

A Month of Prayers for the Persecuted Church

These prayers are designed to be prayed by those who are members of the persecuted church. Many pronouns have been changed from third person to first person - so if you use these prayers, you will be praying for yourself, as well as for all the other true believers who are suffering for their faith.

- 1 Dear Lord God, Thank You for Your promise never to leave us. Please help all of us who deal with persecution to abide in this precious promise and to sense Your constant presence. May Your love surround us as a shield and protect our hearts from fear and anxiety. Remind us that wherever we go, You are with us and will provide for our needs. Let Your peace fill our souls with comfort and grant us the courage to stand firm in faith, trusting that You are in control. Fill us with joy and hope as we walk through this life with You, relying on You and Your promises. In Jesus' holy name I pray, Amen. (Hebrews 13:5-6)
- 2 Heavenly Father, Thank You for making every believer in Jesus Christ part of Your family. Many Christians throughout the world suffer for our faith; keep us aware that we are all united as one Body in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to remember that although physical distance separates us, our spiritual oneness binds us together and nothing can ever break this bond. May we sense the love, prayers, and unity of the Church every day of their lives. Give all of us in the Body of Christ opportunities to show love and support to those around us, remembering that when one part of the body suffers, every other part suffers with it. In Jesus' powerful name, Amen. (I Cor. 12:20, 26)
- 3 Holy Father God, It grieves my heart that Your children are being killed, injured, or imprisoned for their faith every day. Thank You that suffering is not meaningless nor forgotten. May Your comfort bring peace to the family members of these martyrs and reassure all of us that one day justice will be done. Fill us with the fortitude to keep trusting You and relying on Your promises, no matter what comes our way. Be with the persecuted church around the world and grant us grace and courage to endure whatever loss and hardships we face. In Jesus' worthy name, Amen. (II Cor. 1:3-5)
- 4 Gracious Lord, I come before You with faith in Your goodness. Please open doors for Christians around the world to have opportunities to tell of Your glory, grace, and mercy, even in lands where we are persecuted for our faith. Fill us with boldness to share our stories, and let our boldness be a source of hope and encouragement to our fellow believers. I pray that You will use our testimonies to draw others closer to You and to bring lost souls into Your Kingdom. In Jesus' glorious name, Amen. (Col. 4:3)
- 5 Precious Lord, I pray that You will give Your children in every nation and every circumstance the courage to boldly share our faith in Jesus Christ. Sometimes it is dangerous to speak the name of Jesus or to resist evil. Empower Your people with great courage in those situations. Replace doubt and fear with anointed confidence. May our words be wise and compelling, convicting lost souls of their sins and leading them to life abundant and eternal in Jesus Christ. In Jesus' wonderful name, Amen. (Phil. 1:14)

- 6 Loving Father, I pray that You will be the Gentle Shepherd to all Christians who face persecution in our lives. Grant us peaceful rest and lead us in paths of righteousness. May we always trust in Your provision and presence even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. Let us know that You are with us no matter what comes our way, and grant us the courage to follow You wherever You lead. May we always find comfort in Your loving embrace. Restore our souls, and fill us with Your peace that passes understanding. In Jesus' beloved name, Amen. (Psalm 23)
- 7 Jehovah Jireh, our Provider, I pray that You would open the hearts of Christians around the world so that they will choose to support persecuted believers with Bibles. Remind them that all Your children need to hear Your truth in order to grow in our faith and that it is only in Your Word that we can find hope when life is difficult. May more people join in this cause and be propelled by Your love to provide Bibles to those who have none.* Guide Your people in their efforts to meet this need and fill them with compassion for their persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ. In Jesus' gracious name, Amen. (Psalm 119:41-43)
- 8 Gracious God of Comfort, I pray that You will fill the hearts of persecuted Christians with Your Word every moment of the day. May we remember reassuring verses from Scripture when our faith becomes weak and, thus, gain hope from Your promises. Give us the wisdom to stand on Your Word in difficult times and the courage to stand up for what is right no matter the cost. Renew our spirits and fill us with peace, even in the face of persecution, as we remember Your powerful promises. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen. (Psalm 119:49-56)
- 9 Majestic Lord of Hosts, I ask You to bring justice to a world filled with injustice. Give every Christian the courage and wisdom to stand up against oppression and to speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves. Keep Your children who live in dark lands safe from the wicked; protect us from violence; and reveal hidden snares in our paths. May we trust in Your perfect plans, even when faced with hardship and persecution. Help us always to remember that Your will prevails in the end, and Your Kingdom will triumph. In Jesus' powerful name, Amen. (Psalm 140)
- 10 Jehovah-Shalom, God of Peace, please grant strength to all of us who suffer persecution for our faith. May we patiently endure the trials and tribulations that come our way and experience Your peace and joy no matter what circumstances we encounter. Enable us to remain faithful in our love for You, even when we are faced with threats and intimidation. May we walk daily in the true peace that comes only from You. And may we ever remember that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to us. In Jesus' worthy name, Amen. (Matt. 5:10)
- 11 Lord, our Redeemer, please give persecuted Christians the courage to love and forgive those who wrong us. Fill us with Your perfect love so that Your love will shine out of us to others and be an example of grace in an unjust world. Enable us to tap into Your power to forgive in these difficult times of adversity and to refrain from thoughts of retaliation, hatred, or vengeance. May everything we do and say help build Your Kingdom and bring glory to Your name. In Jesus' precious name I pray, Amen. (Matt. 5:43-48)

