

DAY OF PRAYER

Join us in praying for our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world.

PERSECUTION IS ON THE RISE

More than 380 million Christians worldwide suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith. That's a staggering 1 in 7 believers. According to Open Doors, a ministry that raises awareness and support of the worldwide persecuted church, the number of countries where Christians suffer high and extreme levels of persecution has almost doubled in the last 30 years.

WHAT IS PERSECUTION

Persecution takes many forms and often looks different in various contexts throughout the world. Believers might be separated from their families or ostracized by their communities. They may face discrimination in the workplace or education system. They could lose jobs or become the targets of extremists. They might have to flee their homes, or even face imprisonment, torture, or death.

WHY PRAY FOR PERSECUTED BELIEVERS

We pray because God's Word commands it and teaches us to pray for the Church (Ephesians 6:18-20). We pray because He works through prayer for the persecuted Church and causes their witness to inspire gospel transformation among the lost (2 Timothy 2:10).



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH GLOBALLY

Madou's story of persecution is one of many that are unfolding around the world right now. We must unite in prayer for our persecuted brothers and sisters.



Madou teaching at a Deaf school in West Africa. IMB photo.

- Ask God to comfort and strengthen persecuted believers who "are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:8-9).
- Pray for the Church to be confident in Christ's ultimate victory on the cross, remembering John 16:33 – "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."
- Pray God will give persecuted believers the perspective and grace to "count it all joy" and trust "that the testing of [their] faith produces steadfastness" (James 1:2-3).
- Pray for believers around the world who endure persecution to continue speaking God's Word "with all boldness" (Acts 4:29).
- Ask God to use their witness to draw many people to Himself.



Join us in a month-long prayer journey with IMB's PrayerPoints newsletter. Download or subscribe: imb.org/prayerpoints

imb.org/persecuted