

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH**

**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 2**

UN  **TE**
IN PRAYER

Joseph Shahbazian

https://www.prisoneralert.com/prisoners/292/joseph-shahbazian



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Joseph Shahbazian

HELD 248 DAYS • ARRESTED FEBRUARY 2025 IN IRAN

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81

GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS
EMAILED

543

ENCOURAGING

Pastor Joseph Shahbazian, an Armenian-Iranian, was rearrested in his home on February 6, 2025, and taken to Iran's notorious Evin prison. No reason for the arrest was given. He remains behind bars without charges and has been denied access to a lawyer.

Pastor Joseph was initially arrested on June 30, 2020. He was released after a lengthy bail process in which prosecutors initially asked for 3 billion tomans (around \$150,000 USD). They later reduced his bail to a still-exorbitant amount of 2 billion tomans (\$100,000).

On June 6, 2023, Pastor Joseph was sentenced to 10 years in

COUNTRY PROFILE

Iran



Jeremiah chapter 19

14 Then Jeremiah came from Tophet, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of the Lord's house and said to all the people, 15 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will bring on this city and on all her towns all the doom that I have pronounced against it, because they have stiffened their necks that they might not hear My words.' "

Jeremiah chapter 20

1 Now Pashhur the son of Immer, the priest who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things. 2 Then Pashhur struck Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD. 3 And it happened on the next day that Pashhur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah said to him, "The LORD has not called your name Pashhur, but Magor-Missabib.

Jeremiah chapter 20

4 For thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall see it. I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive to Babylon and slay them with the sword. 5 Moreover I will deliver all the wealth of this city, all its produce, and all its precious things; all the treasures of the kings of Judah I will give into the hand of their enemies, who will plunder them, seize them, and carry them to Babylon.

Jeremiah chapter 20

6 And you, Pashhur, and all who dwell in your house, shall go into captivity. You shall go to Babylon, and there you shall die, and be buried there, you and all your friends, to whom you have prophesied lies.' ”

Jeremiah chapter 20

7 O LORD, You induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and have prevailed. I am in derision daily; everyone mocks me. 8 For when I spoke, I cried out; I shouted, "Violence and plunder!" because the word of the LORD was made to me a reproach and a derision daily. 9 Then I said, "I will not make mention of Him, nor speak anymore in His name." But His word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, and I could not.

Jeremiah chapter 20

10 For I heard many mocking: “Fear on every side!” “report,” they say, “and we will report it!” All my acquaintances watched for my stumbling, saying, “Perhaps he can be induced; then we will prevail against him, and we will take our revenge on him.” 11 But the LORD is with me as a mighty, awesome One. Therefore my persecutors will stumble, and will not prevail. They will be greatly ashamed, for they will not prosper. Their everlasting confusion will never be forgotten.

Jeremiah chapter 20

12 But, O LORD of hosts, You who test the righteous, and see the mind and heart, let me see Your vengeance on them; for I have pleaded my cause before You. 13 Sing to the LORD! Praise the LORD! For He has delivered the life of the poor from the hand of evildoers. 14 Cursed be the day in which I was born! Let the day not be blessed in which my mother bore me! 15 Let the man be cursed who brought news to my father, saying, "A male child has been born to you!" Making him very glad.

Jeremiah chapter 20

16 And let that man be like the cities which the LORD overthrew, and did not relent; let him hear the cry in the morning and the shouting at noon,

17 Because he did not kill me from the womb, that my mother might have been my grave, and her womb always enlarged with me. 18 Why did I come forth from the womb to see labor and sorrow, that my days should be consumed with shame?

