



Intercede for the Muslim World!

But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Lk 18:16).

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

In most countries in West and Central Africa, a new school year is beginning or has just begun for millions of children and teachers. But 57 million are deprived of schooling, particularly in areas where Islamic groups are entrenched or advancing (<https://tinyurl.com/wcaxcl>). Pray with us for the families and children who are facing these challenges:

- **School closures.** In the Central Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger) and Lake Chad Basin, where multiple jihadist groups are active, 11,100 schools are closed. In this area, half of the population is under age 18 (<https://tinyurl.com/scld>). Not only are their opportunities for a better future in jeopardy, but they are vulnerable to many immediate temptations, including accepting lucrative offers to join ranks with extremist groups. Many communities and churches are helping to integrate children from displaced families into local schools. *Pray for these children (most of them Muslim), that they may find opportunities for learning, not only school subjects, but also about the God who loves and cares for them and their families.*
- **Lack of security, fear.** In communities where schools remain open, many parents fear sending their children—and with good reason. In Nigeria, 1500 schoolchildren were kidnapped in 2021, mainly for ransom. In Cameroon, since 2017 school attendance in the two English-speaking regions has dropped by 72%, as separatists and government forces clash. Some teachers have been kidnapped for ransom multiple times. *Pray for God's protection over students and teachers and for peace in unstable areas. Pray for divine opportunities for believers to share the peace that Jesus offers.*
- **Growing Islamic influence in schools.** In many areas Islamic influence is being imposed quietly, both from within and outside the countries, through participation in local government and social services. One Muslim nation opens schools in Africa that follow state curricula, but promote Islam. A WAASAT alumnus tells of the Christian director of a girl's high school who has come under pressure from local authorities, first to offer sacrifices on behalf of the school (these Muslims follow a folk Islam that includes animistic practices), then to make all students wear the hijab, regardless of their faith. He asks us to *pray for Christian schoolteachers and administrators in public and private schools, for wisdom in the face of these pressures and for opportunities to influence the children and families for Christ.*

Pray as well for Christian schools run by the Assemblies of God and other Pentecostal and evangelical groups. These schools are known for quality education and are welcomed and well attended in Muslim areas. One WAASAT alumnae operates a school in which 90% of the students come from Muslim families. The children attend a weekly chapel service, and some are involved in the Saturday Bible quiz program. Recently, a Muslim girl won a regional Bible quiz competition! Because they are private, the schools depend on tuition and other support, and in many cases teachers are paid very little or not at all. *Pray that the Lord would provide for Christian schools, from Senegal to Chad to DR Congo. Pray that children would find Jesus and in turn bring their families to Him.*

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 <https://www.icommittoprayer.com/>.

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/>.