- 12 Lord God of all Wisdom and Knowledge, I pray that You will give persecuted Christians the right words to say when faced with governing authorities. Put in our mouths the exact words that will infuse light and hope and redemption into the situation. May our speech be wise and gracious, honoring You at all times. With every word we speak, enable us to rely on Your wisdom and trust in Your guidance, knowing that You will not leave us defenseless, but will speak through us in order to accomplish Your Kingdom purposes. In Jesus' holy name, Amen. (Matt. 10:19)
- 13 Almighty God and Creator of the Universe, I pray that when persecution increases against Your children, You will inspire supernatural boldness in our hearts and minds. Grant us the courage and strength to stand tall in the face of opposition. May we take heart and proclaim Your name without fear or shame, trusting in Your power to protect us. Enable us to use our trials as stepping stones for growth, knowing that we have chosen to side with the One - the only One - who has the power to shake the very foundations of the Earth. In Jesus' majestic name, Amen. (Acts 4:29-31)
- 14 Lord God, our Rock, I pray that You will grant persecuted Christians the courage and determination to stand firm in our faith when we encounter hatred and hostility. May we draw strength from Your in-dwelling Spirit and be inspired by the example of Peter and the other apostles, risking everything to obey You, as our confident declaration rings out: "We ought to obey God rather than men!" In every circumstance, enable us to continue trusting in Your guidance, knowing that You are ever as close to us as our own heartbeat. In Jesus' victorious name, Amen. (Acts 5:29)
- 15 Great God, our Savior, I know that even today there are people who breathe out threatenings and slaughter against Your people, just as Saul, the persecutor did. But on the road to Damascus, You knocked Saul off his feet and transformed him into the apostle Paul. You can do the same thing today in the hearts of unbelievers. Grant those who oppress Your children the same kind of repentance and salvation as Paul experienced. Help them to understand Your all-encompassing grace and mercy, so they will have the courage to turn away from evil. Enable them to find peace in Your presence through the new-found humility in their hearts that always accompanies salvation. In Jesus' magnificent name, Amen. (Acts 9:1-19)
- 16 Glorious Lord, Please help Your people, wherever we may be around the world, to recognize that nothing else matters more than fully knowing You and sharing You with others. I ask that You would strengthen and encourage all of us who suffer persecution for our faith in Christ. Grant us courage to remain firm in our faith and wisdom to know how to respond in every situation. I pray that Your children who have been wronged or hurt are being restored from the inside out by Your healing presence. Give us the stamina to remain faithful in our mission, and ignite in us a passion for making disciples of all nations. In Jesus' worthy name, Amen. (Acts 20:24)
- 17 El Shaddai, Almighty God, thank You for the power of the Gospel to bring salvation to those who love You and to bring judgment on those who hate You. I pray that my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who suffer persecution for our faith, will never be ashamed of the Gospel. Let us find courage in You as we boldly declare Your Word and trust in its

power to accomplish Your Kingdom purposes. In Jesus' mighty name I pray, Amen. (Romans 1:16)

