

May 19

Summer camps across the world enable kids to learn about God in a fun atmosphere, from Laos to Central Asia to the Middle East. Basim* met the Lord at camp and now is uniquely equipped to minister at camps to the same kind of teen he once was. Pray for safe camps and effective evangelism this summer.

May 20

The pandemic has made it difficult to meet practical needs, yet partners have gone to extraordinary lengths to bring food, medicine and other necessities to persecuted believers in remote places. Thank God for their loving sacrifice, and pray for their endurance.

May 21

Bishnu Pada Das was helped by local partners to attain his theology degree—impossible before, due to financial constraints. “Now I can present the words of God more profoundly and easily,” he said. Pray for Pastor Bishnu as he ministers to unreached people.

Other ways to pray for the persecuted

Your words to Heaven on behalf of persecuted family don't fall on deaf ears—and neither do your petitions for broader changes. This week, consider things you can pray for beyond individual or local situations, and see how God is at work.

May 22

Pray for elections. Countries like Libya and Algeria have gone through critical elections that impact the lives of all the believers within their borders. Ask God to direct the outcome of elections to bring peace to His family.

May 23

Pray over laws. Central Asia has more believers in prison than anywhere else because of unjust and vague religious laws. India is trying to pass in more places laws that make conversion illegal. Pray for the laws directed against Christians in specific countries to be lessened or rescinded.

May 24

Pray for tolerance. Throughout sub-Saharan Africa, Christians are favorite targets of militants simply because these believers follow Jesus. Ask God to lay a blanket of tolerance over the hearts of those who persecute Christians.

May 25

Pray for an awakening. Sometimes something simple brings many people to Christ. In Laos, distribution of 250 Lao Bibles led to joyous revival in the area they were distributed. Pray for God to stir revival in specific countries across the globe.

May 26

Lift up current court cases. Many believers face imminent trials because of their faithful stand for Christ. Ask God to directly intervene in the outcome of these cases.

**Name changed to preserve security.*

May 27

Pray for our partners. Lift them up, and ask God to bless their efforts and keep them in the palm of His hand.

May 28

Pray for the persecutors. Imagine, if you can, the darkness of the hearts of those who persecute innocent Christians. Ask God to touch their tortured hearts and show them the great light of salvation, leading them away from harming believers.

Hope for the Middle East

Open Doors has a seven-year plan to pray for the church in the Middle East as Christians heal and rebuild in the years after being decimated by war and the Islamic State group. Join our multiyear Hope for the Middle East Prayer Campaign as we lift up requests from believers in Iraq and Syria. You can also visit ODUSA.org/Pray4ME to learn more.

May 29

In Syria, Islamic State group militants made headlines earlier this year for trying to free extremist fighters from prison. Pray that God will cause extremism in Syria to lessen and change the hearts of those who want to hurt His people.

May 30

Amal* is a Syrian believer from a Muslim background. As a divorced woman, she fled Syria in an attempt to live her faith freely. Her two daughters also became believers, but they are under pressure from their father. He forbids them from reading the Bible, going to church and even contacting their mother. Pray for Amal and her daughters, that they may experience the love and hope of Jesus in a new way.

May 31

Syrian security officials are closely monitoring our local partner teams. Many questions were asked about our work in recent months. Pray for protection for our partners as they continue to work for the gospel in Syria.

MAY 2022



Prayer Force ALERT

Prayer request bulletin for
persecuted believers worldwide

GET UP-TO-DATE REQUESTS FROM PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD THROUGH OUR FREE PRAYER APP. TEXT “PRAYER” TO 32500 TO DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW!



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Be secret or be persecuted

In many places, believers in Jesus are, by definition, secret believers. Their lives, their livelihoods and their freedom may depend upon it. Iran has imprisoned many believers just for attending house churches or gathering in twos and threes. Lift them to the care of the Father this week.

May 1

Saheb Fadaie is serving a 6-year sentence for being part of a house church in Iran. He and others have written an open letter asking where they are to go to church if nothing is legal for them. Pray for their efforts to raise awareness of this injustice.

