

# May *continued*

around the world has been invaluable in helping them along their journey to recovery. Sharifa asked us to pray for good health for her and the children who sometimes suffer from malaria. Pray that the Lord will continue to restore the Kesvere family and help them to continue following Him.

**May 19 | EAST AFRICA ISLANDS** Pray that the handful of believers on the islands would grow in a deeper knowledge of God and to know that God is with them. Please keep praying for those who faithfully continue to the spread of the good news while facing a lot of opposition.

**May 20 | ALGERIA** Pray for wisdom for church leaders in Algeria in the time leading up to Ramadan and during the month of Islamic fasting. During this time, preaching in the mosques can be very hateful towards Christians. May Church leaders have special discernment to lead the church during this time.

**May 21, Sun | TUNISIA** Rachid\* and Hichem\* came to faith and have been baptized. They are now searching for ways in which they can reach out to others. Pray for wisdom and protection for them.



Pray for believers from Tunisia to stay strong in faith despite the challenges they face.

**May 22 | LIBYA** In Libya, many migrant workers are under continuous pressure. Pray for protection and strength to stand against persecution. Pray for strong fellowships that are healthy and encouraging.

**May 23 | MAURITANIA** Pray for isolated believers who are too afraid to meet with other brothers and sisters. Pray for new connections and more trust among believers.

**May 24 | ISRAEL & PALESTINE** Over the summer many children will join a Christian summer camp, organized by either their own church or organizations like Musalaha and the Bible Society or King's Kids. Pray for safety, fun and life-changing Biblical teaching for these children and youth. Pray for the staff, for wisdom, love and grace.

**May 25 | ISRAEL & PALESTINE** Praise God for the positive developments taking place in Gaza - for new life in Christ, initiatives to grow in faith, and for new leaders who have a heart for young people. Pray for the leaders of the small Christian community to remain faithful and determined to follow Jesus in love.

**May 26 | YEMEN** The destruction that Saudi Arabia is causing with their Sunni-Shia war in Yemen has led to great needs. Hospitals in Yemen are hardly operating or are closed, water

and food are scarce, and fuel is very expensive and hard to get. Converts to Christ in Yemen are in the middle of this conflict, but they do what they can to share the little they have with people around them. Aid is typically dispensed through Muslim lines. Please pray that aid will reach the Christians too.

**May 27 | SAUDI ARABIA** Pray for the season of Ramadan, for God's love and mercy to be revealed to many who seek Him wholeheartedly. The religious police in Saudi Arabia are trying to find out where Christians are holding their worship meetings. Please pray that while they are searching for the Christian worship meetings, God will reveal Himself to them as He did to the apostle Paul. Pray that when they have contact with Christians, they will be touched by the grace and love of Christ shining through the Christians.

**May 28, Sun | QATAR** There are many Christian migrant workers who are separated from their spouses and children for one or two years while working in Qatar to build hotels and football stadiums for the 2022 World Cup Football. Pray that these Christians will thrive in Qatar and for God to bless their families.

**May 29 | IRAQ** As most people in Iraq are getting ready for the month of fasting, please pray that the glory of God will be manifested in people's lives and that people will be able to start returning home instead of planning their departure to other countries. The number of Christians has dropped significantly over time. Please pray for the tide to turn.

**May 30 | SYRIA** Pray that the farmers in Syria will be able to harvest their fields this year. It's finally been a rainy winter which gives hope to many people all over Syria.

**May 31 | LEBANON** Pray for those who are preparing for the Christian summer camps will be truly guided by the Holy Spirit and that they will see many changed lives. Pray that the young people attending these camps will experience true change in their lives and glorify Jesus.



Some of the children living in IDP camps and refugee camps in Lebanon will be blessed to attend summer camps.

\*Representative photos used to protect identity. \*Names changed to protect identity.



**OpenDoors**

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

# PRAYER FORCE

Prayer request bulletin for *alert* persecuted Christians worldwide



**OpenDoors**  
Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

Telephone: 905-636-0944

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Halton Hills, ON L7G 0C6  
[www.OpenDoorsCA.org](http://www.OpenDoorsCA.org)



*"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."*  
2 Corinthians 4:17-18

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# May

**May 1 | CHINA** Please pray for Brother Abdul\* who had to flee after his co-workers were arrested for storing Christian literature. It is no longer safe for him to go back as the authorities are looking for him. He had to leave his wife and son behind and work in a different town. Meanwhile, his wife is in poor health and cannot work. During our conversation he never complained, but shed tears when mentioning his wife and son. Please pray that God will comfort and restore Abdul. Please pray for the five co-workers who were arrested and for their families.

**May 2 | CHINA** Marah\* has moved back to her hometown in remote western China after finishing her biblical training in southern China. With tighter monitoring by local government in Chinese Muslim areas, it's becoming riskier to serve. "Fewer and fewer people are coming to our gatherings out of fear," Marah sighed. Please pray for Marah's ministry work in this difficult region.



Please pray for Marah as she ministers in a predominantly Muslim area in western China.

**May 3 | INDIA** Pray for the state of Nagaland as the socio-political situation is becoming more sensitive. Offices and schools were closed for part of the beginning of the year. Pray for a resolution to the sensitive situation in Nagaland and for God's leading and guidance to be with the political leaders of the country.

