Open*Doors*

WORLD WATCH LIST 2025



ARE YOU A WORLD WATCHER?

Will you watch out for people who need prayer?

Millions of Christians around the world are bullied and treated unfairly because they follow Jesus. Some live in countries where their leaders have made it illegal for Christians to meet together or have Bibles. Some have been forced to leave their home. Others live in places where they are treated badly by their neighbors, or where it is hard to go to school or get jobs.

They need people to look out for them! Open Doors does this by helping persecuted Christians with whatever they need. It could be special schools, secret Bibles, food, medicines or something else.

Above all, we let these Christians know that they are not forgotten, and that people all over the world are praying for them. And that's where YOU come in!

You can use this Prayer Passport to be a 'World Watcher.' Colossians 4:2 says, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

This prayer passport will help you to watch what is happening around the world, and pray for the Christians who are facing trouble because of their faith in Jesus.

You can watch out for them on the TV and find out about them online. You can speak to people who have visited different places. And best of all, you can pray for them. Because even more than just watching the world, we can change the world through our prayers.

You may not know the Christians that you're praying for, but God does. He knows them and He loves them. And when you ask God to help them, He hears you.

Your prayers can change the world!



WORLD WATCH LIST

Each year, Open Doors ranks the countries where Christians are persecuted in the World Watch List. It's a table of the top 50 countries where Christians are in the most danger.

HOW TO USE YOUR PASSPORT AND MAP

- **Read about** the country in the Prayer Passport and use it to pray.
- **Write down** the date you prayed and fill in what you prayed for.
- **Color in** the flag – look up the country on your **Activity Map** to find the right color.
- **Check off** the country on the map to show that you've visited.
- **Look at** the boxes on back of the **Activity Map** about the five main ways Christian families and children face persecution. Does the country you've prayed for fit into one of those boxes? If so, add it to the list.

That's not all. You'll find more ideas about how to pray in the Prayer Passport. And on the map there are more areas to colour in!

Remember — if you're a World Watcher, you're always on the lookout for things to do and ways to pray!



ABOUT ME

Me!

NAME: _____

AGE: _____

NATIONALITY: _____

I WANT TO VISIT: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

HOW ARE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN PERSECUTED?

There are five main ways that Christian children face persecution:

- **Violence.** Children and their family members may be attacked, hurt or even killed for following Jesus.
- **Bullying.** Christian children may be bullied by other children in their school or community. Their whole family may face bullying, such as not being allowed to draw water from their village well.
- **School problems.** Some children are not allowed to go to school because they are Christian. Or perhaps they are allowed to go, but their teacher ignores them.
- **Secret believers.** Some children and their families must keep their faith completely secret. They may meet with other Christians secretly, keep their Bibles in a hidden place, or only pray silently.
- **Losing their homes.** Children and their families may have to run away from home to escape from people who want to attack Christians. Some have even had their homes burned down.



There are lots of Word Watch features in your Prayer Passport. Why not **check them off below** as you read them?

- ○ Buddhist
- ○ Communism
- ○ Dictator
- ○ Discrimination
- ○ Extremists
- ○ Hindu
- ○ House Church
- ○ Muslim
- ○ Persecution
- ○ Refugees and IDPs
- ○ Secret Believers
- ○ World Watch List

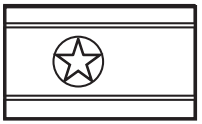
PERSECUTION



Persecution is when people are bullied, treated cruelly or even hurt because of their race or their beliefs. Christians, for example, are persecuted because they follow Jesus. They might be bullied, stopped from going to school or arrested and thrown into prison. They might even be attacked with guns and bombs.

1 NORTH KOREA

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



Christians in North Korea must follow Jesus in secret. Everyone there is expected to treat the leaders of North Korea like gods, and anyone who believes in another God is seen as a criminal.

Christians who are discovered are arrested and might be killed. Amazingly, there are still thousands of secret Christians here.

Heavenly Father, thank you so much for the courageous Christians in North Korea.

I PRAYED FOR:

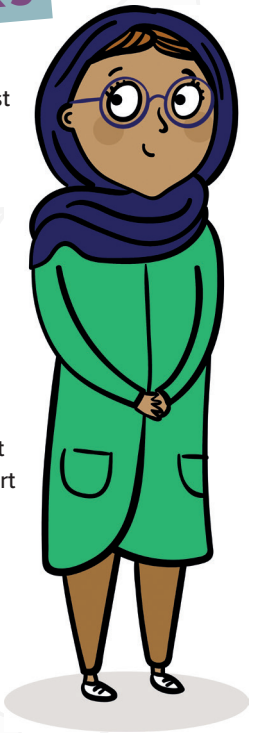
DICTATOR

WORD WATCH

A dictator is someone who has complete control over a country. They use the police or army to control everyone, and everyone must do what they say. Even the television and news are under their control. Some dictators - like those in North Korea – come to power because they are part of a ruling family. Others take power by force, or by lying to the people. But anyone who speaks out against the dictator can be thrown into prison or even killed.

SOMETIMES CHRISTIANS HAVE TO BE...

SECRET BELIEVERS



Some children and their families must keep their faith completely secret.

When Sepideh* and her mother became Christians, they kept it a secret – even from Sepideh's father. They live in Iran, where it is illegal for anyone to leave Islam and follow another faith. "It's very difficult to make friends, because I cannot be who I really am," Sepideh says.

Sepideh's father has found out about her faith, and has threatened to report her and her mother to the police.

Please pray that God will give Sepideh's father a change of heart, and that he even might come to know Jesus himself.

Pray for Sepideh and other children around the world who are following Jesus in secret. Pray that God will protect them and help them to find safe ways to make friends with other believers.

**Name has been changed to keep her safe*

2 SOMALIA



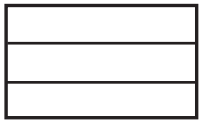
I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

There are extremists in Somalia who think everyone should be a Muslim. If an extremist finds a Christian, they may kill them right there and then. There are only a few hundred Christians in Somalia, and they have to follow Jesus in secret.

