

# Prayer Guide

December 2025 – January 2026

**“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” – Romans 12:12**

## December

**01** 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.

**02** Robin's father initially accepted Jesus, but when political chaos gave way to extremist threats on Christians, his father returned to Islam. Pray he finds his way back to Jesus.

**03** 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.

**04** 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.

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

**06** 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 through Jesus Christ.

**07** 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.

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

**09** 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.

**10** Somayeh now leads an online ministry serving secret Christians in Iran. Outside her native country, she attends training sessions organised by Open Doors. “The trainings have deepened my understanding of God's Word,” she says. Ask God to expand her ministry.

**11** Pray for peace and salvation within Dayang's family in the Philippines. Pray her father and extended relatives 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 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.

### Indonesia

**18** Pray for a grieving family whose eight-year-old boy, Khristopel, 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,” Khris' father shared. “We hope our son will be remembered by many and that such a tragedy never happens again.”

### Bangladesh

**21** Pray for Fahed, who was fired from his job, beaten, and forced from his home when he left Islam to follow Jesus. Pray for comfort. He's separated from his wife and son.

**22** Open Doors local partners have supported Fahed with emergency assistance and prayers. Pray for this family to soon be reunited.

**23** Pray for four Christian families who were forced from their homes after choosing to follow Jesus. Pray for a new place to live where they can find secure employment, settle permanently, and worship in peace.

### Christmas Eve

**24** Pray with our Nigerian family who lost loves 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.

## Christmas Day

**25** And He shall be called Emmanuel, Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father. Pray our brothers and sisters worldwide will experience Jesus' birth anew today.

## India

**26** Pray with the Christian community in Odisha State who was violently attacked by 1,500 to 2,000 extremists and villagers because they left their tribal faith and trusted Jesus.

**27** In the attack, more than 30 Christians were injured, including 20 who were severely wounded. Pray for complete physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

**28** Open Doors' local partner is providing urgent relief and medical assistance, ensuring the attacked families are covered in prayer and support. Pray believers' faith will be strengthened through this provision.

## North Korea

**29** Open Doors workers recently received a touching message from a North Korean secret believer: "We train the young believers with what we receive from you. That you help us is proof God has not forgotten us." Praise God for this stewardship.

**30** Please pray for the provision and protection of the people behind the underground work in North Korea. May the Lord's favour be upon them as they minister and conquer challenges.

**31** Pray for young North Korean leaders to stand firm in their faith. Pray they will remember Jesus is their hope, comfort, and strength.



Woman praying, Sudan

# January 2026

## Sudan

**01** Pray with us today for the Sudanese congregation of the Pentecostal Church in northeast Khartoum. They were forced to stand and watch as their church building was demolished.

**02** "People are extremely traumatised, and this impacts our witness," a church leader shares. Pray for Christians to receive emotional and spiritual healing from the now three-year-old war.

**03** Authorities have said that any building not complying to regulations will be destroyed throughout Khartoum State. Pray God thwarts the plans for the destruction of more church buildings.

## China

**04** Pray with a house church in Central China under official scrutiny following a report to local authorities. Pray they respond to this challenging situation with both wisdom and strength.

**05** There are concerns that the house church's leaders and co-workers could face future conviction. They face ongoing police surveillance. Ask God to protect these leaders and all those in China navigating continued crackdowns.

## Gaza and Israel

**06** Please pray with your family in Gaza, Israel, the West Bank, Lebanon, and other regions impacted by the war. Pray for lasting peace and justice in the Holy Land.

**07** Pray for a final end to the war and bloodshed. Pray for swift reconstruction of cities and for needed provision. "Pray for the continued presence of Christians in Gaza," says our local partner.

## Malaysia

**08** Praise God with us that He is changing lives and eternities in remote areas of Malaysia as Open Doors partners bring audio Bibles in their language to illiterate people groups.

**09** Pray with our local partners as they walk with these new believers, discipling these tribal groups to grow in their understanding of God's Word and faith.

**10** One believer in the Iban people group shares: "We've been waiting for the Iban Bible for about three months; now, we can read and hear God's Word in our own language." Pray they would become disciples who make disciples and start churches.

**11** Pray that funding for this audio Bible ministry would increase exponentially.

## Afghanistan

**12** Four years after the Taliban took power, it's nearly impossible to practice Christianity openly. Pray for protection and perseverance for Christians who convert from Islam. They reportedly experience, "threats of violence, forced conversion, and imprisonment."

**13** The small remnant of Afghan Christians holds to the promises of Jesus and has hope that more Afghans will come to faith in coming years and advance the Church. They ask the Open Doors community, "Pray for the gospel to ignite in this country and spread like a wildfire."

**14** Samira\*, an Afghan Christian woman, shares: “Even if we can’t go to church, we pray in our hearts and rooms.” She asks: “Pray that we feel the Holy Spirit in our loneliness.”

**15** Pray that Afghan Christians will sense in their hearts, “Emmanuel, God with us.” Samira shares: “Please pray that God makes our hearts strong in times of fear and silence.”

**16** Samira thanks you for praying with her and shares one more request: “Pray for physical safety, that we are not discovered, for our faith to stay strong. Pray for access to the Bible, and for more people to be baptised and become disciples.”

### Pakistan

**17** Praise God that, after 23 years on death row, 72-year-old Anwar Kenneth was acquitted of blasphemy. Pray that he and his legal team will be protected from any retaliation by extremists.

**18** Pray that the case will be a watershed moment and landmark decision, leading to more acquittals and a stop to the blasphemy law being misused and abused.

**19** Pray for Anwar as he recovers from his ordeal, and ask God to sustain all those in Pakistan facing false blasphemy accusations.

### Nigeria

**20** 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.

**21** 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.

**22** Pray God brings His supernatural peace to Nigerian Christians who live with the anxiety of knowing they could be attacked at any given time.

**23** Pray for protection for the Church in Nigeria. The hostile attacks on our Nigerian brothers and sisters have not waivered. Ask God for His supernatural strength, peace, calm, and healing for our family there.

**24** Pray with our Nigerian family who have lost loves ones. Ask God to heal their hearts and the trauma they experience. Pray for their peace and that they will be reminded they are not alone.

**25** Pray that our brothers and sisters worldwide will experience the joy of their salvation through Jesus in unprecedented ways, that their hearts are strengthened by His presence, and that their minds are protected by His covering.

### 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 Najaflou who faces multiple charges, simply for praying, performing baptisms, and sharing Christian content online. Pray that God will keep her under His wing.

**28** Pray for the families of prisoners who are missing their loves ones. Ask God to uphold their families by His grace. Pray 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 centre in Sinaloa. Pray they will cling to the promise, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted” (Matthew 5:4).

**30** The centre’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 will bring change in the lives of our sisters and brothers who risk so much to follow You.

\*Representative names and images used for security reasons.



Worship service, Mexico