

International Prayer Connections

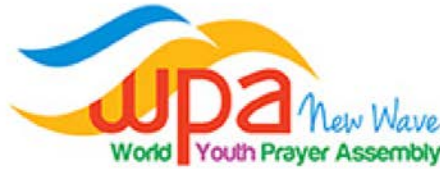
A Monthly Journal to Guide Intercession for Our World



AUGUST 2019



INTERNATIONAL
**PRAYER
CONNECT**



Greetings!

We are pleased to bring you IPC Connections for August 2019.

We trust you will be blessed, inspired and encouraged as you read the editorial this month, entitled 'Trusting God for His Supernatural Deliverance' in which our Chairman, John Robb encourages us with real life encounters with angels that have guarded, protected and rescued believers from difficult and hostile situations.

Looking around the world, we spotlight two articles on Russia, who have just suspended their participation in the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty. They are also being challenged by the US to intervene to stop the fighting in the Ukraine. Let's be in prayer that the super-powers will not be drawn into another arms race and that they will co-operate to pursue peace in the Ukraine region and other parts of the world that are in turmoil.

International Prayer Connections is produced and distributed freely each month to inform God's praying people around the world. We are grateful to those who have given generously to enable this to happen and continue to need such support for this and our other transformational prayer initiatives.

If you can make a gift towards our costs by giving to our funding arm, the Transformation Prayer Foundation, we would appreciate it. Please [click here](#).

Thank you for partnering with us in prayer in these crucial times.

Wishing you His continued blessings,

Jason Hubbard - Executive Coordinator | John D Robb – Chairman - International Prayer Connect

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01 Editorial: Trusting God for His Supernatural Deliverance – John Robb – IPC Chairman

When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked.

“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.



As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, “Strike this army with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked. (2 Kings 6:15-18 NIV)

Most of us have actually never seen angels, but the Bible tells us they are around us and are watching over us. They are ready to act when we call upon the Lord with all our hearts in challenging or dangerous situations.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to hear many stories of those who have had angelic encounters. One such opportunity was just a few weeks ago when I was sitting in a restaurant waiting for my car to have its oil changed. An older couple, Mark and Joy, sat down nearby to have their breakfast. After exchanging greetings, we began to talk about the things of the Lord as they saw I was studying my Bible. Joy then told me one of the most amazing stories of the Lord’s deliverance that I have ever heard.

In 1980, as a 23 year-old mother, she was invited to visit what she thought was a friend of her family in Oklahoma. This man who was an ex-convict had at one time worked for her father. She brought her young children, the older of which was about 18 months, with her.

While staying with this man and one of his comrades, she was drugged by them. That night, she and her children were taken by them to a coven of 7-8 witches, all clothed in black robes, that had prepared a circle and altar to sacrifice her children to Satan, counting on her to be a consenting witness. Although she was weakened from the drugs she was given, she suddenly realized what was about to happen. With all her heart and in utter desperation, she cried out to God with the words, “Oh God!”

At that moment, a bright and shining being about 20 feet tall came down in the midst of the darkness. She could not see his face, but he was a powerful, glowing giant, emitting white light like a massive halogen lamp. When the Satanists saw him, they ran for their lives in sheer terror.

Joy told me that this story was kept buried in her heart for many years until she was listening to a particularly dull sermon in church one day. The pastor read the above story of Elisha praying for his servant’s eyes to be opened to the fact that there were supernatural agents all about them in spite of the dangerous situation of being surrounded by an enemy army. Suddenly, something moved through her “like a tornado”, freeing her from this awful memory from her young motherhood so that she could come to grips with what had happened and to rejoice in how God had used this experience for good in her life. Now, she counts on His angels to protect her and her family as in the recent case of a stolen truck that was returned to her and her husband within three days as they trusted the Lord.

Another story of angelic deliverance comes from George, a close friend and prayer colleague of mine who worked as a missionary in South Asia for many years and was often in grave danger at the hands of Islamic extremists who wanted to harm or kill him numerous times. They admitted to him: “We have tried to kill you again and again, your new converts and burn your center, but we can’t get to any of you, because there are huge guards around you and your people and center, with huge swords in their hands and at night huge torches (lights).” Each time they used the word “huge.” George went on to say: “This came after a time when I was losing leader after leader, three of whom I had raised up to take my place. I had a word given to me two unrelated times. “You are alive today because people are praying for you, but you will lose your workers if you do not get a blanket of prayer over them.” I went back and said to our workers (evangelists and teachers) we are going to change our ministry. We will pray first and seek God’s will, then we will act...The next time I was in America, I thanked churches for their support, and I shared some hair raising stories, and said if you’re not going to pray for us please drop our support, prayer is what keep us alive and accomplishes God’s purposes. We never had any of our workers die after that.”

Others I have met in the course of my travels have told me similar accounts. Prayer enables us to access the Lord’s mighty deliverances, often mediated by angels either visible or invisible to our eyes. Personally, along with team members, I have been in many very dangerous situations in the midst of civil wars and other unstable conditions while facilitating prayer initiatives with national Christian leaders. Our teams have had to go through snipers, genocidal killers, suicide bombers, and the like numerous times. As we pray and trust the Lord along with many supporting intercessors, we know that He has unseen agents standing guard around us all the time. I could tell story after story of how He has done this.

Stories of this kind bring glory to the Lord and should be shared to encourage His people, especially the younger generation, so we all will be willing to take risks for the Lord and His cause in the various, unique missions to which He has called us.

