

Intercede for the Muslim World!

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have (1Pe 3:15).

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

GUINEA: An alumnus who served for 11 years in the center of Guinea shares an update and several prayer requests:

- Pray for efforts to establish a new work in a yet-unreached neighborhood of the main city. Praise God, this will be the seventh Assemblies of God church planted in this Fulani-dominated region.
- Pray for the development of the layworkers training school. Layworkers have been trained through seminars off and on since 2015, and some have sensed God's call and have gone to the Bible school. Land has been purchased for a center where laymen can come for courses. Please pray that the construction of the housing can begin soon to serve those attending the three- to six-week training sessions.
- Pray for the continued development of the Assemblies of God primary school that provides quality education to local children. The school began with a kindergarten and now goes through fifth grade, adding a class each year. Pray that many schoolchildren, and their parents, would find Jesus as they learn His Word.
- Pray for the new missionary from Togo, also a WAAST alumnus, who is continuing the work that the first began. that the Lord would encourage this family as they adjust, and give them great favor in the community.

MALI: *Praise God for His faithfulness!* In January we prayed for believers in a village in central Mali. Jihadists had given them two months to renounce their faith in Christ or leave the village, and proceeded to close the two churches (one evangelical, one Catholic). An alumnus in the area reports that most of the Christians have stayed in the village, visiting other communities for fellowship and encouragement. "We expected the worst," this pastor says, "but the Christians have not renounced their faith, and in the end, instead of attacking them, [the jihadists] have let them reopen the church, though they forbid them to use instruments or to sing." Let's continue to *pray for our brothers and sisters here. Pray that others—including the jihadists—would be touched by their steadfast faith and seek to know more about the hope they have.*

2023 World Watch List: Iran (8/50)*

Some 90% of the 87 million people in the Islamic Republic of Iran are Shia Muslims. Since the election of a new president in 2021, and under the influence of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khameini, there has been a tightening of already strict policies against Christianity. Women especially are seeing rights they had enjoyed, such as education, being stripped away. Many Iranians have become disillusioned with Islam—and are finding a new hope and life in Jesus! Despite the risks of being imprisoned for "crimes against national security," and losing their family, job, and even their life, tens of thousands attend secret house churches and work to bring others to faith in Christ. Please pray

- that the Spirit would work in the hearts of Iran's authorities, from the Ayatollah and president to the soldier in the Revolutionary Guard to the prison guards, that they may see the love and grace Jesus offers;
- that God would bless and protect believers who are distributing the Word, leading house churches, discipling others, and sharing the gospel through media and one on one;
- that Jesus would reveal himself to seekers and lead them to those who can help them grow in their faith.

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: <u>https://www.waast.org/pray-with-us/pray-for-the-unreached/</u>

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: https://www.icommittopray.com/

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>