- 18 Father of Lights, it is the joy of the Church to know that we are heirs with Christ and that Your Spirit is alive in us, helping us stand firm in the face of every affliction. I pray for all my brothers and sisters who suffer injustice and mistreatment because of our faith. Help us cling to the hope we have in You, knowing that one day we will inherit eternal life. Give us comfort and courage that surpasses human understanding, so we can remain firm in our faith through all the difficult times. In Jesus' faithful name, Amen. (Romans 8:15-17)
- 19 Omniscient Lord, You have instructed Your followers to bless those who persecute us and to overcome evil with good. Many of us feel overwhelmed by the persecution and the evil that surround our lives. I pray that Your peace will indwell us and empower us to demonstrate Your kindness and grace in everything we do. Help us to remain focused on showing unconditional love and gentleness to our persecutors so those lost souls will be drawn to You. Help all Your children who dwell in dark lands be the shining torches that light up the wondrous miracle of life in Christ. In Jesus' holy name, Amen. (Romans 12:14, 21)
- 20 Eternal God, too often we hear of Your children being martyred for their faith. Every one of those dear souls has family members who are devastated by their loss. I pray for the heart-broken relatives and friends whose loved ones have been snatched away too soon. Be their comfort. Be their strength. Be their song. Help all of us cling to the joy of knowing that our Lord Jesus Christ has conquered death, and there will be a glorious reunion one day. In the meantime, I pray that all of my bereaved brothers and sisters will find rich comfort as they continue steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in Your work, rejoicing that our labor for You is never in vain. In Jesus' precious name, Amen. (I Cor. 15:50-58)
- 21 Majestic Lord, according to Your Word, we can be assured that as our sufferings for Christ overflow, Your comfort will be more than enough to console us. I pray for all of us who face persecution for our faith. Help us to find refuge and refreshment in You, knowing You are always with us, even in our darkest moments. As You fill us with Your comfort, I pray we will continue to stand firm in faith and light the way for everyone around us. In Jesus' glorious name, Amen. (II Cor. 1:5)
- 22 Father God, our Great Physician, I pray for all of us who suffer from physical pain and trials, as we devote ourselves to Your work. Strengthen us. Energize us. Be our healer, and guard our health. Raise up prayer warriors who will stand in the gap for us. Grant Your suffering children the stamina to endure each day and to keep pressing forward, trusting in You for deliverance. Help us to see Your faithfulness, even in the darkest hour, and to cling to You for hope. May Your peace and joy fill our hearts because we sense Your presence with us now, and because we know a glorious future awaits us in eternity. In Jesus' healing name I pray, Amen. (II Cor. 1:8-11)
- 23 Lord God, the Living Logos, in 2 Corinthians 4 we are reminded to fix our eyes on things that are eternal. I pray for all believers who suffer persecution for our faith. Help us to keep our focus on You and not be discouraged by the suffering of ourselves and others. Give us

courage and hope as we remain steadfast in our faith, knowing that You are our deliverer. Remind us every day that the things we see are only temporary and that things eternal are not visible to our mortal eyes. May we give You all honor and glory for Your gracious power that keeps us strong in the face of adversity. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen. (2 Cor. 4)

