



GLOBAL PRAYER

MARCH 29, 2020

"The virus situation in Pyongyang and Sinuiju is more serious than the border areas. I think we could all die from starvation or being infected. Both are deadly and cause despair, but after knowing Him, my fear has vanished." ~ Recent convert to Christ in **North Korea**. In light of the global crisis we are facing at this time, the minds of many people are centered on the pandemic. But for persecuted Christians around the world, the threat carries added difficulties. Despised by governments, and even their neighbors, infected believers may be denied the medical care they so desperately need. Christian communities also face the prospect that their oppressors could use this time of uncertainty to spread their agendas while the eyes of the world are looking elsewhere. As you address the danger of COVID-19 in your prayers, take the opportunity to particularly intercede for your persecuted brothers and sisters.

BURKINA FASO: Christians Blamed for Virus

In mid-February, **Pastor Mamadou Karambiri** attended a conference in France, along with his wife. Unfortunately, a number of delegates unknowingly became infected by the COVID-19 virus while there. After testing negative in France, they were allowed to return to their home country where they developed symptoms, becoming the first confirmed cases in Burkina Faso. At last report, the couple had been placed in quarantine. Regrettably, this situation has resulted in an increase of persecution within a country that has faced significant violence in recent months. While militant Islamic groups threaten believers, some are now accusing Christians of bringing the virus to Burkina Faso. This small African nation has faced increased levels of violent attacks which are directly attributable to jihadist groups coming into the country from Mali. Many of these attacks have been directed against Christians, such as the church attack that took place on February 16th which left 24 believers dead. Please prayerfully uphold those in Burkina Faso and around the world who've been infected by the virus and are facing uncertainty over the outcome, including people who are in need of Christ and don't know where to turn. Pray that sound judgement and reason will prevail so that Christians will not have to endure added suffering because of unwarranted blame. More specifically, ask God to ensure the full recovery of Pastor Mamadou and his wife, so that their ministry can continue in this volatile area. Also lift up other believers throughout the country who are facing opposition, and even the threat of death, due to the hostility of militants.

ETHIOPIA: Church Destroyed and Believers Beaten



On March 13th, a church in the town of Jeru in northern Ethiopia was burned to the ground. During the attack, believers were severely beaten and expelled from their homes by fellow villagers. Those responsible were members of the Ethiopian Orthodox church. While it may seem unusual for Christians to face opposition from others who claim to follow Christ, this is not unusual in Ethiopia. The dominant religions of the nation are Islam in the south and the traditional Orthodox church in the north. Those who are not members of either group frequently face strong opposition from neighbors and family members who consider them apostates. Non-Orthodox Christians are considered second-class citizens who are not eligible to receive many of the benefits available to members of the country's two dominant religions. The government provides free land for the building of mosques and Orthodox churches, as well as free burial plots; however, such privileges are not available to anyone outside of these groups. For more information on the persecution facing Christians in Ethiopia, visit our country report. Lift up the members of the attacked church in your prayers, as they work to rebuild their lives and find ways to worship together. Pray that they will be allowed to safely return to their homes. Ask God to mightily work in the hearts and minds of their opponents, so they will turn to Christ in genuine repentance and true faith -- receiving the grace and forgiveness that's been made available to them through the precious blood of Jesus. May Ethiopia's authorities govern fairly by providing needed support and protection for all citizens, and may the great compassion, character and teachings of Christ bring unity.

PRAISE REPORT -- NIGERIA: Kidnapped Girl Successfully Escapes



On the night of January 5th, Sadiya Amos had just finished a New Year's celebration when she was abducted. Two days later, her father was forced to attend a Sharia court where he was accused of preventing Sadiya from converting to Islam. A fake birth certificate was presented as evidence that she was 19 years old, rather than her true age of 17. Throughout the proceedings, the court refused to allow the teen's parents any access to her, nor let them know where she was located. Confined to a locked room for more than a month, Sadiya was forced to convert and marry one of her kidnappers. One day, however, she miraculously found the door unlocked and the guards outside the door asleep.

