

PERSECUTION IN THE 10/40 WINDOW

WEEK 3



24-7 PRAYER FOR REVIVAL 25 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER 2024

If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.
(John 15:19)

The 10/40 Window stretches between the latitudes of 10 degrees north (North Africa) and 40 degrees north (Middle East and Asia). Often called "The Resistant Belt" it includes the majority of the world's Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist nations. In this, the third of a 3-week series, 'Persecution in the 10/40 Window', we pray for these brothers and sisters in Christ who experience daily opposition and persecution for their faith in Jesus, to remain faithful amidst suffering.

MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2024 NORTH KOREA – EAST ASIA

Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also. (Hebrews 13:3).

Population: 26,498,823

Dominant Religion: Non-Religious

Evangelical Christians: 1%

Very little is known about the Church in North Korea apart from the fact that it has survived in the face of the most severe persecution. The Church in North Korea operates entirely underground with meetings and worship held in secret. Members know that if caught, they will end up in prison or a labour camp. Due to intense government control of the media, most North Koreans have never heard the name of Jesus.

Let us pray

- Pray for the underground church to be pure, zealous for the truth and deeply devoted to Christ.
- Pray that as believers read the Bible, they will be able to understand it. Ask for their lives to be transformed by it and that they will grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18a).
- Pray for the Church in North Korea to remain steadfast and faithful in seeking after God's heart, despite the persecution they face for their faith.

TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2024
KYRGYZSTAN – CENTRAL ASIA

And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved...
(Matthew 10:22-23).

Population: 7,186,009

Dominant Religion: Sunni Islam

Evangelical Christians: 0.4%

Muslims are prone to be resistant to the Gospel. They will often intimidate believers by either physical violence or harming their property. However, the many needs of the poor, the disabled and the elderly provide an open door for the Body of Christ to manifest the love of Jesus to "the least of these." The Christian faith saw great growth after Communism and although this growth has slowed, the Church is maturing.

Let us pray

- Pray for the number of believers to increase. Also, that they will remain faithful despite persecution. Pray that they will generate a sustainable income to be able to stay in Kyrgyzstan and share their faith with others.
- Pray for Christians to display the love of Jesus by biblically honouring marriage and all relationships.
- Ask the Lord for every wounded heart to experience both the love of Jesus Christ and the true peace in the Gospel message (John 16:33).

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2024
LIBYA – NORTH AFRICA

...but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. (1 Peter 4:12-13).

Population: 7,381,023

Dominant Religion: Sunni Islam

Evangelical Christians: 0.3%

Today this nation is one of the most unsafe countries in the world to be a Christian. Although foreigners are legally permitted to worship God, it is illegal for them to share the Gospel with Libyans. Missionaries are arrested and most Christian expatriates have left. Christians have to practise their faith in secret. Meeting together is nearly impossible. The majority of converts heard about Jesus Christ through one-on-one evangelism or dreams.

Let us pray

- Pray for the Libyan Church to be a shining light in Libya and beyond. Pray for the testimony of their lives to help grow and expand the Libyan Church (Psalm 97:11).
- Pray for Jesus to reveal Himself through visions and dreams to both moderate and extremist Muslims, especially those keeping positions of influence in society.
- Pray for Christians to have access to safe spaces to gather for fellowship (Psalm 17:8).

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2024

MALDIVES – SOUTH ASIA

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? (Romans 10:14).

Population: 527,799

Dominant Religion: Sunni Islam

Evangelical Christians: 0%

Only the Gospel of Luke and Acts are currently available in Dhivehi. Even these Scriptures are not permitted to enter the nation. No mission work or Christian literature has been legally allowed within the islands. With little to no access to the Gospel within these isolated islands, a true miracle is needed to bring hope and salvation to the people. There remains no freedom of religion. Islam is the official and only religion; all others are illegal.

Let us pray

- Pray for creative ways for missionaries to go to the Maldives. Ask the Lord to show them creative ways to minister, and to give wisdom to front-line workers serving in the Maldives.
- Pray that the Bible will be translated into the local language so that secret believers can access it and for Maldivians to hear the Gospel so new believers can receive a revelation of His love and grace through His Word.
- Pray for Christians to walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7).

FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2024

SUDAN – NORTH AFRICA

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (Romans 8:35).

Population: 50,448,963

Dominant Religion: Islam

Evangelical Christians: 0.4%

The hostility Sudanese Christians face is particularly harsh outside the capital, Khartoum, where most Christians live. The levels of pressure and violence faced by Christians who are ethnic Africans or converts from a Muslim background, are particularly high. Many have been arrested and charged with crimes such as espionage. Believers face strong persecution, with those in the Nuba Mountains facing the most severe.

Let us pray

- Pray for an end to the violence in Sudan and for provision for Christians who have been displaced.
- Pray for the Church of Sudan, that believers will be unified and find support and fellowship despite decreasing numbers.
- Pray that believers will stay faithful in the face of increased pressure and use every opportunity to witness to the love and the truth of Jesus.

SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2024
MAURITANIA – NORTHWEST AFRICA

...all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (2 Timothy 3:12).

Population: 5,169,395

Dominant Religion: Islam

Evangelical Christians: 0.1%

Christianity in Mauritania is viewed as a negative Western influence. Christian converts face severe hostility both from the authorities and from their families. Turning from Islam is legally punishable by death, although there are no known examples of this in recent years—but the threat remains. Converts also risk expulsion from their family home and the loss of livelihood. They may even be forced to leave the country.

Let us pray

- Pray for Christians to bravely share the Gospel with the unsaved in their nation.
- Please pray for God to encourage converts to follow Christ, despite challenges and dangers. Ask the Holy Spirit to minister to them where they lack fellowship with other believers.
- Pray for godly indigenous leadership to develop in Mauritania. Also, for an increase in the freedom of religion, both socially and legally.

SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2024
MYANMAR (BURMA) – SOUTHEAST ASIA

Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4).

Population: 54,500,091

Dominant Religion: Buddhism

Evangelical Christians: 5.1%

The military junta is hunting and killing Christians. Most Christians are not participating in the armed conflict. Many Christian pastors, leaders, aid workers, social workers and evangelists have died because of this conflict. This devoted Buddhist country shows signs of opening up to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; particularly the Myanmar youth are exploring other faiths.

Let us pray

- Pray for a revival throughout Myanmar and for God to raise up a new generation of Christian believers from the youth in the country (Psalm 107:37).
- Ask God to comfort the Christians who are evicted from their homes and forced to live in the jungles. Pray for God's supernatural provision for them.
- Pray for the destabilising elements in Myanmar to be dismantled and for Buddhists to bow down before the King of kings and the Lord of lords (Psalm 72:11).