

Intercede for the Muslim World!

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful (He 10:23).

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

BENIN: Please pray concerning the growing influence of Islam in this small West African nation. A church leader writes: "Muslims are taking an upper hand because they use holistic methods to convince and get converted the poor and needy peoples. They build wells everywhere to help people to get water. Muslims are getting to more than [27%] of the population whereas evangelicals have not reached 5% of the population.... In [the southern town] where I am ministering there is a mosque in every neighborhood. And they are trying to win Christians by proselytism. Plead for us." Pray that the Lord would raise up more workers to minister in the Muslim-dominated areas.

CAMEROON: Please intercede for the Far North Region of Cameroon, where Boko Haram militants continue to kill and kidnap. On January 6 and 7, five villages were attacked. Seven people were killed, three children kidnapped, and two churches burned. In 2019, more than 275 people in the Far North Region were killed in Boko Haram attacks. Pray

- that the Lord would encourage believers. As the people of the region live in fear of the next attack, pray that Christians would have opportunities to share the hope and peace of Jesus with their Muslim neighbors.
- for God's hand of protection over the churches, and for wisdom for a WAAST alumnus who serves as regional supervisor for the Full Gospel Mission, which has many churches in the area.

NIGERIA: On January 3, a pastor and chairman of his region's chapter of the Christian Association of Nigeria, was kidnapped for ransom by Boko Haram. This past Monday the news came that he was beheaded, as he refused to denounce Christ and the ransom was not paid. Read more at <u>https://tinyurl.com/bhpastor</u>. Please pray

- for God's comfort for this pastor's family and community—and for the hundreds of families, churches, and communities who have lost loved ones either to killing or kidnapping by Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa Province, and other factions.
- for Nigeria's President Buhari, who is himself a Muslim. Pray fervently that the Lord would work in his heart to take serious measure to curb the activities of these groups. Pray for his salvation.
- that Jesus would reveal himself to jihadists in dreams and visions, that their eyes would be open to His truth.

World Watch List 2020

Open Doors, a Christian charity that monitors the persecution of believers around the world, has released its 2020 World Watch List. This list ranks the 50 nations where it is most difficult to follow Jesus. North Korea has retained its position as number 1, being the most intolerant of Christians. In 39 of these nations, Islam is a driving force of persecution. Seventeen of the nations on the list are in Africa, and in all but one of these countries Islam is the main source of persecution. See or download the list at https://tinyurl.com/wwlist2020. And thank you for praying!

Prayer Resources

For the 2020 World Watch List, ranking the 50 nations where believers suffer most, see https://tinyurl.com/wwlist2020.

Global Initiative is a ministry of Assemblies of God World Missions, USA. Visit <u>https://reachingmuslimpeoples.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 a weekly lesson and prayer topic about an aspect of Islam, see https://prayingformuslims.com/.

For suggestions on starting a prayer group, see http://www.waast.org/pray-with-us/pray-for-the-unreached/.

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 <u>http://muslimsask.com/</u>, <u>http://www.unchangingword.com/</u>, and <u>http://answeringislam.org/</u>.