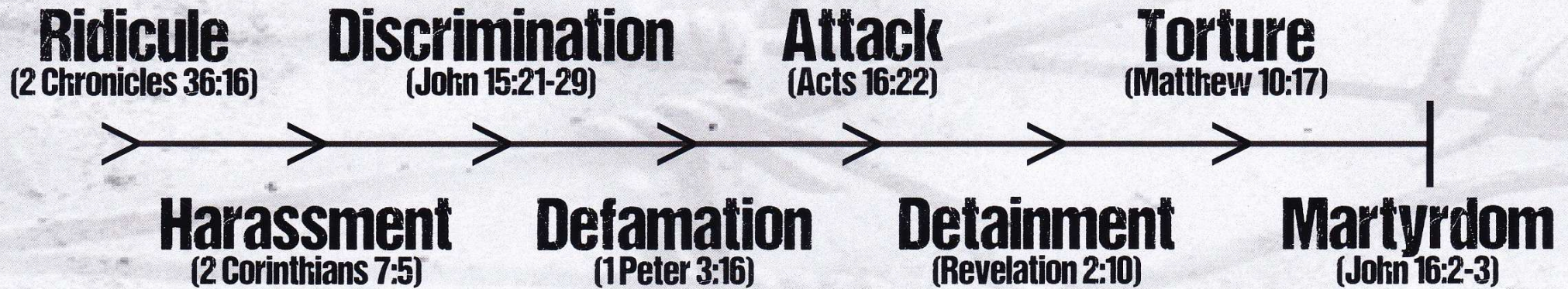
Jeremiah 20

Lessons we learn about the persecuted church from Jeremiah's life:

- *Sometimes a Christian is persecuted by the religious establishment
- *Sometimes a persecuted Christian can be bold in public but suffer in private
- *Sometimes a persecuted Christian can feel rejected and betrayed by the Lord



THE PERSECUTION SCALE



5 Zones of Persecution



**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
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NOVEMBER 2**

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IN PRAYER

WORLD WATCH LIST 2025

OPEN DOORS' VISION IS THAT NO CHRISTIAN SUFFERS PERSECUTION ALONE

A ranking of the 50 countries where it is most difficult to be a Christian.

-
- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 North Korea | 18 Syria | 35 Congo DR (DRC) |
| 2 Somalia | 19 Algeria | 36 Bhutan |
| 3 Yemen | 20 Burkina Faso | 37 Mozambique |
| 4 Libya | 21 Morocco | 38 Kazakhstan |
| 5 Sudan | 22 Laos | 39 Tajikistan |
| 6 Eritrea | 23 Mauritania | 40 Egypt |
| 7 Nigeria | 24 Bangladesh | 41 Qatar |
| 8 Pakistan | 25 Uzbekistan | 42 Comoros |
| 9 Iran | 26 Cuba | 43 Cameroon |
| 10 Afghanistan | 27 Central African Republic | 44 Vietnam |
| 11 India | 28 Niger | 45 Turkey |
| 12 Saudi Arabia | 29 Turkmenistan | 46 Colombia |
| 13 Myanmar | 30 Nicaragua | 47 Kyrgyzstan |
| 14 Mali | 31 Mexico | 48 Brunei |
| 15 China | 32 Oman | 49 Chad |
| 16 Maldives | 33 Ethiopia | 50 Jordan |
| 17 Iraq | 34 Tunisia | |

Cao Sanqiang 'John Cao'

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John Cao

HELD 2,436 DAYS • ARRESTED MARCH 2017 IN CHINA



Write Letter



Petition Official

SHARE ON



17

GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS
EMAILED

4,895

ENCOURAGING

UPDATE AUGUST 21, 2020

Pastor John Cao was able to meet with his mother a few days ago. Because of the pandemic, his mother was only able to see him via video link, but she said John looks fine. He told her he prays daily for his brothers and sisters in Christ and everything going on in the world. He said he is also aware of what has happened to Pastor Wang Yi.

He reassured his mother that he does not have to do field work, and that he has time to read and interact with other inmates.

UPDATE AUGUST 23, 2019

COUNTRY PROFILE

China



[Home](#) / [NP Comment](#)

Michael Higgins: The West shrugs as Christians are slaughtered and persecuted worldwide

100,000 have been killed in Nigeria since 2009, but it's not even the worst place to be a Christian

By [Michael Higgins](#)

Published Oct 11, 2025 Last updated 1 hour ago 10 minute read [23 Comments](#)





Canada's churches are burning

Arson against places of worship cannot be treated as a background issue. Canadians deserve better and so do their institutions of faith.

April 24, 2025 in [Releases](#) Reading Time: 2 mins read

AA





Marc Miller

@MarcMillerVM

I say this, in particular because I am a Christian: there should be no defence to the crime of publicly inciting hatred because, for example, someone relied on Leviticus 20:13 or Deuteronomy 22:22 which prescribe death to homosexuals and adulterers. It's as simple as that.



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Every single Christian in Canada needs to hear about this. Spread it far and wide.