I PRAYED FOR:

Lord Jesus, I pray for the brave Christians in Somalia.

3 YEMEN



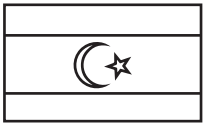
If a Muslim decides to become a Christian in Yemen, they can be arrested. New Christians often keep their faith a secret, and some Christians in Yemen don't know any other Christians there. But some Christians tell other people about Jesus, despite the risks, and the church in Yemen is growing.

I PRAYED FOR:

Holy Spirit, please be with the faithful Christians in Yemen.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

4 LIBYA



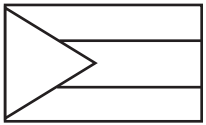
I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

Criminal gangs run some parts of Libya, and some of these gangs are extremists who think everyone should be a Muslim. These groups will attack Christians and kidnap or kill them. A few Christians were recently arrested for telling others about Jesus in Libya – but their story actually made some people want to find out more about Christianity!

I PRAYED FOR:

Dear God, I pray for the bold Christians in Libya.

5 SUDAN



Christians in Sudan are often treated very badly. Christian women have been trapped in their homes like prisoners, and Christian men have been beaten up and even killed. Some Christians keep their faith so secret, they don't even tell their children about it.

I PRAYED FOR:

Heavenly Father, please help the persecuted Christians in Sudan.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

6 ERITREA

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__



I PRAYED FOR:

We think there are 1,000 Christians in prison in Eritrea. Many are church leaders. They have been arrested because they want to do what God says, even when the government doesn't like it. They could be free if they would agree to stop following Jesus, but God gives them the courage to stand firm in their faith.

Lord Jesus, thank you for the courageous Christians in Eritrea.

7 NIGERIA



I PRAYED FOR:

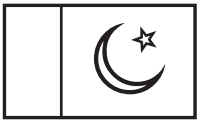
In northern Nigeria, thousands of Christians have had to run away from home to escape being attacked or even killed. This is because there are extremist groups in this area who think everyone should be a Muslim. The extremists have burned down homes, destroyed churches and torn families apart.

Holy Spirit, please be with Christians in Nigeria.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

8 PAKISTAN

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__



I PRAYED FOR:

Many people in Pakistan think of Christians as 'dirty.' This means Christians are often bullied and given the dirtiest jobs, like working in sewers or collecting rubbish. Some people make up lies about Christians to get them in trouble with the police. Despite being treated so cruelly, Pakistan's Christians are still choosing Jesus.

Dear God, please help the brave Christians in Pakistan.

WORD WATCH

MUSLIM

A Muslim is someone who believes in Islam. Islam's founder was Muhammad. Muslims believe that there is only one God, called Allah. Most of the followers of Islam live in North Africa, the Middle East and South and Central Asia. Islam is the second most popular religion in the world, after Christianity.

SOMETIMES CHRISTIANS FACE...

BULLYING

Christian children and their families may be bullied by others in their communities.

Julie* from Egypt faces bullying at school because of her faith in Jesus. Most of the other children in her class are Muslims, so they see her as different from them.

But Julie is overcoming her anxiety thanks to support from Open Doors partners. "I started to feel inner power to face hard situations," she says. "I learned to speak up and not be afraid because 'If God is for us, who can be against us?'" (Romans 8:31)



Pray for Julie, that God will continue to give her courage and strength, even in the face of bullying. Pray that God will change the hearts of her classmates, and that they will accept her, despite their differences.

Pray for children around the world who face bullying because of their faith. Pray that God will keep them safe and encourage them when times are hard.

**Name has been changed to keep her safe*

9 IRAN

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__



I PRAYED FOR:

Dozens of Christians are in prison in Iran – many of them are church leaders. This is because the leaders of Iran want everyone to be Muslims. Most Christians in Iran have to meet together secretly in their homes. Despite the risks, thousands of people in Iran have decided to follow Jesus.

Lord Jesus, I pray for the courageous Christians in Iran.

10 AFGHANISTAN



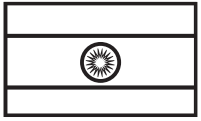
I PRAYED FOR:

Christians in Afghanistan keep their faith secret, often meeting in the middle of the night. Afghanistan has been taken over by a group called the Taliban, who want everyone to be Muslims. If they find out that someone is a Christian, they might kill the Christian right there and then.

Holy Spirit, please be with the brave Christians in Afghanistan.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

11 INDIA



In some parts of India, Christians are severely bullied – their neighbors might not let them use the village well to get water, or a doctor might not help them when they are sick. That's because extremists in India think that to be a proper Indian, you must be a Hindu. In some places, Christians have been beaten up and even killed.

Heavenly Father, please look after the persecuted Christians in India.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

I PRAYED FOR:

WORD WATCH

HINDU

A Hindu is someone who follows Hinduism. Hinduism started in India over 4,000 years ago. It's mainly followed in India – more than 80% of India's population are Hindu. The name 'Hindu' comes from the word 'Indus' – the main river in India. Hinduism is the world's third most popular religion.

SOMETIMES CHRISTIANS FACE...

LOSING THEIR HOME



Sometimes Christian children and their families have to run away from home to escape from persecution. They may have to travel to another town, or even another country, to be safe.

Wenkun from Burkina Faso was just four when his family had to run for their lives. Their house, along with their entire village, was burned to the ground by Islamic extremists in early 2023. The family walked for three days before they found someone who would give them a lift. A pastor offered the family a piece of land to stay on, where they have built a simple shelter. Life is hard – they have to walk over a mile just to get water. But they are still trusting in God. Wenkun's father says, "We are displaced, but Jesus is not and will never be displaced from our lives. He is always with us."

Please pray for Wenkun and his family, and for the many other Christian families around the world who have lost their homes because of their faith. Ask God to provide for their needs, that they would be helped by their new communities and that the attacks would end.