May 2

Nine believers were given 5-year sentences for “acting against national security” because they were members of house churches. The Iranian Supreme Court has ordered new trials for them. Pray that these believers will be freed.

May 3

In Iran it is unacceptable to convert from Islam. Three believers, accused of “engaging in propaganda that educates in a deviant way contrary to the holy religion of Islam,” have begun 3-year prison sentences for following Jesus. Pray for them.

May 4

Ayoob Poor-Rezazadeh was arrested at a house church and held for a month in secret. He was treated harshly, forced to listen to hours of Quranic verses daily, and released on a bail that cost a significant sum. Pray for those who wish to attend house churches but fear the same treatment.

May 5

Iman was seized by police, interrogated for 10 hours a day for months, tortured and finally given a suspended sentence—because he converted from Islam. He eventually had to flee Iran to survive. Pray for those who have been forced to do the same in order to survive.

May 6

Reza Zaeemi is one of several released prisoners who are required to wear an electronic tag to finish their sentences. Such devices make it impossible for them to fellowship with other believers

without betraying them. Pray for those who are isolated by technological punishment like this.

May 7

Farough* was denied a promotion and received reduced compensation after losing three fingers due to a lack of safety provisions at his factory. Pray for believers like him who face continual workplace discrimination and persecution for their faith.

They will know by your love

Jesus calls His disciples to love one another and to reach out to those around them with the gospel. He never promised it would be an easy task—or a safe one. This week consider the stories of believers who share Him, despite the risks.

May 8

Despite being abandoned by her family when she was diagnosed with HIV at a young age, Mikon* returned from the clinic that cared for her for 10 years to share her faith with her family. Praise God for her heart of forgiveness.

May 9

India has been shaken by anti-Christian violence for months. But rather than cower, believers in Chhattisgarh took to the streets—to worship and praise God in song and testimony. Give thanks for their godly response.

May 10

Fernando’s family was hounded by Colombian militia groups demanding the children serve in the militia. Rather than become embittered, Fernando served for 16 years at a center for children. Thank God for faithful servants like Fernando.

May 11

Evgeny* has made multiple evangelistic trips throughout Central Asia to tell people about Jesus. Though threatened, he perseveres in his ministry because he loves the people he reaches out to. Pray for his continued safety and success.

May 12

Persecution preparedness trainers risk many dangers to bring the program to people throughout the world, teaching them how to respond to persecution in a way that reflects their faith and trust in Jesus. Pray for the trainers who are on the road today.



May 13

In Sri Lanka, Sameera’s* family and pastor were beaten in the street for their faith. And yet Sameera’s prayer is that “all these people who oppose us will come to experience Christ.” Pray with him.

May 14

The Jimenez family was chased out of their Mexican town for not participating in local traditions that ran contrary to their faith in Jesus. They are trusting God to bring them back to the village. “We want to give testimony so they can see we have a living God on our side,” they said. Pray for their restoration.

Spreading Jesus Practically

A large part of Jesus’ ministry when He walked the earth was interacting directly with people at their point of greatest need—whether it was healing or freedom from oppression or poverty of spirit. Local Open Doors partners are blessed to be able to reach out with the gospel through practical ministries.

May 15

An adult literacy class in Bangladesh allowed Sumi* to bring an essential skill to those who needed it, while also opening students’ eyes to the beauty of the Bible. Pray for literacy teachers to have open doors to continue the work.

May 16

Many converts are ostracized by their families and communities and lose their jobs. Thanks to partners in India, Sachin* now has a small electrical repair shop that has transformed his life. Pray for partners to have creative ideas to assist the persecuted.

May 17

In Nepal, Pabitra was standing firm in her faith but desperate to support her family. Partners helped her get started in goat farming. Thank God for the security this gives Pabitra.

May 18

Marriage is a picture of Christ and His Church, and so Christian marriage training is really discipleship at its most intimate level. In Bangladesh, 104 couples learned to become Jesus-led families. Pray for the expansion of this program to reach more couples.