**May 4 | SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES** Praise God for the successful printing of 100 livelihood manuals last year. 32 Sama House Churches will be using these materials in Zamboanga City, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi. Please pray that the content will teach the believers to earn sufficient income.

**May 5 | BHUTAN** Sonam\*, a Sunday school teacher, successfully completed an OD training for teachers. He has been in children's ministry for three years. "I thought I might not be able to stand before children and people to teach them, and I thought of going back to my job, but the Holy Spirit encouraged me to continue. Today I minister to more than 100 children in three children's clubs. After this training, I am more confident to go back to my village to teach children to grow spiritually." Pray for God to grant Sonam wisdom as he reaches out to children.

**May 6 | BHUTAN** Please lift up the students of Bhutan Bible College in prayer. OD supports four first-year students and another four second-year students. Please pray that they would have renewed excitement in learning God's Word. Pray that the spiritual disciplines they are learning in bible school will be put to heart.

**May 7, Sun | BURMA / MYANMAR** Praise the Lord for the success of our Persecution Preparedness training in Burma/

Myanmar. Khup\* commented, "I learned the importance of devotion and Bible Study. I also learned to stand strong in times of difficulty and hardship."

**May 8 | LAOS** Thirty families from a village in Laos will have to find a new place to live after being expelled in February for being Christians. Please pray for God to provide a new location for them and that His peace would strengthen these believers in this heartbreaking situation.

**May 9 | SRI LANKA** Last year, OD extended practical assistance to four pastors in Ratnapura, Ampara, Mathugama, and Batticaloa for the rebuilding of either their homes or places of worship. Praise God for His provision and pray for His protection to be upon His children in Sri Lanka.



Pastor Dinesh, from Kandy district, Sri Lanka was helped to extend his church building.

**May 10 | VIETNAM** Lin Nguy\*, a 52-year-old former police officer, has suffered great persecution after accepting Christ in May 2015. The government stripped him of all his benefits. He was entitled to a substantial stipend since many in his family were war heroes. Lin Nguy's life radically changed after he became a Christian. He was an alcoholic and used to mistreat and beat his wife, who was a Christian. Pray that Lin would continue to persevere in his faith despite the costs he has faced for following Jesus.

**May 11 | BANGLADESH** Pray for the education system. The government has made huge changes in textbooks for a more Islamic understanding of things. On the other hand, Christian students are not able to study their religion in schools because the government is not distributing enough Christian textbooks. Instead, they force these students to study either Islam or Hinduism. Pray for a way for the church to resolve this matter.

**May 12 | BRUNEI** The Sharia Courts Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) is planned to be finalized in June. Pray against this attempt to further strengthen Shariah Law in the country. Pray for the Sultan and his advisers to see the negative impact of Shariah Law on the people so that it will help them change their mind.

**May 13 | INDONESIA** Pray for an MBB Couples Seminar in West Java. Participants will be taught the purpose and roles of husband and wife in a Christian marriage. Pray for the right speakers to teach this as these couples come from Islamic backgrounds and hold a different view on marriage. Pray also for good attendance and a safe environment for the participants.

**May 14, Sun | MALAYSIA** Malaysia is becoming a growing haven for Islamic State (IS) to recruit new members. The youth,

especially those coming from broken homes, are easily drawn to the IS. Rohingya Muslim refugees are an easy target group because they are marginalised, without any legal rights to work or proper access to health and education. Pray that they will find life in Jesus instead of joining the IS.

**May 15 | MALDIVES** Maldivian believers do not have a complete Bible in their own Dhivehi language. Only portions of some books of the Bible have been translated. Pray for God to bring forth more people with such a burden so that Dhivehi Bibles can be printed and available to share Christ.

**May 16 | NIGERIA** Christians in southern Kaduna need our prayer. The atmosphere there is tense as violence by Fulani herders persists despite the presence of security forces. In January, herders targeted the Christian communities of Kagoro and Kafanchan. Christian families in these two towns have been hosting displaced people from the ongoing Fulani attacks plaguing Christian communities across southern Kaduna. The attackers killed an unknown number of Christians and destroyed most of the surrounding villages and farms. Please pray that the government will take sufficient action to protect the lives of Christians.



OD visited people displaced by Fulani herders violence in Kagoro, southern Kaduna State.

**May 17 | NIGERIA** The drawn-out Boko Haram insurgency in Northern Nigeria has created a humanitarian disaster. In the northern state of Yobe, one of the three worst affected states, Christians who have returned to their destroyed and severely damaged communities are facing added pressure for their faith. Reports reached Open Doors that while the government has spent millions on rebuilding communities and restoring amenities, Yobe's only Christian community, Kukar Gadu, situated in the south, has been abandoned. No restructuring has taken place there. Pray that God will intervene in the situation of the believers in Kukar Gadu, especially those who were dismissed from their jobs.

**May 18 | CAMEROON** In July 2014, Boko Haram militants, in their campaign to create a caliphate in West Africa, stormed the village of Bargaram in the North of Cameroon. During that attack they kidnapped and killed Pastor Jean Marcel Kesvere. His wife, Sharifa, and their eight children fled the area with only the clothes on their backs. Since then, Open Doors has offered the family practical and emotional support. Workers who recently visited say the love the family received from

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