12 SAUDI ARABIA



I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

If a Muslim from Saudia Arabia decides to become a Christian, they could be arrested or even killed if anyone finds out. New Christians often keep their faith a secret. They may have to run away to another country to be safe if their faith is discovered.

Holy Spirit, please be with the hidden Christians in Saudia Arabia.

I PRAYED FOR:

SECRET BELIEVERS

WORD WATCH

The name says it all: a secret believer is someone who has to keep their Christian beliefs hidden. In many countries on this list, Christians might be attacked or arrested if they are discovered. And so they keep their faith secret. They pray silently in their rooms. Sometimes they meet with other Christians but they make it look like they are just having a chat in a coffee shop with friends. They are really secret believers having a church service!

13 MYANMAR



Most people in Myanmar are Buddhists. Myanmar is in the middle of a civil war, and the government think Christians are helping their enemies. Churches and Christian villages have been attacked and Christians have been killed. Some Christians had to leave the country to be safe.

Dear God, I pray for the courageous Christians in Myanmar.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

14 MALI



I PRAYED FOR:

Extremists who want everyone to be Muslims have abducted and killed Christians in Mali. Muslims who decide to become Christians might face bullying from their family or their neighbors. Many Christians are still trying to show the love of Jesus to others, even those who treat them badly.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the brave Christians in Mali.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

15 CHINA



The Chinese government wants to control Christians. It tries to put cameras in churches to spy on them. It has also passed laws to make life hard for Christians – for example, children are not allowed to go to church. Some Christians prefer to meet in their houses so that they can't be spied on, but these house churches have been raided and church leaders have been arrested.

Lord Jesus, I pray for the faithful Christians in China.

I PRAYED FOR:

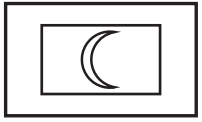
I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

COMMUNISM

Communism is a form of government. The idea is that people should not own land or businesses, but that everything should be owned by the government. On the World Watch List, countries like Cuba, Vietnam, North Korea and China follow their own versions of Communism.

WORD WATCH

16 MALDIVES



The leaders of the Maldives want everyone to be a Muslim, so if a Muslim decides to become a Christian, they keep their faith completely secret. There are just a tiny number of Christians from the Maldives. Two people from the same family might have become Christians but not know about each other.

Dear God, please help the isolated Christians in the Maldives.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

17 IRAQ



A few years ago, a group called Islamic State tried to take over Iraq. They killed Christians and destroyed their homes, and many Christians left Iraq. Now it is a bit safer, some Christians have started to come back. But Christians can still be treated unfairly by people who see them as different.

Holy Spirit, please be with the brave Christians in Iraq.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

18 SYRIA

☆ ☆ ☆

I PRAYED ON: ___/___/___

I PRAYED FOR:

Christians in Syria are sometimes attacked by extremists who want everyone to be Muslims. Some Christians have been kidnapped or killed. Many Christians left Syria when there was a civil war, but some have decided to stay to show the love of Jesus to others.

Lord Jesus, please remind Syrian Christians of the hope they have in You.

EXTREMISTS

An extremist is someone who holds extreme views, and who believes that it's OK to take illegal, violent, or other extreme action against anyone who thinks differently. So, religious extremists believe in taking extreme action against people who have different beliefs. For example, many Muslims want to live in peace. But some are Islamic extremists: they think it's OK to attack or bully anyone who is not a Muslim.

WORD WATCH

SOMETIMES CHRISTIANS FACE...

VIOLENCE



Children and their family members may be attacked or even killed for following Jesus.

Preeti* lives with her grandparents in India. When her grandfather Ashok* became a Christian, he started holding prayer meetings in their house. But this angered some local Hindu extremists. Five or six attackers beat him with iron bars and wooden rods, and threw chilli powder in his eyes.

Preeti says, "I was feeling afraid. I was very angry at the people who did this to my family."

She asks us to pray for her family. Preeti says, "Pray for my family to grow in Christ. Pray that we should be safe to live out our faith."

Pray for protection for other Christian children and their families too.

**Name has been changed to keep her safe*

19 ALGERIA

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



I PRAYED FOR:

Most Christians in Algeria were brought up as Muslims, but later decided to follow Jesus. New Christians may keep their faith a secret, as some families become angry if someone stops following Islam. The government in Algeria has also made laws to make life difficult for Christians and shut many churches.

Heavenly Father, I pray for the courageous Christians in Algeria.

20 BURKINA FASO

Extremists in Burkina Faso want everyone to be Muslims. They have kidnapped and killed Christians and destroyed churches. Lots of Christians had to run away to save their lives. Some Christians are afraid to go to church or send their children to school in case they are attacked.

Holy Spirit, please help persecuted Christians in Burkina Faso.



I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

21 MOROCCO

Most people in Morocco are Muslims. If a Muslim decides to become a Christian, their life can become very difficult. They may be arrested by the police, or their family may kick them out of their home. The children of new Christians may be bullied at school. They are not allowed to meet together, so Christians meet in secret house churches.

Dear God, thank you so much for the faithful Christians in Morocco.



I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

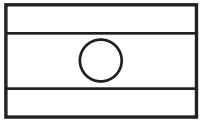
WORD WATCH

REFUGEES/IDPS

Refugees are people who have been forced to leave their homes and go to another country. They are often driven from their homes by civil war or persecution. People who are forced from their homes, but stay somewhere else in the same country are called internally displaced persons (IDPs). Around the world, millions of refugees or IDPs live in tents in makeshift camps.

22 LAOS

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



The government is suspicious of Christians because they are seen as different – most people in Laos are Buddhists. Most churches have to meet secretly, and church leaders have been arrested and killed. Christians are often bullied by their neighbors, and some have been kicked out of their homes.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the brave Christians in Laos.

I PRAYED FOR:

23 MAURITANIA



I PRAYED FOR:

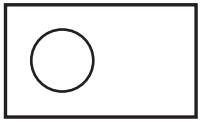
In Mauritania it is illegal for a Muslim to change their religion. So, if a Muslim decides to become a Christian, they will often keep their faith a secret. It is hard for them to meet with other Christians safely. If a new Christian is discovered, they might have to leave the country to be safe.

