



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

*The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation (Ps 118:14).*

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

**WEST AFRICA:** In most of the countries in West Africa, churches are free to evangelize, grow, and plant new churches, and often enjoy great respect in their communities—even those that are predominately Muslim. However, as several pastors in these milieus point out, most of these churches tend to be made up of outsiders and have few local, former Muslims attending. The primary reason: persecution from the family and society.

A student who pastors in a Muslim area of Benin shares the challenges that Muslims face when they hear and respond, over time, to the gospel. When a person accepts Christ, he explains, his or her family will typically say, “You have been erased from this family. Go get your food from the Christians.” Many seek help from the pastor, but often they must flee the area altogether, as their life is now under threat. Upon learning of a conversion, family members will quickly report the person to an imam to preserve the honor of the family. The imam may arrange for young people to kill the convert, for “becoming a Christian is the worst abomination.” A pastor from Togo adds that if the parents do not report the case of apostasy, they also face punishment and shame. These believers and seekers need our prayers!

***Pray for Muslims who have accepted Jesus.*** Some, before they flee to another area, ask for a letter of recommendation from the pastor, attesting that they are a believer and should be received in another church. Pray that the Lord would put believers in their path to help them in their new life, spiritually and materially.

***Pray for secret believers who are “attending” church in hiding and being disciplined discretely.*** They may continue to pray at the mosque, but they pray in the name of Jesus. At the same time, they are a quiet influence on their families, as people notice a change in their lives. Pray that these believers would be able to share more and more openly and draw other family members to Jesus.

***Pray for Muslims who are seeking the truth:***

- Pray that these people would see visions of Jesus and be convinced that He is truly the Savior. Oftentimes, when Muslims see Jesus revealed, they search for a Christian who can explain to them the One they have met.
- Pray that God would open their eyes to see Jesus in the Koran. Various passages acknowledge Jesus’ miraculous birth, miracles, and righteousness. However, the Koran denies that He is the Son of God and that He rose from the dead. Pray that the Holy Spirit would put in Muslims’ hearts the desire to know the truth about this controversial Person.

***Pray for wisdom for pastors and church workers as they help Muslim seekers and those who are being persecuted.***

***Pray that church members would open their hearts to receive these seekers with love and patience, not fear.*** “Many don’t understand that you can’t just share the gospel and they will make a decision right then,” says the pastor. “They need to be educated, to learn that it doesn’t work this way with Muslims; it is a process.”

### ***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 <https://reachingmuslimpeoples.com/> 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 <http://morningstarnews.org/>, <http://worldwatchmonitor.org/>, and <http://www.releaseinternational.org/>.

For prayer requests, visit <http://www.opendoorsusa.org/pray/> and .

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