

The Persecuted Church

What do we mean when we talk about “The Persecuted Church”?

According to Open Doors, “*Christian persecution is any hostility, experienced from the world, because of one’s identification with Jesus Christ. This can include hostile feelings, attitudes, words and actions.*”¹

This definition is broad enough to capture many different experiences of believers, but persecution is generally accepted to include some kind of threat. It is not mere inconvenience or difference of opinion.

The fifteen most hostile-to-Christ countries in the world:

North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Iran, Afghanistan, India, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Mali, Algeria²

Sunday, November 3rd
International Day of Prayer
for the Persecuted Church



From Voice of the Martyrs:

10 Specific Ways to Pray for Persecuted Christians³

1. Pray they will sense God’s presence (Hebrews 13:5)
2. Pray they will know we are praying for them (2 Timothy 1:3)
3. Pray they will experience God’s comfort (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)
4. Pray they will see God open doors for evangelism (Colossians 4:3)
5. Pray they will boldly share the gospel (Acts 4:29)
6. Pray they will mature in their faith (Colossians 1:28-29)
7. Pray they will be granted wisdom in covert ministry work (Acts 9:23-25)
8. Pray they will remain joyful amid suffering (Acts 5:41)
9. Pray they will be able to forgive and love their persecutors (Matthew 5:44)
10. Pray they will be deeply rooted in God’s Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

TBC Missionaries

Several TBC missionaries and missions organizations work in hostile countries and/or with persecuted peoples (even here in Tulsa)! Please pray for the Lord’s protection of our missionaries and the people they serve. Pray also for the persecutors, that the Lord might save many, just as He saved Paul on the road to Damascus, bent on destruction of His Church.

¹ Definition from Open Doors <https://www.opendoors.org.za/christian-persecution-today/>

² List and map from Open Doors <https://www.opendoors.org.za/world-watch-list-2024/>

³ Voice of the Martyrs email, Here are 10 Specific Ways You Can Pray for Persecuted Christians