John Robb, IPC Chairman

If you have a story of this kind you would like to share, please write it up and send it to us at office@ipcprayer.org

Prayer News & Events

02 Pray WITH Youth campaign – Sun 22 Sep 2019



In 2007, we launched a campaign called, [Pray With Youth™](https://www.ipcprayer.org/pray-with-youth). We believed God would bless this simple call-to-action to connect teens and adults in prayer to help young people discover their identity in Christ. And we were right...600,000 have participated. That's huge!

As we consider the spiritual crisis across the world, has there ever been a greater need to pray? And while we implore people to pray for our youth, we know that praying WITH them is better.

The 2019 [Pray With Youth](#) campaign will be observed on Sunday, September 22.

You will not see a massive marketing campaign for [Pray With Youth](#). No popular spokesperson. No line-up of Christian bands. No huge media blitz. While that may work well, for others, that strategy has never been done in the last 12 years. This campaign has grown exponentially through grassroots efforts and word of mouth. And you can help keep the momentum going to help us reach 100,000 churches and 1,000,000 teens.

SO, HERE'S WHAT I AM ASKING FROM YOU TODAY:

1. [Go to the Website](#)
2. [Read the Declaration](#)
3. [Register to Participate](#)

Completing these steps will only take you 15 minutes. But your support to stand with us in this cause and spread the word to others will accomplish more than you can imagine!

Timothy Eldred
P.O. Box 601, Edmore, MI 48829

There is nothing more important your church can do for teens now. Nothing. Pray with youth. Change your church's future.

03 Go2020 – Global Outreach Day



Global Outreach Day, is a global missions network that calls the church worldwide to focus on praying and sharing the gospel with the unchurched in the Month of May each year! This next year, May 2020, the vision is to mobilize a hundred million people in united prayer for the global harvest!

Watch the video here:

4 minute full version: <https://vimeo.com/342384375>

60 second short version:

<https://vimeo.com/344032191>

We are calling this initiative **Go2020!** Already Christians in 250,000 churches and 140 nations are part of this global outreach strategy to pray and witness towards the fulfillment of God's Great Commission. This is not just for the adults, we want to invite the Children and the Youth to be full partners in this initiative! We want to call every One to be a praying, witnessing disciple for Christ!



At the Lausanne International Congress on World Evangelization in 1974, Billy Graham made the mission clear, "The whole church must be mobilized to bring the whole Gospel to the whole world. This is our calling!" GO2020 could be the catalyst for the fulfillment of this in our lifetime as believers from every nation unify in the clarion call of "Every Believer a Witness". Imagine ONE Church sharing ONE Message during ONE Month, May 2020.

And we know this will only happen through United Prayer! God releases his power through the prayers of his people! As Dick Eastman says, "The degree to which prayer is mobilized is the degree to which the world will be evangelized!"

Would you be 1 of 100 million in united prayer? Could you commit to Pray Now and share your faith with 5 others in your circle of influence who don't know Christ through the month of May?



We have listed 5 opportunities to begin praying now through the Month of May 2020. The Lord may lead you to commit to just one of these or all five. Pray and ask the Lord how he wants you to be involved!

#1 PRAY FOR FIVE

Our first strategy is to call each one of us to people in our circle of influence (neighbors, co-workers, friends, family members). We want to Pray daily for these people and for opportunities to reach them for Christ's love.

#2 PRAYER TRIPLETS

Pray with two other believers weekly. Connect through Skype, Zoom, telephone, Facebook, or personally meet. Pray together for God's Spirit to produce a global and local spiritual awakening and for the salvation of those on each person's list who don't know Christ.

#3 24/7 Prayer Mobilization

It is Jesus' vision that every church in every nation be a house of prayer. It's our aim to see united 24/7 prayer in cities, regions and nations leading to GO 2020. Help mobilize your city, region or nation to adopt a monthly day of prayer.



Join with World Prays, a prayer network that asks that every church adopt a 12- or 24-hour time one day each month to pray. Members can pray for 30 or 60 minutes from anywhere--home, school, dormitory, workplace, church or with the people in their small group. Through doing so, churches develop a culture and regular rhythm of prayer while providing a prayer "covering" over geographic areas.

Go to www.worldprays.org for more INFO or to sign up,

#4 Prayer for People Groups

Adopt an unreached people group for prayer and mission outreach. There are 4700 people groups on earth that have less than one believer per thousand people. They will remain unreached and cut off from Christ's Gospel unless churches and prayer groups pave the way by adopting them for regular intercessory prayer. Focused prayer for the unreached is a strategy of the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers and prepare the hearts of these people who otherwise wouldn't hear the gospel. Provided are resources to help you or your church find a people group to adopt or to guide how to pray for the least reached. You can sign up to adopt an unreached people group at this website! <http://joshuaproject.net> Also, see: <https://inheritthenations.net/>

#5 GO 2020 Prayer Gatherings - May 1, 2020

And finally, we want to call families, churches, cities and nations to gather on May 1st of 2020 in united prayer gatherings! Would you be willing to mobilize your church or your city to join in prayer with believers worldwide on May 1st in your region, asking God for a massive Christ awakening in the nations of the earth?

In the words of the Moravians call to action for both prayer and mission... ***"May the Lamb who was slain receive the due reward for his suffering."*** -Rev. 5:12

Dr. Jason Hubbard

0 4Highway 19 Prayer Summit: Tbilisi Georgia – 16-19 August 2019

For several years, our team Highway19 has been involved in holding Prayer Summits for the fruition of the Highway in Isaiah 19:23-25.

During these Prayer Summits, we have witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit transform nations, and were blessed along with the many people who participated in these events.

