

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

Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him (Ps 34:8).

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

**BENIN:** Recently we prayed for a month-long evangelism effort in northern Benin, which ended April 23. Pastors and workers visited people and held meetings in six Muslim-dominated towns and surrounding villages. A worker reports, "About 700 people accepted the gospel of the 3000-plus who heard it. We are now at the phase of beginning follow up." Pastors and lay workers from several evangelical churches (including the Assemblies of God) will be involved in discipling these new believers and helping them integrate into local churches. Please pray

- for the establishment of discipleship groups in each area, and for wisdom for those teaching these new believers;
- "that these people would be able to publicly affirm their commitment to Christ despite the oppressive atmosphere of persecution";
- for protection and provision for new converts. "We have several people who are already experiencing rejection and problems because of their new life of faith in Christ. They often need to be relocated and housed and fed while they are being established in their faith."

**WAAST:** The semester ends today and students are returning home. Pray that they would take with them a burden to intercede for Muslims—and that they would share this burden with their churches, that more may join us in prayer.

## 2023 World Watch List: Syria (12/50)\*

People in the Middle Eastern nation of Syria were among the first to hear of Jesus' death and resurrection; Paul, the persecutor-turned-apostle, was on his way to the Syrian city of Damascus when God called him to spread the gospel. Six centuries later, Muslim Arabs brought Islam to this land. Today almost 90% of Syria's 18.7 million people follow Islam. The Christian population has shrunk from 10% in 2010 to 1-2% today, most having fled due to the civil war, now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, and intimidation and persecution from the Islamic State and other militant groups. As the number of traditional Christians has fallen, a greater proportion of the Church here is made up of people who have left Islam to follow Jesus. These courageous believers meet in small groups for fellowship and discipleship training. Those in areas held by radical Muslims risk the most, but any Muslim who rejects Islam brings shame on his family and may lose his or her marriage, children, job, and community status.

- Pray for Muslims who now follow Jesus, that the Holy Spirit would encourage them, meet their needs, and work through them to reach their families and communities.
- Pray for Syrian and foreign believers who are bringing physical and spiritual hope to the 6.8 million people displaced within Syria because of war, as well as the February 6 earthquake. Pray that the Good News would spread throughout refugee camps, with whole families accepting Jesus.
- Pray for the leaders of house fellowships, for wisdom as they disciple new believers and equip them to establish and lead new groups.
- Pray that many would see Jesus in dreams and visions and be led to those who can introduce Him to them.

## **Prayer Resources**

\*The 2023 World Watch List, ranking the 50 nations where believers suffer most: <u>https://tinyurl.com/wwl23uk</u>

Global Initiative and its Jumaa Prayer Fellowship (a ministry of Assemblies of God World Missions, USA), information and resources concerning ministry to and prayer for Muslims : <u>https://reachingmuslimpeoples.com/</u>

Say Hello, prayer requests and resources on ministry to Muslim women: https://sayhelloinfo.com/

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

For suggestions on starting a prayer group: https://www.waast.org/pray-with-us/pray-for-the-unreached/

For news updates concerning persecuted Christians: <u>http://morningstarnews.org/</u>, <u>http://worldwatchmonitor.org/</u>, and <u>http://www.releaseinternational.org/</u>

For prayer requests from around the world: <u>https://www.icommittopray.com/</u>

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