Lord Jesus, please be with the hidden Christians in Mauritania.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

24 BANGLADESH

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



I PRAYED FOR:

Most people are Muslims in Bangladesh, so Christians are seen as different. Children from Christian families are often bullied at school. If someone from a different faith decides to become a Christian, their family might kick them out of their home or beat them up.

Holy Spirit, please be with the brave Christians in Bangladesh.

25 UZBEKISTAN



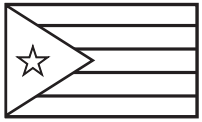
I PRAYED FOR:

The government is suspicious of Christians, as almost everyone in Uzbekistan is a Muslim. The police have raided church meetings, arrested church leaders, and even fined people for having Christian music on their phones. If a Muslim becomes a Christian, their family may be angry, so new Christians often keep their faith a secret.

Dear God, I pray for the persecuted Christians in Uzbekistan.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

26 CUBA



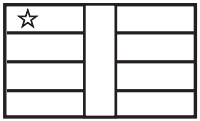
Cuba's leaders don't like Christians speaking out against wrong things that the government is doing. So they arrest Christians, give them fines or make up lies about them. Some Christians have been beaten. The government makes it hard for churches to meet or to close them down.

Heavenly Father, thank you for bold Christians in Cuba.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

27 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



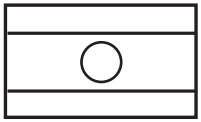
Big parts of CAR have been taken over by violent groups. When Christians speak out against the violence, these groups threaten them and burn their churches. Some Christians have been killed, and thousands have had to leave their homes and live in camps to be safe.

Lord Jesus, I ask you to help the faithful Christians in CAR.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

28 NIGER



Extremists who want everyone to be Muslims have attacked churches and Christian schools in Niger. Most people in Niger are Muslims, and if someone decides to follow Jesus instead, some of their family may get angry. Sadly, some new Christians have been beaten up and have even been kicked out of their homes.

Dear God, please help the brave Christians in Niger.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination means treating some people worse than others without any fair or proper reason. Some people are discriminated against because of their race or background. Christians may face discrimination simply because they follow Jesus.

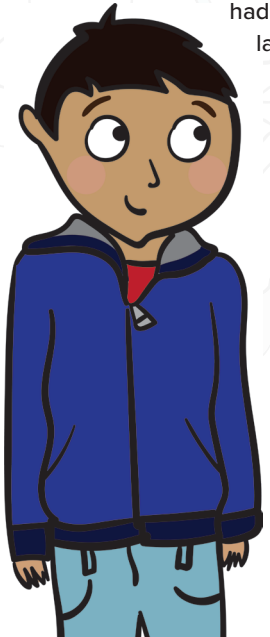
WORD WATCH

SOME CHRISTIAN CHILDREN HAVE...

SCHOOL PROBLEMS

Sometimes Christian children and their families have to run away from home to escape from their persecutors. They may have to travel to another town, or even another country, to be safe.

Benham was only a toddler when his house in Iraq was burned to the ground by extremists, and his family were forced to run for their lives. Thousands of families had to do the same as extremists took over large parts of Iraq. Thankfully, a few years later, the extremists were forced out, and Benham and his family were able to return. They rebuilt their home with help from Open Doors partners.

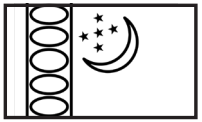


Please pray for Benham and other Christian families in Iraq who have been able to rebuild their homes. Pray that God will protect them, and help them not to fear being attacked again.

Pray for other Christian families around the world who have lost their homes because of their faith. Ask God to provide them with new homes, and that they will be welcomed into their new communities.

29 TURKMENISTAN

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__



I PRAYED FOR:

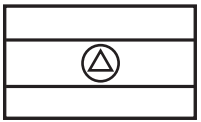
The leaders of Turkmenistan are worried that Christians want to make changes in the country. The government is always watching Christians, and especially church leaders. They look for excuses to fine or arrest Christians. Even just owning a Christian book can get you into trouble.

Holy Spirit, please be close to persecuted Christians in Turkmenistan.

30 NICARAGUA

Christians have been protesting against the government of Nicaragua, as the Christians think that the government are doing things that are wrong. This has made the government angry. They have closed churches and Christians schools, and arrested church leaders.

Lord Jesus, help the bold Christians in Nicaragua.



I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

31 MEXICO



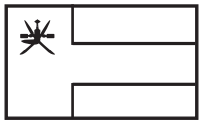
Violent gangs work in parts of Mexico, and they get very angry when Christians won't do what they say or speak out about the bad things the gangs are doing. Church leaders have been beaten up, kidnapped and even killed by gang members. Christians in communities that follow traditional religions also face bullying.

Dear God, please be with the brave Christians in Mexico.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

32 OMAN



I PRAYED FOR:

Most people in Oman are Muslims. If a Muslim decides to follow Jesus this can make their family angry, and they might get beaten up or be kicked out of their home. A woman who becomes a Christian can be trapped at home and not allowed to leave. So, most new Christians keep their faith a secret.

Heavenly Father, I pray for the hidden Christians in Oman.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

33 ETHIOPIA



I PRAYED FOR:

About two thirds of people in Ethiopia are Christians, and most of the other third are Muslims. Most Christians in Ethiopia are part of the country's main church. If someone decides to go to a different type of church, they could be bullied by their family or neighbors. If a Muslim becomes a Christian, extremists can threaten to kill them.

Lord Jesus, thank you for the Christians in Ethiopia.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

34 TUNISIA



Most new Christians in Tunisia follow Jesus in secret, as it's against the law for a Muslim to change their religion. If their faith is discovered, they could be badly hurt or kicked out of their home. But our Tunisian brothers and sisters have decided that following Jesus is worth the risks.

Holy Spirit, please be with the Christians in Tunisia.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT PERSECUTION?

