

Intercede for the Muslim World!

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, **6** who gave himself as a ransom for all people (1 Ti 2.5-6a).

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

BENIN: Pray for a ministry in northern Benin, directed by an alumnae, that serves needy women, regardless of their faith. This center takes in ladies who have no means of support, some of them Muslims, and some victims of forced marriages who are now divorced or widowed. In this safe place, they learn a trade, such as agricultural activities or sewing, and they learn about Jesus and are discipled. Graduates are given help to launch an enterprise to support themselves. *Pray for the salvation and spiritual growth of women who enter the program, and that their changed lives would in turn touch and bless others.*

GHANA: An alumnus who pastors in the Muslim-dominated north shares the following information and prayer requests:

- In southern Ghana, churches are planted and grow rapidly, but not so in the north, where Islam is gaining greater influence. The open-air evangelistic meetings that once drew crowds are no longer effective, as people are becoming more "pious" and serious about Islam and fear the consequences of showing interest in Christianity. Those who do come to churches are likely poor and seeking help; some are sincere inquirers who come in secret. *Pray for churches and pastors in the north, that the Lord would grant them wisdom, patience, and creative strategies appropriate for reaching the people in their communities.*
- While Muslims do not directly persecute churches, they do curtail the privileges of those who follow Jesus, and they are taking over more local and district government posts. Nearly all community chiefs in the north are Muslims; those who are not come under pressure to convert to Islam. Because the opposition to the churches is not overt, the pastor explains, their members tend to be unaware of or not greatly concerned about this trend. *Pray that believers and church leaders would wake up to and respond to this growing influence and work to reach these people while they are still free to do so.*
- The people in northern Ghana have traditionally been strongly animistic. Islam largely accepts and incorporates their animistic beliefs and practices, and many of these tribes are now majority Muslim, at least in name. *Pray for the church's witness among animistic people, that they may be delivered from the worship of spirits and serve the True God.*

SENSITIVE COUNTRY: A student reports that church youth groups in this nation decided to hold their youth camp in a Muslim town, to encourage and build up a local church. The church had been planted some five years ago but, due to instability in the area and local resistance, was not growing. For two days the young people visited townspeople, witnessed, and invited people to the church. *Please pray that the testimonies of these youth would serve to turn people's thoughts and hearts to the Lord, and that many would seek out the pastor and believers to learn more. Pray also that this outreach experience would strengthen the resolve of these young people to boldly and wisely share 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 <u>https://www.waast.org/pray-with-us/pray-for-the-unreached/</u>.

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 https://www.icommittopray.com/.

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>.