Hateful Bible verses

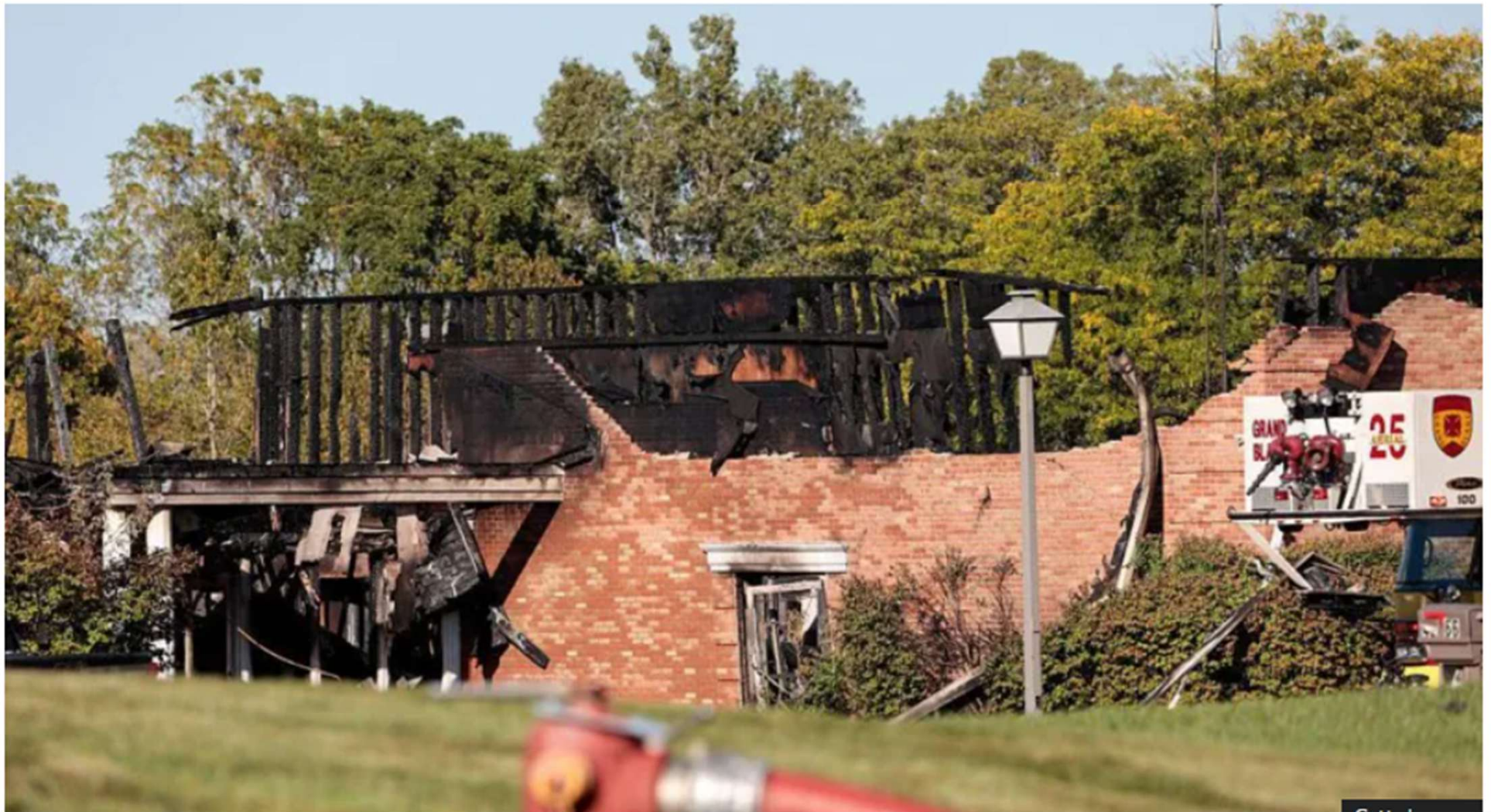
Every Christian in Canada needs to hear about this. Spread it far and wide.

