

Intercede for the Muslim World!

I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no savior. I have revealed and saved and proclaimed—I, and not some foreign god among you (Is 43:11-12, NIV).

Today's Prayer Requests: From Students, Alumni, and Missionaries

BENIN: An alumnus writes, "The girl [a Muslim who accepted Jesus] for whom we have been praying is standing firm and asks that we continue to pray for the salvation of her relatives." Pray that the Lord would honor her prayers and testimony and work in the hearts of her family members.

In the News

Twenty-one girls who were among the 274 kidnapped from their school in Chibok, **Nigeria**, in 2014 were released by Boko Haram several weeks ago and have been in government custody. It was reported that they would be allowed to spend the Christmas holiday with their families. However, none were released to return home nor to attend Christmas services. Please pray for the return of these girls to their families and for their successful reintegration. Others were thought to be held in the Sambisa Forest, but reportedly Boko Haram's last base there was taken by the Nigerian army on December 24. Let us continue to pray for key leaders and soldiers in this terrorist group, that they may be confronted by the Spirit of God. Pray for the safe return of the remaining girls from Chibok and of hundreds of other women and girls enslaved by Boko Haram.

2016 World Watch List: Oman 50/50*

Oman, on the Arabian Peninsula, stretches along the eastern coast of the Arabian Sea. Most of its 3.4 million people follow Ibadi Islam, a sect that is more moderate and tolerant than Sunni or Shi'a Islam. Still, fewer than 1% are evangelical believers, and most of these are expatriates working in the country. It is not illegal to become a Christian, but Muslims who do so face extreme pressure from their families, and meeting for worship is illegal even in homes. Please pray that those who have decided to follow Jesus would have opportunities to grow in their faith and find fellowship with other believers. Pray for the children of Christians, who are often marginalized at school.

From Global Initiative**

Pray for the Russian republic of **Dagestan**. Of its 3 million people, 80% are Muslims. *This small republic in southwestern Russia is home to 34 people groups, none of which form a majority. Dagestan was the entry point of Islam into the North Caucasus region in the 7th century. Hundreds of Dagestanis have gone to Syria to fight for ISIS. People use Russian as a common language and so can read the Bible and follow media programs in this language. Pray that they would have access to God's Word in some form, and that the Lord would reveal himself to seekers in dreams and visions. Intercede for the few Christians, that they might grow and have courage to share God's love.*

For Muslim Women***

Please pray that bans upon Christian literature in Muslim countries would not restrain the Father's love from women who seek Him.

Prayer Resources

*For the 2016 World Watch List of the 50 countries where Christians are most persecuted, see http://bit.ly/1TgZmcr.

**Global Initiative is a ministry of Assemblies of God World Missions, USA. Visit <u>http://globalinitiativeinfo.com/</u> for information about praying for Muslims and weekly requests.

***Muslim women need your prayers! You can join a prayer network and receive regular requests at http://sayhelloinfo.com/.

For suggestions on starting a prayer group, see http://waastjumaa.blogspot.com/2016/04/waast-jumaa-prayer-groups.html.

For news updates concerning persecuted Christians, visit <u>http://morningstarnews.org/</u>, <u>http://worldwatchmonitor.org/</u>, and <u>http://www.releaseinternational.org/</u>.

For prayer requests, visit <u>http://www.opendoorsusa.org/pray/</u> and <u>http://www.persecution.com/public/pray.aspx</u>.

To help you answer Muslims' questions about God's Word, see http://www.unchangingword.com/ and http://answeringislam.org/.