

Intercede for the Muslim World!

This [praying] is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth (1Ti 2:3-4).

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

BURKINA FASO: Some 2 million people have been displaced due to terrorism here, and Christians and Muslims, who normally do not mix, now live and eat together in refugee camps. An alumnus notes that many pastors and believers are not prepared to exploit this unprecedented opportunity to reach Muslims for Jesus. *Pray for him and for others who are training pastors and laymen to reach and disciple those who are thirsty and open to the truth.*

In the News: Iran

In a recent crackdown by Iran's morality police against those seen as a threat to the Islamic Republic of Iran, 69 Christian converts from Islam were arrested over several weeks in 11 cities. Some are still detained; others have been released on bail and are banned from taking part in any Christian activities. Hundreds of women have been hired as "hijab enforcers" to ensure that women wear the hijab in public. Christian converts who feel they should not wear it risk arrest and persecution. *Please pray that the Lord would encourage and strengthen believers in Iran, and be with those in prison and with their families. Pray that Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of the authorities to grant favor to believers, and that they themselves would come to know Jesus.* (https://tinyurl.com/arrest69)

2023 World Watch List: Mozambique (32/50)*

A former Portuguese colony, the East African nation of Mozambique is about 60% Christian, with 15% of the people belonging to evangelical or Pentecostal churches. About 19% of Mozambicans follow Islam. In Muslim communities, anyone even suspected of turning to Jesus is pressured to return to Islam. A woman may be quickly forced to marry a Muslim; married women may lose their husbands, children, and inheritance for following Jesus. Since 2017, Islamist extremists, now officially "ISIS-Mozambique," have actively sought to set up a caliphate in the north; some 800,000 people have fled and at least 3,000 have been killed in violent attacks. Young girls, even preadolescents, have been forced to marry militants, and young men are recruited to join the fighters. Christians and churches have been particularly targeted. Let's pray for these groups of people:

- *Pray for those bound by Islam and traditional animistic beliefs* (often a mixture of both), that they would hear and embrace the gospel, and that God's people would take every opportunity to share Jesus with them.
- *Pray for the young people.* Some 45% of Mozambicans are under 15, and many see only unemployment and poverty in their future and are easy prey for both jihadists and drug cartels offering financial gain and a sense of belonging. Pray for the salvation of youth, and that these young believers might stand firm in their faith.
- *Pray for pastors and believers throughout the country* as they help refugees who are dealing with trauma and work to bring them and others to Christ. Pray for God's protection over those who minister to young people; these workers are often targeted by the drug cartels.
- *Pray for the jihadists,* that Jesus would reveal himself to them, that they may have an opportunity to respond to His call to salvation. Just this past week, armed forces found and killed the primary leader and several other leaders of ISIS-Mozambique—people created for fellowship with God, now lost for eternity.

Prayer Resources

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

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: 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>