This year, the Highway 19 Prayer Summit will be held in Tbilisi, Georgia August 16-19, 2019 included.

Please join us in prayers for the powerful and moving of the Holy Spirit for anointing the speakers, the participants, and for the churches in Tbilisi, Georgia to be a blessing to the nation, and the countries around it in the region.

This also serves as an invitation to all prayer partners who are willing to join us. Feel free to contact the reference below.

Bro. Evan - evantagana@yahoo.com

More info and Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/eDw2JxLFTz9bgoZ1A>



05 IPC Calendar

As One Canada – 7-10 August 2019

<http://www.asonecanada.ca/>

Highway 19 Prayer Summit: Tbilisi, Georgia – 16-19 August 2019

<https://forms.gle/eDw2JxLFTz9bqoZ1A>

Pray With Youth – 22 September 2019

<http://praywithyouth.com/>

United Prayer Rising – South Africa – 4-6 October 2019

www.uprising-south-africa.org

South East Asia Prayer Council Conference – 8-11 October 2019

<https://www.seaprayers2019singapore.org/>

Go 2020 Prayer Gatherings - 1st May 2020

<https://www.go2020.world>

One God - One Day - One Africa – 31st May 2020

www.1gda.org

Prayers for the World

06 Hong Kong Police Fire Tear Gas After Protesters Defy Ban

HONG KONG (AP) — Police in Hong Kong fired tear gas Saturday at protesters who defied authorities' warnings not to march in a neighborhood where six days earlier a mob apparently targeting demonstrators brutally attacked people in a train station.

Protesters wearing black streamed through Yuen Long, even though police refused to grant permission for the march, citing risks of confrontations between demonstrators and local residents.



For the protesters, it was a show of defiance against the white-clad assailants who beat dozens of people last Sunday night, including some demonstrators heading home after the latest mass protest in the summer-long pro-democracy movement. Police said some of the attackers at the train station were connected to triad gangs and others were villagers who live in the area.

The streets of Yuen Long became a sea of umbrellas as the march began Saturday afternoon. A symbol going back to the Occupy Central protests that shook Hong Kong in 2014, umbrellas have become tools to help protesters conceal their identities from police cameras as well as shields against tear gas and pepper spray. Some also wore masks to obscure their faces.



“Hong Kong police know the law and break the law,” protesters chanted as they made their way through the streets.

A few hours before the march started, a man was arrested in Yuen Long for injuring someone with a knife, police said.

Massive demonstrations began in Hong Kong early last month against an extradition bill that would have allowed suspects to face trial in mainland China, where critics say their rights would be compromised. The bill was eventually suspended, but protesters’ demands have grown to include direct elections, the dissolution of the current legislature and an investigation into alleged police brutality in the Chinese territory.

More at: <https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/world/2019/july/hong-kong-police-fire-tear-gas-after-protesters-defy-ban>

[This article shares some of the voices of the youth in Hong Kong](#)

As you pray, you may listen to the hearts of those protesting/fighting.

(1.) afraid of post-2048 one country one system HK (with restrictions on personal freedoms and justice)

(2.) no hope for a house / home of their own.

Matthew (from Hong Kong)

Pray: For the democratic rights of the people of Hong Kong to be preserved and respected.

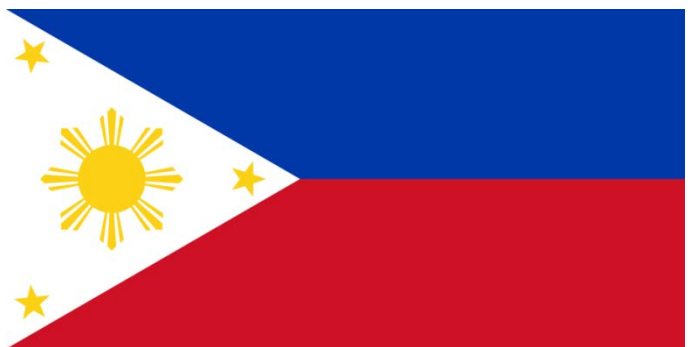
Pray: For a de-escalation of the situation and that anymarches will be peaceful.

07 Philippines: Authorities surprised by Filipino jihad suicide bomber, thought suicide bombing “against local culture”

“Confirmation that the attack involved a Filipino would mark a major escalation in terror tactics in the Southeast Asian nation, where authorities had long said suicide bombings went against local culture, analysts said.”

This is yet another illustration of the cost of authorities’ refusal to consider Islam as a motivating factor behind such phenomena as

suicide bombing. They should have known that whatever “local culture” said about the matter, a zealous Muslim such as Norman Lasuca would consider cultural norms to be overrun by Qur’anic dictates:



“Indeed, Allah has purchased from the believers their lives and their properties, for that they will have Paradise. They fight in the cause of Allah, so they kill and are killed.” (Qur’an 9:111)

The Philippine military on Tuesday named an alleged Filipino militant as one of two suicide bombers whodetonated explosives while trying to enter a military camp on southern Jolo island last week, killing themselves and six people. Maj. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana identified the bomber as Norman Lasuca, 23, whose father was a Muslim convert and whose mother is a member of the island’s Tausug ethnic group. “He is Filipino. This is hard for his family because they last saw him in 2014, according to the father,” Sobejana told BenarNews.

Confirmation that the attack involved a Filipino would mark a major escalation in terror tactics in the Southeast Asian nation, where authorities had long said suicide bombings went against local culture, analysts said.

The blasts injured 22 people, including 12 soldiers, authorities said.