- 24 God of Grace, all Your children understand that salvation is a free gift of Your grace, purchased for us by the death of Your Son on a cruel cross. But the forces of darkness and evil would have unbelievers hurl the accusation that conversions are coerced or forced. Father, I ask You to silence lying spirits and allow lost souls to recognize that all Your gifts are given freely because of Your love. Open the hearts and minds of unbelievers to the Good News of salvation in Jesus. May they respond in faith and be saved. In Jesus' immortal name I pray, Amen.
(Eph. 2:8-9)
- 25 King of kings and Lord of lords, You have made it clear in Your Word that we are engaged in a great cosmic war. Your children who live under conditions of persecution experience that warfare daily. I pray that You will enlighten us to understand our armor and prompt us to wear it constantly - namely, truth, righteousness, the Gospel of peace, faith, salvation, and the sword of Your Word. Then, as we go forth in the confidence of fully-armored soldiers, empower us to lovingly and boldly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Help us to remain steadfast in our witness and not to grow weary in our labor for You. May our faithfulness bring honor and glory to You every day in every way. In the supreme name of Jesus, Amen.
(Eph. 6:13-20)
- 26 Glorious Creator God, I acknowledge that none of us are put on Earth to achieve glory for ourselves. In fact, such glory is worse than useless - the apostle Paul would call it "dung." No, we are here to do Kingdom work for You and to bring glory to *You*. Help Your children who live under conditions of persecution not to feel alone and worthless. Help us to understand that we have important work to do for You and abundant opportunities to bring You glory. And help us to realize with rejoicing that, although we endure unfair difficulties and sorrows, we also have unique opportunities. Reveal to us how our circumstances allow us to deepen our relationship with You as we experience the power of Christ's resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering, even being made conformable to His death. I ask it in Jesus' eternal name, Amen. (Phil. 3:7-10)
- 27 Jehovah-Shalom, Lord our Peace, You have instructed us to bring our requests to You and trust that You will give us peace beyond comprehension. I pray for all believers who suffer persecution because of our faith. Fill our hearts with Your unfathomable peace as we bring our needs before You, confident that You care for us. I pray that You will give us an attitude of constant rejoicing, free of anxiety, because we have turned our needs over to You with thanksgiving, and we know You are trustworthy. In Jesus' sacred name, Amen. (Phil. 4:4-7)
- 28 Lord God, our Deliverer, some of Your children are in prison for no other reason than our faith in Jesus Christ. Lord, I pray that You will deliver us from bondage. Perhaps Your deliverance will be an open prison door, but perhaps it will be a task so compelling we will forget where we are. Put the words in our mouths that will clearly share Your Gospel with

those around us. Enable us to speak boldly and courageously about how You have blessed our lives. Protect us and provide for us, even in prison. Help us to remain steadfast in our faith and not to grow weary in our labor for You. I pray You give us a prison ministry so productive the evil one will regret the day he sent us here. May all glory and honor go to You, as Your children proclaim Your grace wherever we are. In Jesus' blessed name, Amen. (Col. 4:2-3)

- 29 Omnipotent Lord, there are some countries on this planet where people are cruelly persecuted and even executed because we choose to love and serve You. And yet, even in those lands, people choose You to be their Lord and Savior. And we do so for only one reason - You defeated death! You alone have the power and the tender joy of resurrecting Your children. Dear Father, all of us dread for our loved ones to be taken from us, and sometimes dear ones may suffer death unjustly at young ages. But no one and nothing can take from us the assurance and the joy of knowing we will see them again. Please comfort every bereaved heart with glorious visions of our loved ones in the arms of Jesus. I ask it in His precious name, Amen. (I Thess. 4:15-18)
- 30 Dear God, Father to every child, I pray that all Christian parents will faithfully teach their children Your Word. But in lands where Your people are persecuted for their faith, parents have extra concerns - we have to help our little ones overcome fear and understand why we should practice a dangerous faith. Father, I pray that You will empower Godly parents to model a life of courage and vision. And I ask You to give us an anointed ability to teach Your Word in purity and power. Grant children who live in dark lands supernatural courage and understanding. I pray they will develop an unwavering commitment to You and Your Word as they grow, and will one day rejoice in a ministry of their own. In Jesus' victorious name, Amen. (Deut. 11:18-20 and II Tim. 1:5)
- 31 God of Miracles, You told us in Your Word that we must not neglect our regular meetings. In some lands, it is dangerous for Christians to hold services. I pray You will help us understand how important it is to meet regularly, so we can encourage each other and provoke one another unto love and good works. Guide us to safe, adequate meeting places. And, Lord, I ask that You will even do miracles of invisibility in our behalf when You see fit. Protect and sanctify our precious church services by your holy presence among us. In Jesus' glorious name, Amen. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

* Voice of the Martyrs includes a Bible distribution ministry. If you're interested in donating through their website, the link is <https://www.persecution.com/bibles/>