Fleeing, she managed to return to her parents. We praise God for providing a way of escape for young Sadiya. Similar cases of abduction happen frequently around the world to Christian girls, such as the situation pertaining to Huma Younus in Pakistan. Their concerned families are very appreciative of our continued prayers for their loved ones' safety, well-being, and hopeful release from captivity. Praise God for making a way of escape for Sadiya. Pray for this teen's emotional healing as she recovers from this terrible ordeal. Ask God to provide Sadiya and her family protection from any retribution sought by the kidnappers. Pray that Nigeria's authorities and courts will provide true justice and protection for all who are vulnerable targets of such victimization. Remember the many other abducted girls, such as **Huma and Leah (Sharibu)**, who are still being held in captivity -- whether in Nigeria, Pakistan, or other nations where persecution is prevalent.

PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES

Mike and Renee Delorenzo – AIM (working in Atlanta)

Muhotas in Kenya, Abba's House

Jonathan, Jodi, Jessica, Joshua, Joseph & Josiah Thar – Taiwan

The Churo School

The Sterns – Argentina via International Teams

The Gideons

C&MA: Carolyn Thorson – Gabon; The Wendels – Latin America; Westergrens – Spain; Cheryl P – Germany; Brian W – Malaysia; The Iversons – Taiwan; Dee Krueger – Guinea; M M – Israel; T & K – Bosnia; Livingstons – Ivory Coast; Green Mountain Team

OTHER MISSIONARY FRIENDS OF CANAAN

Christon & Kinzie Pierce – Salvation Army—waiting for an assignment; **Kirk & Janis Reynolds**, Navigators (Kowalski) – Chicago Regional Ethnic Ministry; **Steve, Heather, Austin & Evan Webb** (Leonard & Linda Webb's son) – Thailand; **Jeff & April Davies** – Captivated Praise; **Vincent Mekubo** pastor & teacher of orphans in the Kissi-Kingoris area; **Ann Baenziger** (Dr Garnet Harris' daughter)—Ireland.



Jonathan, Jodi, Jessica, Josh, Joe & Josiah – Taiwan – SEND



Dear Friends, "Decide now if you want to return to the US or your return may be delayed an indefinite amount of time as airports may close," was the email we received on Saturday. How do you choose, with a daughter and family in the US, ministry in Taiwan, the unknowns, and then exposure as we travel and the strain of trying to prepare a place of quarantine in the US. Taiwan has done an excellent job keeping the numbers down and dealing with the coronavirus. The Coronavirus is having a big impact around the world: health, economics, travel,

emotions, fears, how people greet, wash hands and more. (reminds us of SARS when we lived in Hong Kong.)

We are in good health and appreciate concern shown by people! After prayer and considering the impact on

family and exposure... we chose to stay in Taiwan and to let Josh finish his senior year. A few days later... Today, the school announced it was going back to online school for a few weeks. All of this is not a surprise to God and He is sovereign. We choose to trust Him and turn our concerns over to Him. We are also praying for you as this virus is affecting so many of you and keeping many of you all home too. Psalms 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea." It may take a coronavirus for



people to rethink where they put their trust. Continue to pray that God would open hearts of people around the world during this time and opening their eyes to the good news!

PRAISE THE LORD...

1. God is faithful each day! It is good to thank the Lord for how He goes before us each day and vital to depend upon Him!
2. Thank you so much for your prayers for ChristGiving! We rejoice with good conversations and opportunity for people to hear the gospel!
3. Your prayers are vital for people's eyes to be opened to understand the good news!
4. We thank the Lord for each of our children. Joshua is taller than Jonathan. Ask God to continue to guide Josh as he makes plans for after graduation & the impact of the coronavirus on making plans.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. God to lead us how to relate with people during the coronavirus! May we make the most of each opportunity!
2. Wu Ru outreach people are asking good questions. Pray that their curiosity would help to understand the gospel!
3. Jodi ladies bible study has been unable to meet, so Jodi is trying to help them switch to use zoom on the computer. They will begin online meetings Tuesday.
4. Jessica needs a job for the summer and pray for Josh's transition to life after graduation!