Military intelligence reports indicate that Lasuca joined an Abu Sayyaf faction controlled by HatibHajanSawadjaan, a religious elder identified by the U.S. Defense Department as the new head of Islamic State in the Philippines....

With reporting by Robert Spencer for Jihad Watch

More at: <https://www.jihadwatch.org/2019/07/philippines-authorities-surprised-by-filipino-jihad-suicide-bomber-thought-suicide-bombing-against-local-culture>

Let us PRAY that these attacks do not escalate regardless of the ethnicity of the perpetrators.

Let us PRAY for the military to thwart any more acts of violence in the region and to bring the leaders of these extremist organisations to justice.

08 Putin Signs Law Suspending Russia's Participation in INF Treaty

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed legislation that suspends the country's participation in the Cold War-era Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty between Moscow and Washington.

The law, which was backed by parliament last month, was published on the government portal for legal information on July 3.

In February, the United States suspended its participation in the 1987 INF Treaty, with Washington and its allies accusing Russia of deploying a missile system that violates the pact.

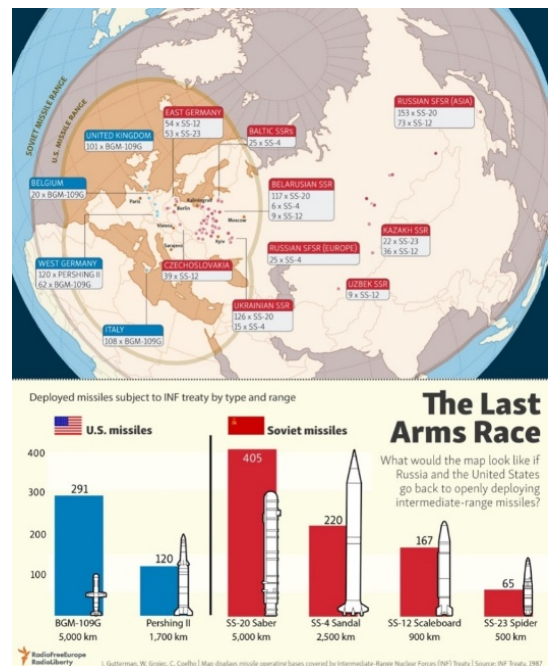
Russia, which denies the allegation, later followed suit. Moscow accuses the United States of breaking the accord itself, a claim rejected by Washington.

The INF Treaty was the first of its kind to eliminate an entire class of missiles.

It banned the United States and Russia from developing, producing, and deploying ground-launched cruise or ballistic missiles with ranges of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers.

Based on reporting by Reuters and TASS

More at:<https://www.rferl.org/a/putin-signs-law-suspending-russia-participation-in-inf-treaty/30035114.html?ltflags=mailer>



Pray: That parties to this agreement will return to the negotiating table.

Pray: For a new treaty to be brokered and an end to the production of these and other nuclear missiles.

09 U.S. Envoy Demands Russia, 'Forces It Backs' Immediately End Fighting In Ukraine

The U.S. charge d'affaires in Kyiv has condemned Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine after reports of deadly attacks on medical personnel and called on Moscow and the "forces it backs" to end the fighting "immediately."

"Attacks by Russia-led forces on medical personnel show a complete lack of respect for human life, international standards, and the Minsk agreements," William B. Taylor said on July 2 in a statement on the embassy's Facebook page.

"We call on Russia and the forces it backs to end the fighting immediately, protect civilians and humanitarian personnel, and withdraw armed forces and weapons," he wrote.

Taylor is the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine who was [brought back to serve](#) as charge d'affaires in Kyiv last year.

Ukraine's Defense Ministry on July 1 said one of its soldiers was killed after Russia-backed separatists opened fire at a medical vehicle in the eastern region of Donetsk.

The ministry said two other servicemen -- a soldier and a military physician -- were injured in the anti-tank-missile attack on July 1. Officials said that the medical specialist died later from wounds at the hospital.

With reporting by Interfax for Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty

More at: <https://www.rferl.org/a/u-s-envoy-demands-russia-forces-it-backs-immediately-end-fighting-in-eastern-ukraine/30033542.html?itflags=mailer>

Pray: For a lasting cease-fire agreement.

Pray: For a long term negotiated resolution to the ongoing conflict.

Pray: That Russia would withdraw its support and involvement with the separatist forces.

10 China Update – A Message from the Church in China

Do you notice anything different about the photo on the right? It was taken earlier this year and shows a group of Christians from the Early Rain Covenant Church in Chengdu, China. The photo shows faithful believers meeting in a public park after their services were shut down and their leaders taken away. Starting last December, more than 100 members of this fellowship have been arrested, with many being tortured in prison.

If you look closely, you will see that many have packed bags



next to them as they worship the Lord. They brought their clothes and personal items to the open-air meeting in case they were arrested and taken to prison. Across China right now thousands of churches are going through similar intense hardship.

In this newsletter we would like to give a brief summary of what is presently happening in the Chinese Church. The situation is fluid and changing daily, but our contacts in China have shared the following update, followed by a special message from 2 Corinthians chapter 4, which seems particularly relevant and will hopefully greatly encourage you in your own walk with God.