What we know about Michigan church shooting and arson attack

29 September 2025

Share  Save 

Madeline Halpert and **Joshua Cheetham**





THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

Serving the Persecuted Church since 1971

www.vomcanada.com
1-888-29-VOICE (298-6423)
thevoice@vomcanada.org



The Voice of the Martyrs in Canada is part of a worldwide family of missions which were started through the influence of Richard Wurmbrand. Each mission is independent but in fellowship with each other. Some other VOM offices around the world include:

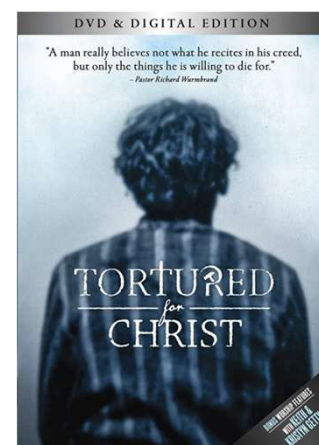
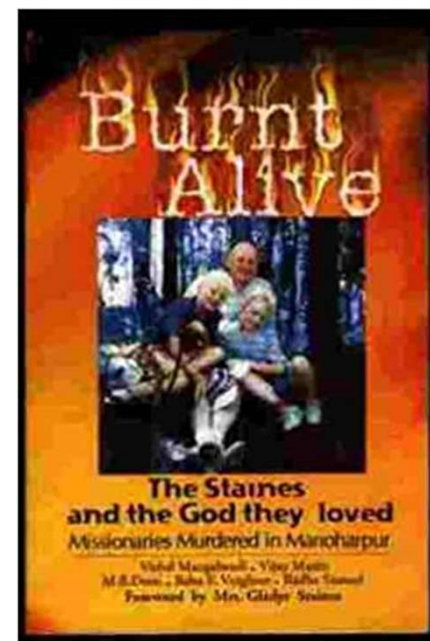
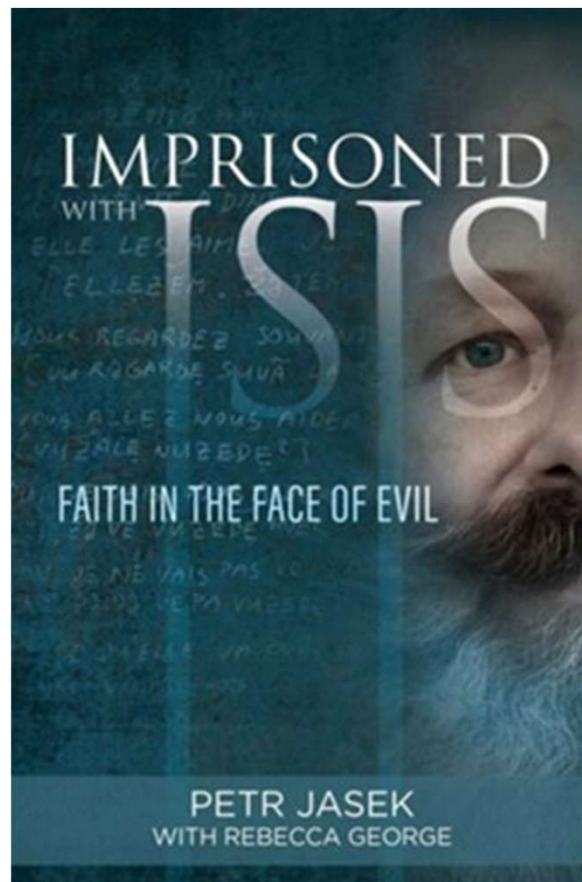
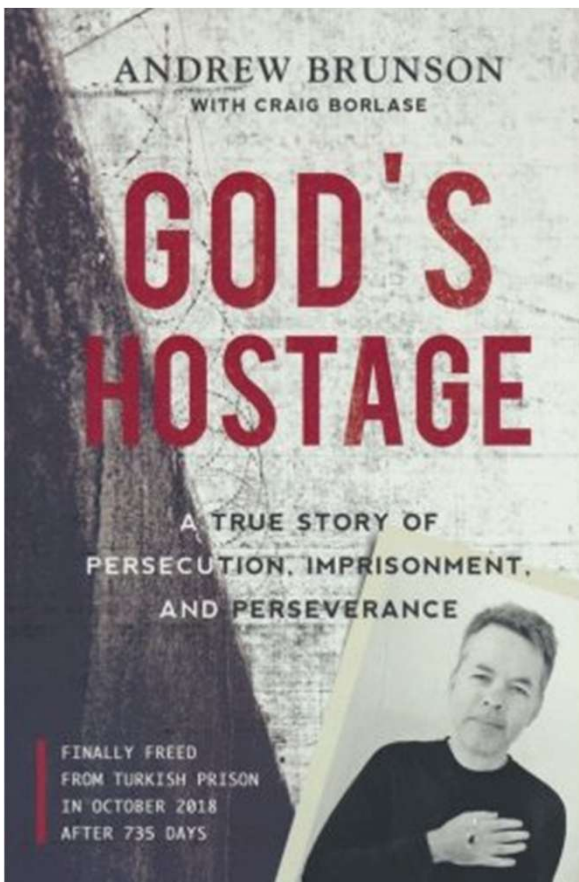
- The Voice of the Martyrs (USA)
- The Voice of the Martyrs (Australia)
- Release International (UK)
- St. De Ondergrondse Kerk (The Netherlands)
- La Voz de los Martires en Mexico (Mexico)

