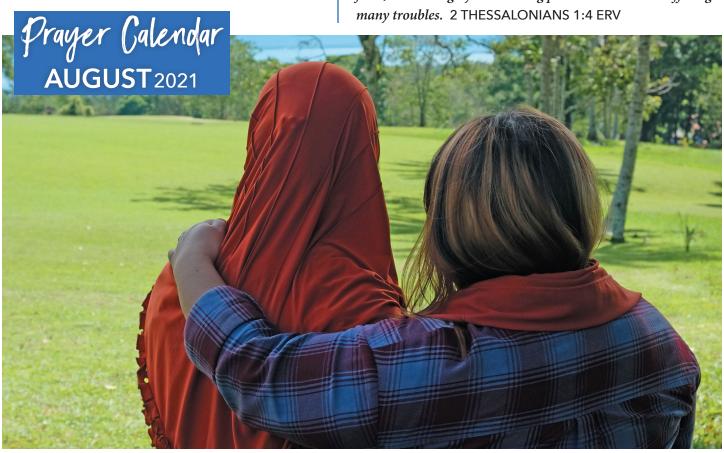


So we tell the other churches of God how proud we are of you. We tell them how you patiently continue to be strong and have faith, even though you are being persecuted and are suffering many troubles. 2 THESSALONIANS 1:4 ERV



- In 15 countries in Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East, God's Word and training are helping to strengthen the persecuted Church.
- Today, one in eight believers worldwide suffers for simply believing in Christ. It's especially growing more dangerous in Asia where two out of five believers suffer high levels of persecution.
- The oppression of the Church has only grown worse during the COVID-19 pandemic. In some places, people refuse to provide Christians with food or other pandemic-related aid.

## Pray for the Persecuted Church

**Week 1:** Please pray for believers in the Middle East as they face persecution. Pray that God opens the minds and hearts of the persecutors. Pray that God sets them free and helps them to find hope in Christ.

A mom and two daughters from Masis, Armenia, who came to Christ through Bible League's *Project Philip* Bible studies were ready to receive baptism. Then, the husband and father forbade them and even prevented them from going to church. Please pray for the mom and daughters. May God help them to be strong in faith.

Week 2: Pray for the more than 40 Christians who attended a Bible-based Literacy training in Chinese last month via Zoom. They attended from many different places, including Taiwan, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, China, and Thailand. Ask the Lord to continue to move in their hearts and provide opportunities for them to begin Bible-based Literacy classes in their communities.

One of Bible League's Bible-based Literacy students from another faith, Prasad from northern India, spoke

Please turn over...

## Pray for the Persecuted Church (continued)

about Jesus to his mother. But his father was rude and threatened him if he prayed at home. His father sent him and his mother out of the home. Pray for God's intervention.

Week 3: Please pray for Thony, Bible League's national director in Indonesia, and his eight-year-old son, David. Sadly, Thony's wife and unborn baby recently passed away due to COVID-19. Ask the Lord to wrap his loving arms around Thony and David as they grieve the loss of their dear loved ones.

Recently, a new Bible League Bible-based Literacy class launched in a tea garden in eastern Bangladesh. There are seven students, all of whom are Hindus. Let us bless and pray for these students. May they come to know Jesus.

Week 4: Pray for Maryam and Itia as they study God's Word and grow in their faith in a persecuted area in the Philippines. Itia is hiding her faith from her family out of fear of retribution, and Maryam has received death threats for believing in Jesus.

Samuel, a Bible League-trained believer in southern India, has faced opposition for sharing his faith. Ask the Lord to give him the courage to continue to spread God's Word–even when it's scary.

In rural communities in Mozambique, witchdoctors are challenging church leaders by using their magic practices to oppose church services and evangelism. Please pray for believers to stand strong against these evil practices.