Persecution is a normal part of being a Christian.
In John 15:20, Jesus told his followers, "If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also." (John 15:20). And in the In the New Testament, there are many stories of His we frequently see followers of Jesus being attacked, put in prison, and sometimes even killed (Acts 7:59-60; Acts 12:1-19; Acts 16:16-40). In 2 Timothy 3:12, Paul – one of those followers – wrote, "Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." (2 Timothy 3:12). So people get persecuted for behaving like Jesus.

Have you ever had people get angry at you, when you were trying to do the right thing?

Persecution doesn't mean God doesn't love us.
Matthew 5:11-12 says "Blessed are you when people ... persecute you ... because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven." 'Blessed' means happy, deeply joyful, which sounds weird! How can people be deeply happy if they are persecuted? Perhaps the answer is because they also feel very close to God. In Romans 8, Paul asks, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution?" And his answer to his own question is – no! Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God.

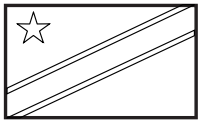
Have there been times when you felt Jesus very close to you?

We should pray for those who persecute us and forgive them.
Jesus also told His followers how to respond to persecution. He said In Matthew 5:44 Jesus says, "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:44) And he doesn't didn't just say it – he does did it! Even when he was dying on the cross, Jesus prayed for his persecutors, saying, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). If we hate people – even people who persecute Christians – then we are not behaving like Jesus.



Have there been times when you felt Jesus very close to you?

35 DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)



In the east of the DRC there are violent groups who are trying to take over the country. Some are extremist groups that want everyone to be Muslims. They have attacked churches and homes, and Christians have been kidnapped and killed.

Dear God, please be with the persecuted Christians in the DRC.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

36 BHUTAN



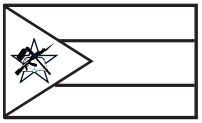
I PRAYED FOR:

All church meetings in Bhutan are illegal, as the government hasn't given any churches permission to meet. Everyone in Bhutan is expected to be a Buddhist, so if someone decides to become a Christian, it can make their family and neighbors angry. Christian children face bullying at school.

Lord Jesus, thank you for Christians in Bhutan.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

37 MOZAMBIQUE



I PRAYED FOR:

In the north of Mozambique there are violent groups who want everyone to be Muslims. Thousands of people have had to run away from their homes to be safe, as these violent groups have killed Christians and burned down churches. Muslims who have decided to become Christians might also be bullied by their own families.

Heavenly Father, please be with the brave Christians in Mozambique.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

BUDDHIST

A Buddhist is someone who follows the teaching of a man called Siddhartha Gautama. He became known as the Buddha, which means 'enlightened'. Buddhism started in India over 2,500 years ago. Buddhism is the main religion in many Asian countries.

WORD WATCH

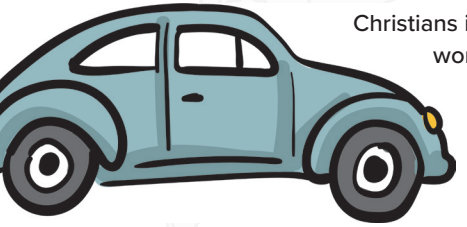
THE ORIGINAL WORLD WATCHER: BROTHER ANDREW?

The original world watcher: Brother Andrew

A long time ago, in 1955, a man called Andrew grabbed his passport and started his adventures as a World Watcher.

The first place he visited was Poland. Andrew discovered that the Christians there were having a very hard time. They were not allowed to buy Bibles and some church leaders had been arrested. So he started smuggling Bibles to persecuted Christians all across Europe, driving thousands of miles in his little blue Volkswagen car.

As the years went by and Andrew kept watching, the world changed. The places in Europe where he had been smuggling Bibles started to become more free, and Christians were allowed Bibles again.



But Andrew knew there were Christians in other parts of the world that needed help – and there were too many of them to help all on his own.



So he started the organization Open Doors to help persecuted Christians. In some places, that still means smuggling Bibles.

In other places, it can be hard for a Christian to get a job, so Open Doors might help them start a small business. Sometimes Christians have to run away from home, so Open Doors might help them find somewhere safe to stay. Some Christians might need things like food and medicines.

And Open Doors also helps those persecuted Christians to know that they haven't been forgotten, and that people around the world are praying for them. That includes you!

38 KAZAKHSTAN

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



I PRAYED FOR:

The government of Kazakhstan doesn't like Christians, because Christians think it's more important to do what God says than what the government says. The police raid church meetings and have put church leaders in prison. Muslims who decide to become Christians can face bullying from their families and may lose their jobs.

Holy Spirit, I pray for the courageous Christians in Kazakhstan.

39 TAJIKISTAN

Many people here think that part of being Tajik means being Muslim. So, if someone becomes a Christian, it can be seen as a betrayal of their country. That's why new Christians often face bullying and hatred. The government makes it hard for Christians to meet, and children are not allowed to go to church.

Heavenly Father, please help the brave Christians in Tajikistan.

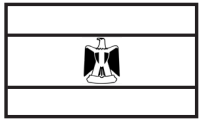


I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

40 EGYPT

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



I PRAYED FOR:

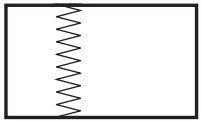
Most people in Egypt are Muslims. In some parts of Egypt, especially in smaller towns and villages, Christians are bullied by their neighbors. Christian children might be forced to sit at the back of the class in school and ignored by their teacher. If a Muslim decides to become a Christian, they may keep their new faith a secret.

Dear God, I pray for the faithful Christians in Egypt.

41 QATAR

Most Qatari people are Muslims, and they are not allowed to become Christians. Lots of people go to Qatar from other countries for work, and many of them are Christians. They are allowed to meet, but they are not allowed to talk to Muslims about Jesus. If a Muslim becomes a Christian, they keep their faith a secret.

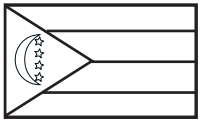
Lord Jesus, I pray for the hidden Christians in Qatar.