First, an update on some of the recent developments in China:

- * Thousands of churches continue to be closed down, and many pastors and evangelists have been arrested. This is true both of city churches and rural fellowships. The persecution is nationwide and is the result of the implementation of new anti-religion laws introduced in 2017 and 2018.
- * Many large city churches have tried to protect their brothers and sisters in the countryside by providing resources, finances and teaching so their faith will be strengthened and better able to withstand the storm. Although the most severe persecution first affected the cities, it has now spread even to small towns and villages. The majority of Chinese Christians remain poor farmers and factory workers.
- * Many house church leaders have gone missing. Large numbers have been arrested, while others have gone into hiding. Invasive technology, however, means it is now very difficult to remain anonymous in China. Some leaders have decided they should simply continue to serve God openly, and they are ready to face whatever consequences their actions may bring.
- * Even many government-registered Three-Self churches are undergoing a fiery trial. Video cameras with facial-recognition technology have been placed behind pulpits, facing the congregation, and on the walls above church entrances. Scripture posters have been forcibly removed from the walls of many churches and replaced with portraits of President Xi or the national flag.
- * All children's ministry has been banned. This has always been a particularly sensitive topic for the Communist authorities in China. Children are being encouraged to tell on their classmates if they are involved in any religious activity.
- * All over the country various local initiatives have been launched in an attempt to stop the growth of Christianity. For example, in the city of Guangzhou the authorities announced they will pay 10,000 Yuan (about US\$1,500) to citizens who disclose the names of any missionaries (foreign or Chinese) who work in their city.
- * In Henan, which is the province with the largest number of Christians in China, the authorities have issued a paper entitled, "Christianity's Enormous Harm on China's Security." Such reports show how insecure the government is as they seek to consolidate their hold on power. In reality, Christians in China are the most peaceable, hard-working and obedient members of society.
- * There is a massive shortage of Bibles right now. The churches are facing a famine of God's Word as printing slows down, and in many places appears to have come to a halt. Bibles are becoming increasingly rare, and many websites and apps that enabled believers to access the Scriptures have been blocked by the government. Asia Harvest is one of a few organizations still able to provide Bibles to China's house church Christians.

Please pray for this urgent need. Without the nourishment of God's Word, the Body of Christ in China will wither.

A Message from the Church in China (from 2 Corinthians 4)

"Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the Word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God." (2 Cor. 4:1-2).

The first thing that we Christians in China would like the global Body of Christ to know is that we have not lost heart. Although we are experiencing a severe trial and some people have given up the faith, we are thankful for the hardship, because God is pruning His Church. It is vital that all believers know that it's not Satan or any government that prunes God's Church. The Master Gardener is our loving and wise Heavenly Father!

The reason the Lord prunes is to make the vine even more fruitful, for He said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit, he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful" (John 15:1-2). Therefore, we do not lose heart, for we know our lives are completely in the hands of our all-powerful Lord and Savior. At the moment, He is getting rid of some unfruitful branches among His people in China, so that His Church will be refined and more holy as we march forward in spiritual warfare.

We look forward to the time when we will be more fruitful for the kingdom of God. In the meantime, we will not stop proclaiming the Gospel, and we are willing to lay down our lives if necessary, so that all of China will hear about Jesus Christ.

"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake" (2 Cor. 4:3-5).

While our lives are firmly in God's hands, we also recognize that the source of attacks on the Church is the devil. Mankind has been locked in a fierce battle with Satan ever since God declared: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel" (Genesis 3:15). The word "enmity" means much more than a separation. This was the commencement of a full-on war to death, as the devil seeks to destroy mankind, especially those people who reflect the character and goodness of God.

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Cor. 4:7-9).

We praise the Lord that He sets limits on what man can do to us. Although millions of believers throughout China are now without a church building to go to and countless home meetings have also been closed down, our faith is strong. The truth of God's Word and the indwelling sweet presence of the Holy Spirit can never be taken from us. We are not afraid, for the Lord Jesus told us, "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28).

"We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body" (2 Cor. 4:10).

Hallelujah! Already we are seeing the benefits of this time of purging in China. In many places, instead of being decimated, churches are experiencing growth! The hardship has caused Christians to become more serious about our faith, and the gospel is being boldly proclaimed, resulting in even more people pressing into the kingdom of God.

"Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 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 Cor. 4:16-18).

Finally, brothers and sisters around the world, we want to thank God for you, for we are all members of the same family. Thank you for praying for the Church in China! Although your struggles may be different from ours right now, we know that the Lord is passionate for His people, and He will never abandon us. God's purpose in suffering is always to humble us, so that we will rely not on our own futile strength, but on the power of His might. We want to conclude by reminding all Christians of this exhortation:

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings" (1 Peter 5:6-9).

By Asia Harvest

More at: <https://asiaharvest.org/china-update-a-message-from-the-church-in-china/>

Praise God: That the church in China has not lost heart!

Pray: Angelic and Heavenly protection over the church leaders and missionaries in China.

Pray: For Asia Harvest and others who are printing and distributing Bibles.

Pray: For those in prison and facing persecution for their faith.

Pray: That despite this persecution, the church will continue to grow.

11 Christians persecuted in 3 of 4 nations globally

'Have been harassed in more countries than any other religious group'

There are some 197 countries around the world.

And in 144 of them, Christians are persecuted, according to a report commissioned by the British government.



There is widespread evidence showing that "today, Christians constitute by far the most widely persecuted religion," the report said.

It found that "Christians have been harassed in more countries than any other religious group and have suffered harassment in many of the heavily Muslim countries of the Middle East and North Africa."

There are some 245 million Christians living in the top 50 countries for persecution and they suffer “high levels” or worse. Previously, only one country, North Korea, was classified as having “extreme” persecution. Now there are 11 countries.

Turkish journalist Uzeyir Bulut, a senior fellow at the Gatestone Institute, noted “persecution against Christians and other non-Muslims is not about the ethnicity, race or skin color of either the perpetrators or the victims; it is about their religion.”