CHARLOTTETOWN BIBLE CHAPEL

Charlottetown Bible Chapel library

Please use the search tools (general search box or advanced search drop down) to find items you are interested in. The best way to find new items is to search "Acquired: 2021". Unfortunately not all items have a synopsis but a Google search should provide the information. Please note that not all items are on the shelves. Please see Bill Mooney if you are interested in an item or have any questions.

Search for...



THE FIRST REQUEST
OF PERSECUTED
CHRISTIANS IS

"Pray for us."



OCT 2025

"I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

~ John 16:33 – ESV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			MALDIVES 1 Pray for the spiritual growth of Maldivians who have come to faith in Christ through the Internet.	JORDAN 2 Pray that refugees in Jordan will be introduced to Jesus through the witness of the country's Christians.	BURUNDI 3 Pray that churches will provide ongoing support and discipleship to Christian converts from Islam.	CHAD 4 Pray for an end to Boko Haram attacks on Christians in the Lake Chad Basin.
UGANDA 5 Pray that God would bless the ministry efforts of those equipping believers to share the Gospel.	IRAN 6 Ask the Lord to use Christian media ministries that are reaching into Iran to draw unbelievers to Himself.	INDIA 7 Pray for the protection, encouragement and faith of Herma and her family who were rejected by fellow villagers.	SIERRA LEONE 8 Thank the Lord for small churches that are standing firm despite pressures from Islamic militants.	ERITREA 9 Pray that imprisoned believers will encourage one another and share the Gospel with fellow prisoners.	MYANMAR (BURMA) 10 Pray that Buddhist monks who seek to suppress Christianity will discover the reality of the Living Christ.	TURKIYE 11 Although many missionaries have been deported, pray that Christian residents will proclaim the Gospel.
KUWAIT 12 Pray that indigenous Kuwaiti believers will develop spiritual maturity and wisely share their faith.	KAZAKHSTAN 13 Pray that Bible distributions will reach beyond the large cities to the most remote areas of the country.	LEBANON 14 Pray for persecuted Christians in Druze communities, also interceding for more Druze people to receive Christ.	TOGO 15 Pray for Togolese missionaries who are working to reach people in remote areas with the Gospel message.	CUBA 16 Pray that believers who have been summoned for questioning will speak with courage and wisdom.	DJIBOUTI 17 Pray that Christians will live according to God's Word and boldly proclaim the "Good News" of the Gospel.	MOROCCO 18 Pray that believers will have "a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:7).
GUINEA 19 Pray for those who persecute their Christian family members, asking God to transform their hearts.	NIGERIA 20 Pray that Christians will be able to forgive their persecutors, some of whom are their neighbours.	BHUTAN 21 Pray for effective discipleship efforts that would prepare new Godly leaders to shepherd local churches.	PHILIPPINES 22 Pray for the families of pastors and other believers who have been killed for their Christian activities.	COLOMBIA 23 Pray that Marxist guerillas will come to faith in Christ through the testimonies of believers in "red zones."	AZERBAIJAN 24 Pray that all Azeris will receive their own copy of God's Word, despite heavy governmental restrictions.	MEXICO 25 Prayerfully uphold Pastor Filadelfo, who was repeatedly jailed for his witness and kicked out of his village.

10 WAYS *to pray*

FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

P R A Y T H A T T H E Y W I L L

- 1** Sense God's presence
 - 2** Know we are praying for them
 - 3** Experience God's comfort
 - 4** See God open doors to evangelism
 - 5** Boldly share the gospel
 - 6** Mature in their faith
 - 7** Be granted wisdom in covert ministry work
 - 8** Remain joyful amid suffering
 - 9** Forgive and love their persecutors
 - 10** Be rooted in God's Word
-