# **Open Doors Hong Kong**

# APRIL PRAYER CALENDAR

\*Name changed for security reasons



Photo: Jorina with her husband who live in a village in northern Bangladesh

# WOMEN

## 1 Worldwide

Throughout the world, women are doubly persecuted for both their faith and their gender. Pray they would know their identity in Christ, accepting and believing the truth of God's Word.

#### 2 Worldwide

Pray with women who don't have the freedom to practice their faith openly. When a woman is the only believer in the family, being part of a local church becomes extremely difficult.

#### 3 Worldwide

Pray for wisdom and strength for Christian women in Muslim families who are forced to participate in Islamic religious celebrations.

#### 4 Iran

Pray for your sisters in Iran in difficult situations: those who are imprisoned for their ministry; who suffer from domestic violence; the widowed or divorced; and women whose husbands are jailed for their faith.

#### 5 Iran

Pray that Iranian women would believe in their talents, abilities and gifts. Pray for their courage to use them for God's glory, focusing on their worth in God's eyes.

# 6 Saudi Arabia

Pray with a sister in Saudi Arabia: "Pray for Saudi believers. May God give them strength, protection, joy and peace and open the door for us to meet other believers to pray together."

# 7 Yemen

One Christian woman in Yemen asks us to pray: "May our Lord be with the people of Yemen and help them in disasters and war. Pray for Yemenis that they would know the path of truth."

# 8 North Africa

Pray with Yasmina\* from North Africa. She and her husband are Christian converts from Islam and in the face of mounting hostility were forced to flee their country. Pray for their safety.

# 9 North Africa

Pray with Batoul\*, a young woman in her late 20sin North Africa. She is unmarried and a Christian ministry leader—a risky combination where she lives. Pray for perseverance.

# 10 North Africa

Batoul asks us to pray for women in North Africa: "...Pray that they would not be afraid but instead, encouraged." She also asks us to pray for her family's salvation.

#### 11 Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, Jorina and her family face ongoing threats from their community for their faith. Pray Deuteronomy 31:6 over her: "Be strong and courageous.... for the Lord your God goes with you."

#### 12 Bangladesh

Jorina prays and longs for her community to know Jesus. Stand with her, praying that God would soften the hearts of her persecutors by her loving attitude towards them.

#### **13 PALM SUNDAY**

Today on Palm Sunday, remember your persecuted family throughout the world who cannot openly celebrate Holy Week. Ask God to bring them beautiful reminders that the King has already conquered death.

# NIGERIA

#### 14 Nigeria

Today marks 11 years since more than 276 girls were kidnapped from their finishing school in Nigeria's Chibok village. Pray for comfort and strength for believers whose loved ones—an estimated 91—are still missing.

#### 15 Nigeria

Answered prayer! After six years, Nigerian nurse Alice Loksha is free from her extremist captors! You may remember Alice. She was kidnapped by Boko Haram faction ISWAP. Since 2018, we have been praying for Alice's homecoming.

#### 16 Nigeria

Pray for physical and spiritual healing for Alice and her child. In captivity, she was forced to marry two ISWAP commanders and gave birth to a son, who escaped alongside his mother.

#### 17 Nigeria

Pray with Pastor Simon in Nigeria's Niger state where thousands of Christians have been killed, and displaced from their homes by extremist groups. "Stand for us fervently," he asks, "that we will be strong and will overcome at the end."

#### **18 GOOD FRIDAY**

Today on Good Friday, as we remember Christ's sacrifice on the cross, pray that our persecuted family who risks so much to follow Jesus would know how much they are loved by their Savior.

#### **19 HOLY SATURDAY**

On Holy Saturday, as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection, pray for protection from attacks as believers gather in their local churches. Ask God to place His hand over their celebrations and guide their leaders.

# **20 EASTER SUNDAY**

"He is not here, for He has risen..." Praise God! Today on Easter Sunday, pray that our persecuted family would grasp the hope and peace that Christ's resurrection brings to our hurting world.

# NORTH AFRICA

#### 21 North Africa

Pray with a Christian brother who works translating the Bible into local languages. He asks for our prayers: "Where we are, we face very challenging conditions. Our goal is to ensure that the gospel reaches everyone in the region."

#### 22 North Africa

Another believer in North Africa asks us to pray for the children of Christian families who can become confused when all day at school they learn about Islam. Pray for families' efforts to disciple their children.

#### 23 North Africa

Pray that children in the region would hear and know the truth—and that it would take root in their lives. Ask God to help them keep their faith and remain steadfast in their pursuit.

#### BHUTAN

#### 24 Bhutan

Pastor Rajen has a simple request: He wants to worship with his congregation in Bhutan without persecution. But his church registration was denied. Praise God for resilient leaders like him.

# 25 Bhutan

When Pastor Rajen held services, his electricity and water were cut off. He's taking his case to the government. Please pray with him and other Bhutanese Christians who just want to worship in peace.

#### 26 Bhutan

Please pray for Pastor Rajen's family and the tenants who are struggling without water and electricity. Pray that God opens a way for them and provides for their urgent basic needs.



Photo: Displaced believers building homes

# MEXICO

# 27 Mexico

Last summer, 108 brothers and sisters from Chiapas State in Mexico were forced to flee their communities due to escalating violence. Among the displaced are children, women and the elderly. Pray for their provision and direction.

#### 28 Mexico

These displaced believers come from three evangelical churches. They have faced relentless threats from criminal gangs seeking to control the drug business in their territory. Praise God for their courage and ask Him to protect them.

# MALI

#### 29 Mali

"Pay an Islamic tax—or flee." This is the choice facing believers in a region in Mali, West Africa. Islamic militants have taken over their communities. Pray with our family, remembering "those who are mistreated" (Hebrews 13:3).

#### 30 Mali

Ask God to be with these believers, giving them comfort and hope. Help His people to continue to stand for Him even in what seems like an impossible situation. *God, be with Your people.* 

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"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come."

PROVERBS 31:25