In Africa, he said, “various Islamist groups and individuals are attacking and attempting to annihilate Christians for being Christian. If these crimes are not stopped, it is highly likely that the fate of the African Continent will be like that of the Middle East: Once it was a majority-Christian region; now, Christians are a tiny, dying, defenseless minority.”

The British report is the “Bishop of Truro’s Independent Review for the Foreign Secretary of FCO Support for Persecuted Christians.”

The FCO is the nation’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The bishop, the Rt. Rev. Philip Mounstephen, explained: “The Independent Review was announced at Christmas and this Interim Report is published in the Easter season. Both of these great festivals remind us that weakness and vulnerability are at the heart of the Christian faith. Jesus Christ was born into poverty and laid in a feeding-trough. He died as a victim of persecution himself. Given that, it is hardly surprising that many of his followers today count among the weakest and most vulnerable people on the planet. It is to them, to their needs and to their support, that this Interim Report is dedicated.”

He wrote that in addition to Christians being the most targeted, “the evidence suggests that acts of violence and other intimidation against Christians are becoming more widespread.”

The report said that “in some regions, the level and nature of persecution is arguable coming close to meeting the international definition of genocide.”

It said the “eradication of Christians and other minorities on pain of ‘the sword’ or other violent means was revealed to be the specific and stated objective of extremist groups in Syria, Iraq, Egypt, northeast Nigeria and the Philippines.”

“An intent to erase all evidence of the Christian presence was made plain by the removal of crosses, the destruction of church buildings and church symbols,” the report said.

“The killing and abduction of clergy represented a direct attack on the church’s structure and leadership. Where these and other incidents meet the tests of genocide, governments will be required to bring perpetrators to justice, aid victims and take preventative measures for the future.”

Christianity, in fact, “now faces the possibility of being wiped out in parts of the Middle East where its roots go back further. In Palestine, Christian numbers are below 1.5 percent, in Syria the Christian population has declined from 1.7 million in 2011 to below 450,000 and in Iraq, Christian numbers have slumped from 1.5 million before 2003 to below 120,000 today.”

In some parts of the world, “extrajudicial killings and the enforced and involuntary disappearance of Christians are also widespread,” the report said.

Bulut cited the destruction of a Christian school by Muslims in Uganda, a church in Niger burned by Muslims and terror attacks in Burkina Faso that left 29 Christians dead. In one incident, the assailants

“asked the Christians to convert to Islam but the pastor and the others refused.”“They ordered them to gather under a tree and took their Bibles and mobile phones. Then they called them, one after the other, behind the church building where they shot them dead.”He said that terrorist groups are not the only sources of persecution in Africa as many Muslim governments and individuals also target Christians.

We must pray for our African brethren, asking God to preserve the faith in a continent where it is every bit as native as that which seeks to drive it out.

Article by WND

More at: <https://www.wnd.com/2019/07/report-christians-persecuted-in-3-of-4-nations-globally/>

12 Pakistan: Prayer Update

Pray for something so big and dramatic to happen in Pakistan that can only be explained by it being the work of God.

Missionary Visas

Missionaries are still being thrown out of the country, even some that have visas are losing them. **Pray this situation will be resolved.**

Muslim leaders from Pakistan have no trouble getting permission to come to the USA.



Tribal Praise Report

Two visiting Korean doctors were on a medical outreach to a tribal area. As the doctors were overwhelmed, the people began coming to the church workers saying, "We know your God heals. Will you pray for us?" It became a tremendous time of ministry as they were able to tell them that it is the power of Jesus working when they are healed. Many openly said, "We are so worried about our physical health and our spiritual needs. Now we know that Jesus can take care of both, we can come to Him."

Meeting between Pakistan and the USA

Imran Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, is to visit the USA July 16 - 18. He will meet with President Trump on the 17th. **Pray for good meetings with President Trump who has made some pretty strong statements against Pakistan since he came into office. Some were justified particularly with the former Government, and covert, tactical support of some terrorist groups, but this all has taken a terrible toll on the people of Pakistan.**

On 9/11 almost 3000 persons were killed. About 6000 US troops have been killed in Afghanistan.

Pakistan has lost 35,000 military between 2001 and 2011, and 40,000 are missing in action. Civilian casualties started at 30,000 and is climbing rapidly to three or four times that. The war on terrorism in Pakistan still continues. The fallout on the economy in Pakistan has been drastic. For example, a huge number of Pakistani refugees are being moved from one place to another and there is the care of over 400,000 Afghan refugees living in Pakistan that the government has had to care for, with the assistance of International Aid groups.

There are some who have gained from this war, but Pakistan has paid a terrible price.

God is the author of peace. This will come as we intercessors PRAY.

Pray: Russian and China and now the US are beginning to understand that peace in Afghanistan cannot come without the help of Pakistan.

Pray: May the right decisions be made. It is not wrong, from the Taliban perspective, for the Taliban to lie to gain an upper hand. May Pres. Trump have good advisors.

Pray: PM Imran Khan is working hard to bring peace within his own country.

Pray: Pres. Trump also wants to see a lasting peace in this part of the world.

Pray: Pray for Christians who are suffering the most from this.

13 Nigeria: Trump Honours Muslim Cleric Who Saved 262 Christians From Death

"The Trump administration honored a Nigerian Muslim Imam last week among its first-ever International Religious Freedom Award winners for his efforts that saved hundreds of Christians during a 2018 terrorist attack," reports LifeSiteNews.