I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

42 COMOROS



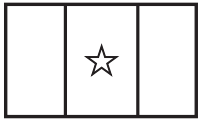
There aren't many Christians in Comoros – almost everyone is a Muslim. Christians are not allowed to share their faith with Muslims. If they do, they could go to prison for a year. Muslims are also not allowed to leave Islam, so if they become Christians, they usually keep it a secret.

Holy Spirit, thank you for the courageous Christians in Comoros.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

43 CAMEROON



I PRAYED FOR:

There are extremists in some parts of Cameroon who want everyone to be Muslims. They have kidnapped, attacked and killed Christians. Some Christians have stopped sending their children to school to keep them safe. Muslims who decide to become Christians often keep it a secret.

Dear God, I pray for the persecuted Christians in Cameroon.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__

44 VIETNAM



I PRAYED FOR:

In Vietnam, in small towns and villages, people want everyone to follow the same religion. If someone decides to become a Christian, this can upset their family and neighbors. New Christians might be beaten up or kicked out of their home. Children from Christian families are sometimes stopped from going to school.

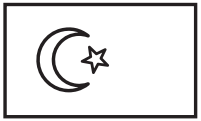
Heavenly Father, please help the brave Christians in Vietnam.

45 TURKEY

Most people in Turkey think that being Turkish means being a Muslim. If a Muslim decides to become a Christian, it can make people angry, as it is seen as going against their country. Christians can find it hard to get jobs. Even foreign Christians are being forced to leave the country.

Lord Jesus, please help the faithful Christians in Turkey.

I PRAYED ON: __/__/__



I PRAYED FOR:

IDEAS FOR PRAYER

Using your Prayer Passport is a great way to pray for persecuted Christians around the world. Maybe you could keep it by your bed and pray for a different country each night before you go to sleep.

Here are some other ideas to help you pray:

WATCH WHAT YOU EAT

Do you ever have food from other countries at school or with your family? If you're having food from India, China, Vietnam, Mexico or somewhere else on the World Watch List, take a moment at the start of the meal to pray for Christians from that country. You could pray with the other people who are eating, or just quietly to yourself.

WATCH CLOSELY

Pick a country from the World Watch List that you are going to watch especially closely this year. Look for stories about that country in the news, take out books about that country from the library, try some food from that country if you can find it. Perhaps you could even meet someone from that country, or talk to someone who has visited there. Most importantly, pray for that country every day.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

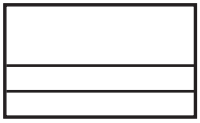
Take a walk around your neighborhood and let the things you see around you inspire your prayers for the world:

- **See a lamppost?** Pray that persecuted Christians will shine as lights for Jesus in their communities.
- **See a bus stop or a train station?** Pray for Christians who have had to travel far from their homes to be safe.
- **See a school?** Pray that Christian children will be able to get a good education.
- **What other ideas can you think of?**



46 COLOMBIA

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____



Violent gangs have taken over parts of Colombia They hate it when Christians say that what they are doing is wrong. Gang members have killed church leaders and abducted Christian children. Christians from communities that follow traditional religions also face bullying, and their children may not be allowed to go to school.

Dear God, I pray for the courageous Christians in Colombia.

I PRAYED FOR:

47 KYRGYZSTAN



If you become a Christian in Kyrgyzstan you could be locked up by your own family! That's because families and local communities think everyone should be a Muslim. So there is a lot of bullying and violence. Some Christians have even been forced to leave the places where they live.

Lord Jesus, please help the brave Christians in Kyrgyzstan.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

48 BRUNEI



Most people in Brunei are Muslims. There are some Christians in Brunei, but there are lots of rules about what they are allowed to do – for example, they are not allowed to celebrate Christmas where a Muslim could see it. If a Muslim decides to become a Christian, they often face bullying from their families.

I PRAYED FOR:

I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

Holy Spirit, please be with the hidden Christians in Brunei.

WORD WATCH

HOUSE CHURCH

Many Christians around the world meet in houses or apartments. These are known as house churches. They might do all the same things that Christians do in church buildings – sing songs, read the Bible, pray and learn together – but they do it at home. For the persecuted church house churches are a way of meeting together in secret, but they have to be careful in case the neighbors find out!

49 CHAD

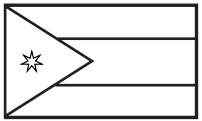
I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

Many Christians have had their houses burnt down or destroyed in Chad by extremists who want everyone to be Muslims. They have lost their homes and had to find shelter somewhere else. Sometimes the attacks are so bad that Christians are too scared to go to church.

Dear God, please look after Christians in Chad.

I PRAYED FOR:

50 JORDAN



I PRAYED ON: __/__/____

Churches in Jordan are watched closely by the government, as they don't want Christians to tell Muslims about Jesus. If a Muslim decides to become a Christian, they may be bullied by their family or neighbors. A new Christian might find it hard to get a job, or they could even be arrested or beaten up.

Dear God, please be with the Christians in Jordan.

I PRAYED FOR:

TELL YOUR CHURCH

Your church might already do lots of things to help persecuted Christians. But why not ask if your church can pray for persecuted Christians during your next service? You could even offer to lead the prayers yourself.

Ask your Sunday school leader to visit **ODUS.org/Churches**

THANK YOU!

Your prayers are so important to Christians around the world.

Don't forget – there's loads more that you can do to help persecuted Christians.

To find out more go to **ODUS.org/WWL** where you can read stories about the courage and faith of Christians in the countries in this *Prayer Passport*, and you can find more ways to get involved.

"Never stop praying, especially for others. Always pray by the power of the Spirit. Stay alert and keep praying for God's people."

EPHESIANS 6:18 (CEV)

Hey World Watcher!
Grab your prayer passport and map and go on a journey!

380 million people around the world face unfair treatment and bullying because of their faith. That means that if they go to church, pray or read the Bible they might be badly treated, attacked and hurt or even get into trouble with the police.



But you can help! Use this Prayer Passport to find out about the countries where Christians are persecuted the most – then pray for them and colour in the flag. You can also use your Activity Map to to show you have 'visited'.

