

## **Intercede for the Muslim World!**

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him (Ps 103:11).

## .. Today's Prayer Requests: From Students, Alumni, and Workers

**SENEGAL:** Recently we pray for the release of a container of tabernacles, steel structures that will be erected to serve as church shelters. *Praise God*, a worker reports, "The container has arrived and is sitting at the Bible School. We are waiting for the exoneration paperwork so it can be opened. Would you pray for this to be accelerated so we can put in more foundations and put up tabernacles?" Twelve young congregations will receive these shelters. Since no other construction teams are scheduled to come, local workers will be trained. *Please pray that these formalities would be done quickly and for the training of this new team*.

**SENSITIVE COUNTRY:** A student asks us to pray for a Muslim-background believer who lives near the Bible school where this student serves. He recounts this man's experience:

Some 15 years ago, "Hassan" (not his real name) was living on the border of a neighboring country with his wife and six children. "But when...he accepted the Lord and was even baptized in water, all his family was taken away from him.... To make him deny Jesus, the Muslim authorities tortured him in many ways, to no avail. They imprisoned him for several years." God gave Hassan favor, and a prosecutor finally freed him. After 10 years with no news of his family, with the guidance of a pastor, he married a Christian lady; they are expecting their third child.

Hassan has stood firm in his faith, despite the persecution. Sadly, he has also experienced rejection from Christians, noting that throughout his imprisonment no pastor or Christian ever visited or helped him. Although he owns and studies the Bible in his own languages, and has documents testifying to his true conversion, even now, when Hassan visits a church, people call him a "Boko Haram" and make him leave. Thank God, he has found a place in the church at the Bible school and in another small congregation made up of former Muslims. Even here he must be cautious about his attendance, as there are still those who seek to kill him.

Hassan's experiences exemplify the prayer needs of many who choose to leave Islam to follow Jesus. As we pray for the following requests given for Hassan, let's pray also for others facing similar challenges.

- Pray that Hassan would continue to persevere, to stay strong in Jesus. Pray for the many believers worldwide who are under great pressure to deny their Savior, that they would know divine encouragement and peace.
- Pray for pastors and believers who find it difficult to reach out to or who reject Muslim-background believers, usually due to fear. Pray that the Lord would help them to see these brothers and sisters through His eyes of compassion, and give them wisdom and discernment as they minister to them.
- Pray that Hassan's first family would come to know Jesus. Pray for those who have been ostracized by family members, that they might one day have the joy of seeing their loved ones come to Jesus.
- Pray that God would protect Hassan and his new family—and for our other brothers and sisters who face mortal danger because of their faith.

## **Prayer Resources**

For the 2022 World Watch List, ranking the 50 nations where believers suffer most, see https://tinyurl.com/2022wwl.

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.

For a weekly lesson and prayer topic about an aspect of Islam, see https://prayingformuslims.com/.

For suggestions on starting a prayer group, see https://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 http://www.opendoorsusa.org/pray/ and .

To help you answer Muslims' questions about God's Word, see <u>http://muslimsask.com/</u>, <u>http://www.unchangingword.com/</u>, <u>http://answeringislam.org/</u>, and <u>https://jesustomuslims.org/</u>.