

## PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October

**Pastor John Cao** has been serving a seven-year prison sentence in China since 2017. We pray he would be allowed visitors and granted permission to have a Bible for his personal use.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October

**Elder Qin Defu** of Early Rain Covenant Church has been serving a four-year prison sentence in China since 2018. We pray for comfort for him and his wife and young children.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October

South Korean missionary **Kim Jong Uk** (pictured) has been serving a life sentence in a North Korean labour camp since 2013. We pray for the Lord's protection of his body, spirit and mind.



Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October

In 2014 **Jang Moon Seok** was sentenced to fifteen years in prison in North Korea for his ministry to North Koreans in China. We pray that God would sustain and give him courage for each day he has to spend behind bars.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October

South Korean pastor **Kim Kuk-gi** has been serving a life sentence in labour camp in North Korea since 2014. We pray for hope and strength for him today.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October

**Rev Gebremedhin Gebregioris** is an Eritrean Orthodox priest and theologian who was arrested in 2004. We pray that Rev Gebremedhin would be released soon and reunited with his wife and three children.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October

**Dr Kiflu Gebremeskel** has been in prison in Eritrea since 2004. We pray that Dr Kiflu would experience God's strength and provision in prison.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October

**Rev Haile Naizghe** has been in prison in Eritrea since May 2004. We pray for peace for him and also his family, living without Haile for so long.

**Thank you for praying with us this month!**



## Church in Chains Prayer Diary

### October 2021

*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 4:16*

#### PRAY FOR NEWS AND EVENTS

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October

We are very thankful for **Eric Foley** who spoke to us about the church in North Korea and answered our questions at our annual conference in September. We pray for perseverance, strength and courage for him and his wife **Hyun Sook Foley** as they continue to serve the underground church in North Korea.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

From what we hear in the news, every day brings new horrors in Afghanistan at the moment. Let's use the words from the Lord's prayer to help us pray for this country: His kingdom come and His will (for hope, mercy, justice, and healing) be done in Afghanistan.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

Pray for the work of our partner organisation, the **Shai Fund**, as it continues to seek to rescue those Afghan Christians who want to leave and to support those who are in hiding.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October

Today we pray for hope and a future for **"Adam"** (pseudonym) a Saudi Arabian Christian convert who reluctantly decided to leave the country recently due to constant and escalating persecution to join his family abroad.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Pray for guidance for Church in Chains staff as they work with our partner, **Shibu Thomas** of Persecution Relief, on preparing resources for the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October

Ask for wisdom for the Church in Chains board of directors as they meet next Tuesday to discuss governance issues and also make decisions on priorities for overseas grants for the rest of 2021.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October

Fifteen Eritrean Christians (men and women in their 20s to their 60s) were recently rearrested in raids on their homes. All have previously been imprisoned for their faith. Please pray for their release and for strength and comfort for their families.



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## PRAY FOR BANGLADESH

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Bangladesh is traditionally moderate and tolerant and Christians have more freedom than in most other Muslim-majority countries, but there is pressure for greater Islamisation. We pray for this trend to be reversed and for freedom and peace among the different religious groups.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Today we pray for encouragement for those Christians who are the only Christians in their village. We also pray for boldness and protection for Christians actively sharing their faith in Bangladesh.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October

Pray that God would empower **Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** that she would make decisions to protect the nation at all times, leading people to be able to live peaceful lives in dignity.



Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Hate speech is on the rise, amid concerns about sermons preached by radical Islamic clerics, often containing hate speech against religious minorities. Pray that the government would take decisive action to combat hate speech.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October

Pray for Christians who are discriminated against in government aid distributions during COVID-19 and cyclone relief. Pray they would be able to recover, both physically and emotionally.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October

We pray for protection of Christians who have suffered under or are at risk of illegal land-grabs, which remains a serious issue for religious minorities. We also pray for provision and a safe future for these vulnerable Christians.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Please pray for healing and recovery for 30-year-old **Shamim**, who was hospitalised in late August after relatives attacked him and his father with axes and sticks. Shamim is a Christian convert from Islam and was running adult literacy classes.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Pray for the few hundred Rohingya Christians as they seek to follow Jesus in the refugee camps in Bangladesh. Pray they will be kept safe and will be able to walk with Jesus in the midst of their difficult surroundings.

## PRAY FOR NIGERIA

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October

More Christians are murdered for their faith in Nigeria than in any other country. During the past two years over 2,000 Christians have been killed in the Middle Belt in a relentless campaign of violence and murder by Muslim militants. We pray again for this bloodshed to end!

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Pray for the Lord's grace and comfort for Christians in the Middle Belt: many are displaced, have lost loved ones and their homes, and many have also experienced trauma. Ask the Lord to be near those who have been kidnapped and pray that they will be rescued.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October

We pray that **President Muhammadu Buhari** and his government would start to take decisive actions to protect all citizens in every part of the country.



Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October

We lift up our partner in Nigeria **Mark Lipdo** and the **Stefanos Foundation** before the Lord. We are thankful for their work in rehabilitation and reconstruction and also in supporting widows and providing trauma counselling and legal aid. We pray for provision for this work and protection over all the staff.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October

A month ago **Rev Silas Yakubu Ali** was ambushed in Kaduna state, after his motorbike ran out of fuel, and was subsequently martyred. We pray for comfort and provision for his family, congregation and community.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October

18-year-old **Leah Sharibu** in Nigeria has been held captive by Boko Haram since 2018. We pray for good physical, mental and spiritual health for this young woman and that Leah and her two babies (born in captivity, fathered by a terrorist commander) would be released soon.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

We thank God that most of the 140 Bethel students who were kidnapped in July in Nigeria, have been released. We pray that the terrorists will release the 21 remaining students soon and we pray for healing from trauma for all of them.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

We pray for members of Boko Haram, Fulani herdsmen and ISWAP (an affiliate of the Islamic State group) in Nigeria. We pray that the Lord would reach many of them and transform their current violent lives beyond recognition.