Open Doors

OPENDOORSUS.ORG
info@opendoorsus.org

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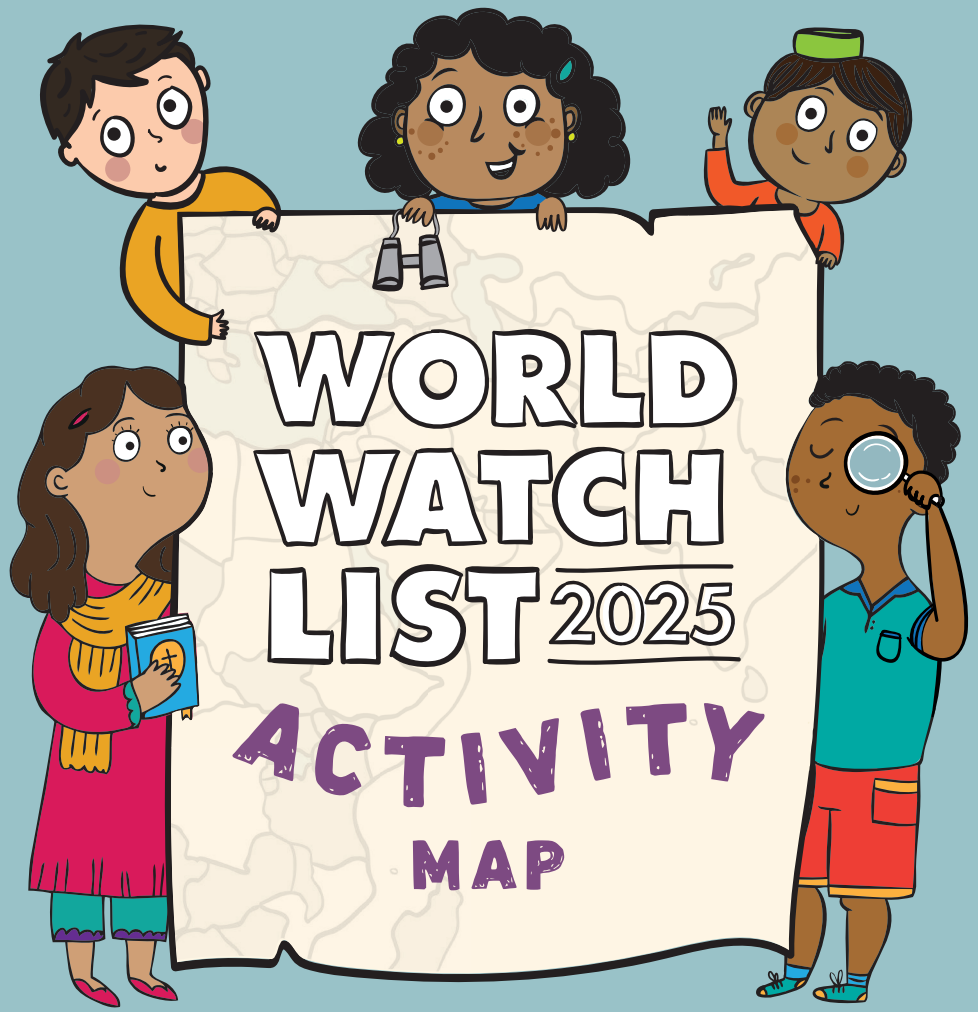
Open Doors



WELCOME, WORLD WATCHERS!

NAME: _____

Millions of Christians are bullied or treated unfairly or even badly hurt because they follow Jesus. We call this kind of thing 'persecution'.

And these persecuted Christians need our help.

On this map you can find the **fifty countries** where Christians face the worst persecution. **Will you pray for them?**

- Use your **PRAYER PASSPORT** to find information about the country to help you pray, write down your prayer and the date you prayed it
- Color in the flag, using the flags on your **ACTIVITY MAP** as a guide
- You can also tick the box on the map to show you've 'visited'.

But that's not all! This is an **ACTIVITY MAP**! There are bits to color in, Bible verses to learn, boxes to tick to track how many countries you've prayed for and you can even make your own lists of countries where Christian children face different types of persecution.



Whatever you do, make this map your own.

After all, you're a World Watcher, right?

And World Watchers are always looking out for different ways to watch and pray!