We are praying for you as the coronavirus is having an effect on you & worldwide!

CANAAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER CONCERNS MARCH 29, 2020

SPOTLIGHT FAMILIES FOR WEEK OF MARCH 29 – APRIL 4, 2020

Pray for one another.....

✠ Audrey Birtchman ✠ Mike, Sharon & Eric Black ✠ Joe & Sarah Cain

PRAISES

Praise God for Rick's good test results!!

COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST

For those who are at risk during the COVID-19 crisis and pray that God will guide us as a body of believers to serve Him in ways we can't imagine. **Brenda Anderson** ill at home self-quarantined; **Pastor Amos** Holy Church in Avon hospitalized & symptomatic waiting on test results. **Ray Robertson's** pain has not decreased. **Pray** for Pastor Kevin & Kathy & Pastor Chris & Kelli. **Pray** for families in crisis. **Health concerns: Bob Mitchem; Rich & Pam Roth; Rita Bedwell; Kathy Thompson; Jim & Marianne Ash; Kay Dlugos; Pam Miller;** Miller's grandchildren, **Natalie, Cameron & Jackson; Black's grandson, Tommy; Rita Bedwell's** step-daughter, **Crystal. Dealing with pain: Vicki Kendall; Ray Robertson; Ann Nesbitt; Debbie Arney; Bob Mitchem; Sharon Doty; Mike Black; Rich Roth; Claudia Wooden; Donna Draper; Carol Fitzgerald; Nancy Schuch; Kay Moore.**

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Rob Skillern—stateside Ft Hood	Robbie Skillern—stateside
Carlos Kline, USMC (Raley's grandson)	Todd (friend of Mike Anderson)
Jared Holtane	Rob Lamb
James Myers – (Audrey Birtchman's great grandson)	Kaila Cantillas, Airforce Reserve (Donna Draper)

KEEPING OUR PARTNER CHURCHES IN PRAYER

Regional C&MA Church Fellowship Cluster

Hope Church (CMA, North Indy)
Fall Creek Community Church (CMA Fishers)
Cityview Christian Center (Inner City)
Christ Fellowship of Indianapolis (South Indy)
Current Church (Franklin)
International Churches
Vincent Mekubo of Kissi-Kingoris -- An Independent church that cares for orphans

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Haley Purcell	Virginia Muhota
Olivia Benner (Roth)	Claire Simms
Jackson Benner (Roth)	Rachel Simms
Abby Schubert	Katie Schubert
Amelia Delorenzo	Jessica Thar
Chris Destremps	Isaac (Roth)
Kelli Destremps	

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CANCER CONCERNS

Ray Robertson	
Rick Miller (bladder cancer)	Tracy Morehead (Rick Miller's sister)
Judy McEachern, Kathy Thompson's sister	Cheryl Roth (Rich's sister-in-law)
Avery (6) & Jeff (Marilee's gr grandtr & brother)	Geri Bear (Jaclyn Davidson)
Dawn (Cindy Ware's stepdaughter)	Jessica Snyder (Donna Draper)
Heidi, Linda, Joe, Aliza, April (Kowalski)	Heather (Pastor Kevin's sister)
Carolyn Ditto	Kelly (Collins) Mullen (Zac's mom)
Lucille (Kitzie)	Leanne (Mitchem's daughter)
Tom & dtr Kara Connell (skin cancer)	Carla (Sandra Runner)
Marylu (Robertson)	Karen D (C&MA missionary)
Florence Dockey (Nicki Vance's grandmother)	Debbie O'Neal (Debbie Arney)
Debra (Thompson)	Mary Williams (HL resident)
Lee Romine (Miller)	Sylvia (Paula Murphy)