protection, and that he will continue to grow in the faith. Pray that his wife, children, and persecutors will come to know Jesus.

## 5 Nigeria

Christian women in Nigeria continue to suffer trauma and social exclusion as Boko Haram and Fulani militants use sexual violence when attacking Christian communities. Pray that God will completely heal them from this trauma.

## 6 Nigeria

Many Christian women and young girls have been kidnapped by Boko Haram, forcefully converted and married off to a Muslim man. Please pray for God's protection over all who have been kidnapped and for their release.

## 7 Eritrea

Aster\* whose pastor-husband is in prison for worshipping outside of state-recognised churches in Eritrea, says, "pray for our suffering to end, and for courage to overcome all the problems we face. Pray

fervently that we [can] worship God freely in our country."

## 8 Ethiopia

Nuredi, a believer from a Muslim Background, was attacked by Muslim villagers to punish him for his Christian faith, destroying his house and belongings. Pray for the Lord to restore to him all he has lost according to His riches.

## 9 Ivory Coast

Please pray for Louise K. (29), a wife and a mother of two. When she became a Christian her husband and Muslim relatives rejected and abandoned her and her children. Pray for God's provision for Louise and her children. Pray also for her entire family to meet Christ.

## 10 Democratic Republic of Congo

The mostly Christian population in the northeast of the DRC are vulnerable to brutal violence, destruction of property and kidnapping by militants associated with the Islamic radical group, Allied Democratic Forces. Pray for the Lord's protection over His people and for an end to the bloodshed in this country.

## 11 Chad

Achta (20s) is a Sunday school teacher. Nearly 200 children used to attend Sunday school at her church, until some of their Muslim families stopped them. She asks that we pray that they will be allowed back, and that many of them will come to know Christ.

## 12 Maldives

Maldives has a new president following president Yameen's defeat at the general elections in September, last year. Pray for God to use President Ibrahim Solih to bring about changes that will benefit the people and will allow for more religious freedom.

## 13 Indonesia

In the run-up to the 2019 presidential and legislative elections in Indonesia there are groups that may stir up trouble, including smearing Christians, to gain the upper hand in the elections. Pray for a peaceful and just campaign, and that upright politicians will be elected to office.

#### **14 Sri Lanka**

Schools across Sri Lanka need 400 teachers to teach Christianity. But many people are uninterested in teaching Christianity at schools as it does not pay well. Pray that God would raise up people with a burden to fill these positions.

#### **15 Vietnam**

Praise the Lord for church leaders like pastor Chai who courageously distribute Bibles and biblical materials to their believing and non-believing neighbours. Pray that despite being fined for distributing Bibles, pastor Chai will continue to serve the Lord and obey what He has called him to do.

#### **16 Bhutan**

Praise the Lord for the completion of a discipleship workshop for women in Bhutan. Many more women are interested in joining the next workshop. Pray that all the women, benefitting from these workshops, will continue to grow and be a blessing in their homes and villages.

#### **17 Libya**

In November, last year, we prayed for Amida\* who is being pursued by Muslim men to marry her. Pray that she will remain strong in her faith, as she feels that accepting one of these offers is the only way forward for her. But, she also realises that this will put pressure on her Christian faith.

#### **18 Tunisia**

Pray for Hassan\*, a believer who is mistreated by his family. His brothers tried to steal his inheritance, and he is struggling to establish a life for himself. Pray for his protection and that God will undertake for him.

#### **19 Morocco**

The Moroccan church asks for prayer for their second generation of believers. Young people struggle with staying connected to the church as society tries to pull them back into Islam. Pray that they will stand strong and remember who they are in Christ.

#### **20 Gaza**

Christians in Gaza suffer many hardships in their daily life. Pray that God will help them to remember His promises to them, and that this will be a source of hope and blessing to them.

#### **21 Arabian Peninsula**

Pray for the safety of believers in this region where Islam is the dominant religion. Pray that Christians who are persecuted will be witnesses of life, strength and God's grace.

#### **22 Yemen**

Pray that the Lord will use everything that Christians in Yemen go through to be a witness to those around them and that He will make believers stronger and more committed to the Kingdom of God, which is being established in the land.

#### **23 Syria**

The Syrian war has had a huge effect not only in the region, but around the world, because of Syrian refugees, or other governments getting involved in the war one way or another. Let's pray that this long-lasting war will finally come to a complete halt.

#### **24 Algeria**

Pray for strength for believers who have been unjustly imprisoned. Pray for their loved ones – the fear and uncertainty of imprisonment can be troubling and traumatic for both those inside and outside jail.

#### **25 Iran**

Please pray for Iranian believers who are dealing with trauma after being imprisoned or even tortured as well as for those who face persecution from their families and society. Pray that God will reveal the truth of who He is to their persecutors.

#### **26 East Asia**

Pray for some Christian children who are not permitted to attend Christian meetings. Some children have been coerced by their school teachers to deny their faith. Pray that God will give them the strength to endure the pressure they face.

#### **27 Brunei**

Pray for the local church to continue to strengthen the discipleship of young believers so that they will grow strong in their faith.

#### **28 India**

Pray for Christians throughout India who face daily persecution for their faith. Local church partners keep reporting about the growing number of daily persecution incidents. Pray for strength for these Christians amid such trying times.

#### **29 Kenya**

Last year, two people lost their lives during a bus attack by al-Shabaab militants, after they could not recite the Muslim Shahada (confession of faith). Pray that those who witnessed this terrible violence will be drawn to the beauty of Christ that stands in stark contrast to everything the militants stand for.

#### **30 Cameroon**

In September, last year, Sadia (18) underwent surgery to remove a tumour after being diagnosed with cancer. Over the next couple of months, she will go for chemotherapy. Pray that the Lord will complete the good work of healing He has already begun in her.

#### **31 Worldwide**

Pray for persecuted Christians worldwide as they face an increase in persecution. Pray that, amidst the persecution, they will be resilient in the faith and through their witness many will be led to Christ this year.