1 I've found NORTH KOREA
2 I've found SOMALIA
3 I've found YEMEN
4 I've found LIBYA
5 I've found SUDAN
6 I've found ERITREA
7 I've found NIGERIA
8 I've found PAKISTAN
9 I've found IRAN
10 I've found AFGHANISTAN
11 I've found INDIA
12 I've found SAUDI ARABIA
13 I've found MYANMAR
14 I've found MALI
15 I've found CHINA
16 I've found MALDIVES
17 I've found IRAQ
18 I've found SYRIA
19 I've found ALGERIA
20 I've found BURKINA FASO
21 I've found MOROCCO
22 I've found LAOS
23 I've found MAURITANIA
24 I've found BANGLADESH
25 I've found UZBEKISTAN
26 I've found CUBA
27 I've found CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)
28 I've found NIGER
29 I've found TURKMENISTAN
30 I've found NICARAGUA
31 I've found MEXICO
32 I've found OMAN
33 I've found ETHIOPIA
34 I've found TUNISIA
35 I've found DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)
36 I've found BHUTAN
37 I've found MOZAMBIQUE
38 I've found KAZAKHSTAN
39 I've found TAJIKISTAN
40 I've found EGYPT
41 I've found QATAR
42 I've found COMOROS
43 I've found CAMEROON
44 I've found VIETNAM
45 I've found TURKEY
46 I've found COLOMBIA
47 I've found KYRGYZSTAN
48 I've found BRUNEI
49 I've found CHAD
50 I've found JORDAN
Open Doors
WORLD WATCH LIST 2025
Find, pray for and tick off each country!
CENTRAL AMERICA
"DEVOTE YOURSELVES TO PRAYER, BEING WATCHFUL AND THANKFUL."
COLOSSIANS 4:2
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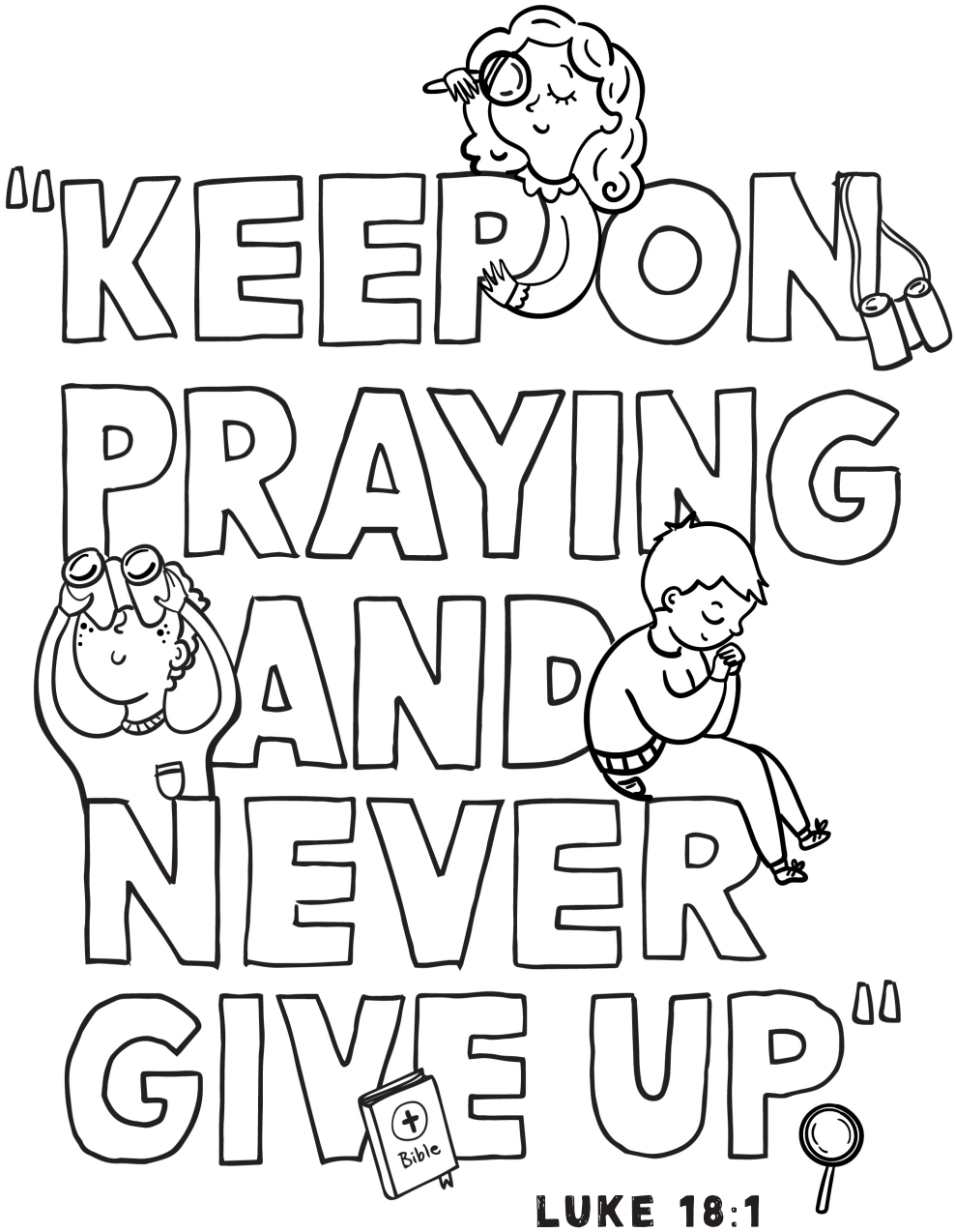

Color this in. Can you memorize this verse?

WHO ARE OPEN DOORS?

Open Doors is a group of people who help persecuted Christians around the world.

Sometimes that means giving them emergency supplies, like food and water and medecine when they are ill. For Christians who lose their homes, we help with finding them somewhere safe to stay. For children who have school problems, we might set up special schools or help with their education. Where Christians face bullying we help them stand up for their rights. And where they have been hurt or faced violence we ay for medicine and hospital fees. Even where Christians have to be secret believers we are with them, taking them smuggled Bibles, or just letting them know they are not alone.

So thank you for joining us in this work. It means such a lot for persecuted Christians to know that people like **you** are watching out for them!

Thank you!

HERE'S MY LIST OF COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN HAVE ALL KINDS OF...

SCHOOL PROBLEMS



THIS IS A LIST OF COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN FACE...

VIOLENCE

HERE'S MY LIST OF COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN MUST BE...

SECRET BELIEVERS

Here are five ways in which Christian children face persecution:

- **Violence.** Children and their family members may be attacked, hurt or even killed for following Jesus.
- **Bullying.** Christian children may be bullied by other children in their school or community. They and their family might be called names or treated really unfairly.
- **School problems.** Some children are not allowed to go to school because they are a Christian. Or perhaps they are allowed to go, but their teacher ignores them.
- **Secret believers.** Sometimes Christian children and their families must keep their faith completely secret. If anyone finds out they will be in trouble!
- **Losing their homes.** Families may have to run away from home to escape from people who want to attack Christians.

As you use your Prayer Passport, look out for countries where different kinds of persecution happens and list them in the boxes on this side of the map.

HERE'S A LIST OF COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES RISK...

LOSING THEIR HOMES

CHECK YOUR PRAYER PROGRESS!

I've prayed for **five** countries

I've prayed for **ten** countries

I've prayed for **twenty** countries

I've prayed for **forty** countries

I've prayed for **thirty** countries

I've prayed for **all fifty** countries!

HERE'S MY LIST OF COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN EXPERIENCE...

BULLYING



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