"Imam Abubakar Abdullahi of Nigeria selflessly risked his own life to save members of another religious community, who would have likely been killed without his intervention," the proclamation from the U.S. Department of State said.



Abdullahi had hidden 262 Christians in his home and mosque during a terrorist attack, when, "On June 23, 2018, ethnic Fulani herdsmen, who are predominantly Muslim, launched coordinated attacks on 10 villages in BarkinLadi, killing hundreds of ethnic Berom farmers, who are predominantly Christian."

The 83-year-old cleric was one of five people honored at a July 17 ceremony with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and International Religious Freedom Ambassador Sam Brownback.

The State Department proclamation additionally states:

As Imam Abdullahi was finishing midday prayers, he and his congregation "heard gunshots and went outside to see members of the town's Christian community fleeing," the State Department added. "Instinctively, the Imam ushered 262 Christians into the mosque and his home next to the mosque. The Imam then went outside to confront the gunmen and he refused to allow them to enter, pleading with them to spare the Christians inside, even offering to sacrifice his life for theirs. Although the gunmen killed 84 people in Nghar village that day, Imam Abdullahi's actions saved the lives of hundreds more.

"Instinctively, the imam gave refuge to his Christian neighbors, sheltering 262 Christians in his mosque and his home," Brownback told those attending the award ceremony. "Imam Abdullahi stood outside the doors confronting the Muslim attackers, pleading with them to spare the lives of the Christians inside, even offering to exchange his own life for theirs."

"His actions bear witness to true courage, true selflessness, and true brotherly love," stated Brownback.

[Dr. Chaps' comment: Love is a universal religion, and I respect this man who rejected the false prophet's teaching to slay the infidels (Christians) and instead protected them. Now let's stop funding radical Islamists who kill Christians.

TODAY AT OUR WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING IN COLORADO SPRINGS, WE DECLARED THAT WE STAND AROUND TOP LEADERS OF OUR NATION PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT POMPEO, Sam Brownback, RAISE OUR SHIELDS OF FAITH TO PROTECT THESE GODLY MEN. IF AN OLD IMAM COULD SAVE 262 LIVES, GOD WILL PROTECT OUR LEADERS AS WE STAND FOR THEM IN PRAYER.

WE KNOW THERE ARE SO MANY ENEMIES SURROUND OUR LEADERS.

TC Kim - Facilitator

Transform USA

More at: <http://www.transformusa.org>

14 Prayer for Canada



Numerous prophecies over the past decades have identified the nation of Canada's end-time destiny to be one of healing to the nations.

The past 4 years have seen a government which has advanced a secular global agenda in political, economic and socio/sexual arenas.

As we approach an October election, many intercessors, churches and ministries have recognized the need for the global church to join us in coming together in unity for Canada's future.

We recognize that we are at a critical crossroads needing to return to being a sheep nation for the Honour and Glory of God and our Christ.

Pray: For one heart and mind as many ministries and believers [come together](#) from across the nation and the globe Aug 7th - 10th in Ottawa, the capital, to seek God for our nation.

Pray: That as Kingdom people we would unite and come up higher in Christ so we can worship and war from a heavenly/Kingdom position.

Pray: For the everyday Christian in Canada not to get caught up in partisan politics but to wake up and arise and see our responsibility to pray for and vote in a righteous government so of the next generation will not lose any more of their Godly inheritance.

Pray: For wickedness to be fully exposed and truth to prevail among party agendas and alliances especially in the areas of parental rights, promoting of gender fluidity and LGBTQ agendas, the persecution of Christian values and immigration policies that court the Islamic vote and embrace the "progressive left"

Pray: For the people of Canada not to be blinded or deceived by personalities but to desire and elect people who have the leadership giftings of moral integrity, economic understanding, administration and a foreign policy that supports Israel.

Pray: That this Election will serve God's Purposes for Canada

Pray: That the Holy Spirit will guide Campaign Strategy

Pray: That Candidates will be filled with Integrity, Courage, Humility, and Grace

Pray: That Candidates and Campaign Material will present Positions and Platforms Clearly, Openly and Fully

Pray: That Candidates and their Families will be granted Wisdom, Endurance and Protection

Pray: That elected candidates will be:

- ✦ Individuals of Integrity, Discernment, Grace, Courage and Conviction
- ✦ People of Vision, Perseverance & Character
- ✦ Willing Servants

Carol Hay - North America Prayer Summit

More at: www.nationatprayer.ca, <https://www.transformationcanada.ca/prayer-for-election/>, and <http://www.canadainprayer.com/prayer-for-canada>

15 IRAN: Believers targeted amid US-Iran tensions

Iran (MNN) — Tensions rise between the United States and Iran amid sanctions, threats, and fights over missiles, nuclear deals, oil stores, and shipping routes.

Last week, Iran tested [ballistic missiles](#) as the U.S. worked with allies to [safeguard ships](#) in the Strait of Hormuz. According to [Middle East Monitor](#), Russia predicts “full-scale armed conflict” in the region.

Unfortunately, these sky-high political tensions have led to a crackdown within Iran, explains [Heart 4 Iran's](#) Mike Ansari. “In the last few weeks, [the] Iranian

government has announced the arrest of multiple Iranian citizens who were allegedly CIA spies,” he says.

“In light of the recent sanctions, Iranian authorities are increasing the pressure on Western governments to loosen up the restrictions imposed on Iran.”

Authorities often target believers for accusation and arrest.

