

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

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you... (Mt 5:44).

## Today's Prayer Requests: From Workers

**MALI:** Thank you for praying for an evangelistic outreach held two weeks ago. The host pastor reports that 31 people accepted the Lord. "It's been a great testimony in the neighborhood and the few faithful are encouraged," he says. One family is now coming to his small church, along with more than 10 children whose parents permit them to attend. *Please pray* (1) that these new believers would grow and not return to their former religion; (2) for a solution to the "good problem" of finding a separate space for children's church; (3) that these children would come to know and love Jesus and influence their families to do the same.

**NIGERIA:** Clashes between radical Islamists (often Fulani herdsman) and villagers continue in Plateau State, Central Nigeria, where most people identify as Christians. Attacks in December 23-25 claimed more than 200 lives. As conflict continues in 2024, anger over the government's failure to provide security has been rising. According to an Open Doors report, when a Christian man was killed in a village, "Christian youths, frustrated with the lack of security they experience, decided to take matters into their own hands and search for the attackers themselves; on 22 January, they set fire to several houses belonging to Muslim Fulani people." The Fulani retaliated by burning several Christians' houses and a church, and on January 24 attacked five communities, killing 30. Let's pray

- for local and national government leaders, that they might take effective measures to curb the violence and protect their people;
- for divine wisdom and strength for pastors and believers as they face the multiple challenges of ministering to victims' families, helping the displaced, and dealing with their own loss of homes and church buildings;
- that the Spirit would fill His people with a sense of love and concern that leads them to see their enemies as God sees them and to pray for their salvation.

## In the News

"Brexit African-style," one French news source is calling it. This past Sunday the three nations of the Central Sahel— Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger—announced their intention to leave the 15-member Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). All three nations are experiencing devastating attacks from multiple Islamist groups, and have responded by ousting their civilian presidents and establishing ruling military juntas. Among other things, they accuse ECOWAS of failing to help them battle terrorism and of slapping sanctions on already suffering populations. The economic and security implications of this decision remain to be seen. Let's pray

- for the leaders of these three Muslim-majority nations, that the Spirit who guides the hearts of kings would guide them in decisions that will benefit their people, and that they would continue to allow churches to minister freely to the physical and spiritual needs of those around them;
- that the Lord would encourage His people and give them creative solutions and resources to reach others;
- that many who are seeing the true face of Islam, expressed by terrorists, would seek Jesus.

## **Prayer Resources**

The 2024 World Watch List, ranking the 50 nations where believers suffer most: <u>http://tinyurl.com/2024wwl</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 statistics and information on people groups in every nation: <u>https://joshuaproject.net/;</u> for Unreached Peoples prayer cards to download and print: <u>https://joshuaproject.net/pray/cards</u>

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

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>