

Intercede for the Muslim World!

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation (Is 12:2).

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

GUINEA: *Praise God,* in response to a recent appeal from the Assemblies of God of Guinea to establish a team of workers in this Muslim-majority nation, one family has committed to serve there. Continue to pray that God would touch the hearts of more long-term, qualified workers to help with church planting, pastoral training, and evangelism.

In the News

Two major earthquakes rocked *Turkey and Syria* on Monday morning. As of Thursday morning aftershocks continue to be felt, and recorded deaths number more than 16,000—about 13,000 in southern Turkey and the rest in northern Syria—with millions injured and/or homeless. While 70 nations are sending aid, and some have sent rescue teams, rescue efforts and distribution of aid are hampered by the overwhelming devastation, and many survivors have nowhere to go to escape the freezing temperatures. Please pray

- for the rescue and recovery efforts, and for the grieving families who have lost or are missing loved ones;
- for Christians offering help in these Muslim-majority nations, for opportunities to meet physical needs and to lead many to eternal hope in Jesus;
- that desperately needed aid can get to people in northern Syria (many of whom already live in refugee camps), where rebel factions, sanctions, and road damage due to ongoing war are making deliveries more difficult.

A sending agency writes, "Pray for our response teams. Large crisis events such as this are times of flux in governments and policies. They can threaten God's work."

World Watch List 2023: Eritrea (4/50)*

Located above Ethiopia on the Horn of Africa Eritrea is home to 6.2 million people, about 46% of whom are Sunni Muslims. The government approves Islam but authorizes only three churches—Eritrean Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Evangelical Lutheran—and they keep a close watch on these. Anyone leaving an approved church for an "unofficial" one raises the ire of authorities, who raid gatherings in homes and churches (even authorized churches) Arrested Christians are taken to detention centers, where many languish for months or years with no charge against them. Those who leave Islam to follow Jesus face persecution from both the government and their Muslim communities. Let's pray

- that the Lord would fill His people with courage to stand firm and protect them as they meet together;
- for opportunities to witness, to Muslims and others, in this challenging context and to disciple new believers;
- that Muslims would see Jesus in dreams and visions and find true peace in Him;
- for the estimated 1,000 believers being held in horrendous conditions, that their lives would be a shining testimony and for their release;
- for the authorities, that they would have a change of heart toward believers.

Prayer Resources

*For the 2023 World Watch List, ranking the 50 nations where believers suffer most, see https://tinyurl.com/wwl23uk

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 <u>https://www.icommittopray.com/</u>.

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>.