Life for believers inside Iran

Earlier this year, Open Doors USA [placed Iran at #9](#) on its World Watch List – a ranking of 50 nations where following Christ is most difficult. By law, Christians cannot share their faith with non-Christians. Believers from a Muslim background face the most oppression because Islamic law governs Iran; society views converts as apostates.



“In Iran, conversion from Islam to Christianity – known as apostasy – is strictly forbidden. In fact, Iranian religious rulers have publicly advocated for the death penalty as a punishment for apostasy,” Ansari explains.

“When a Muslim converts to Christianity, they are warned, persecuted, [sometimes] arrested, and their belongings are confiscated.”

For converts who leave Iran, return could mean imprisonment and severe persecution. “Case in point – Mrs. Fatemeh Azad, a 58-year-old Iranian convert to Christianity who fled Iran, sought refuge in Germany, but was denied asylum and deported back to Iran,” Ansari describes.

“Upon her return, she was arrested and released on bail.”

[As reported here](#) by International Christian Concern:

When Fatemeh made her asylum appeal, her lawyers argued that apostasy (conversion away from Islam) is punishable by the death penalty in Iran. This penalty has not been issued in Iran for several years, in large part thanks to international pressure. However, Iran regularly imprisons converts for years. Christians are commonly charged with “acting against national security” and can face a prison sentence of up to 15 years with this charge.

“The Iranian Christian community in diaspora is concerned with the safety and well-being of Mrs. Azad while she resides in Iran,” Ansari says.

How to help

Mrs. Azad’s case represents a larger challenge, he adds. That’s an urgent matter for which you can pray.

“The real concern for Mrs. Azad is that Iranian authorities may use her as a pawn to not only instil fear in the heart of their own people but challenge the international community on human rights and religious freedom in Iran.”

Ask the Lord to comfort and encourage Fatemeh Azad during her imprisonment. Pray for her safety, Ansari requests, and “pray for the multitude of Iranian refugees who have legitimately fled Iran and can’t go back.”

Heart4Iran partners with over 100 groups to bring the love and hope of Jesus Christ to the people of Iran.

Reporting by Katey Hearth for Mission Network News

More at: <https://www.mnnonline.org/news/believers-targeted-amid-us-iran-tensions/>

Pray: For the safety and freedom of Mrs. Fatemeh Azad and many others in a similar situation to practice their faith.

Pray: That she will not be used as a pawn within Iran or internationally.

Pray: For those working to represent Mrs Azad and other Christians who face persecution in their home countries.

Resources:

16 Key Prayer Resources for our World

ORDERS FOR BOOKLETS

Many pre-orders for this year's booklets have already been received.

They can be ordered here:

<https://www.worldchristian.com/product/hindu-world-prayer-guide-2019>

Celebrating 25 years of Mobilizing Prayer for our World's Neighbors.

Hindu World: Oct 20-Nov 3, 2019 (available this Summer)

Buddhist World: Any 15 Days in 2019 (available now)

Muslim World: May 6-June 4, 2019 (booklets still available)

Paul Filidis

PO Box 9208

Colorado Springs, CO 80932

More at: <https://www.worldchristian.com/>



17 PODCAST: Vital Principles in the Global Prayer Movement" – John D Robb

Be encouraged as you listen to John D Robb, Chairman of International Prayer Connect being interviewed by Daniel Lim, CEO of iHOP about how the Lord has led him in his service to the Prayer Movement around the world in recent decades. John shares some of the breakthroughs.

More at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k4lurlki5dfQV7Aju1vbqvWiD4CaHva-/view?usp=sharing>



18 Europe: UnitedHive Testimonies App

WHAT'S UP IN EUROPE? - God is doing extraordinary things through ordinary people like us. We can see that during events and camps or through everyday friendships, the Body of Christ in Europe is alive! UnitedHive is an app where you can find testimonies of what God is doing in Europe and in your region. Check it out [HERE](#), it's a fun way to share and read about lives being changed.

Download **App**



Take the **Hive** with you!

Keeping connected with the hive has never been easier with the UnitedHive app! Our app lets you browse the testimony map, post testimonies, and view your activity history and much more!

Our activity tab keeps you encouraged with live activity, and allows you to receive notifications of testimonies around the world.

Faith is contagious, so download the app today!

Download on the



Get it on



About IPC

19 About International Prayer Connect (IPC)

OUR VISION:

"Compelled by God to seek Christ's glory worldwide for the blessing, healing, and transforming of the nations, International Prayer Connect exists as a coalition of prayer networkers and mobilizers working together to motivate, develop and equip national movements and local churches to fill all nations with prayer for the fulfillment of the Great Commandment and the completion of the Great Commission."



HOW WE OPERATE:

The IPC is not an organization as such. We are a fellowship of people involved in mobilizing prayer throughout the world. We function as an international "network of networks", connecting international, regional, and national prayer ministries and networks. We also arrange or support special prayer initiatives that bring prayer leaders together from time to time to pray for matters of regional and global concern to the Body of Christ. Regional prayer summits have been arranged or supported by the IPC in most regions of the world as well as international prayer initiatives for the United Nations, Hollywood, and other issues.

The IPC is led by an international leadership team, now called the International Prayer Council, is composed of twenty leaders who coordinate regional prayer networks or international prayer initiatives of various kinds. We seek to be catalysts and connectors within the global prayer movement towards the fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:14- that "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

We do not have an official membership but connect with individuals and networks through IPC Connections, a periodical newsletter distributed via e-mail to give prayer information to interested people. Please share this newsletter with prayer coordinators, prayer network leaders, and others who have an interest in the global prayer movement so that they can be informed about different prayer initiatives, existing prayer networks, and how to participate in them

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