

Prayers for the Persecuted Church

Lord we lift up the persecuted church to you. We are so thankful for their faithfulness to you and your faithfulness to them. We ask these things in the mighty name of Jesus.

- **We pray for the persecutors.** Let them know Christ's love, mercy, forgiveness and blessings through the lives of the Christians they persecute. Let many come to a saving faith in You (*Romans 12:14, 21*)
- Lord we pray that those who oppress Christians will experience repentance and salvation, just as Paul did. Open their spiritual eyes to your truth just as you did for Paul (*Acts 9:1-19*)
- Lord we ask that those who falsely accuse Your people of forcible conversion will see that the message we bring is one of a free gift, not coercion. We pray that many will respond to this free gift by putting their trust in Jesus Christ (*Ephesians 2:8-9*)
- **Lord we lift up persecuted believers to You.** We pray that all who suffer physical pain and trials for You will be strengthened and delivered by Your mighty hand (*2 Corinthians 1:9-11*)
- We ask that You fill them and surround them with Your Holy Spirit so they can lovingly and boldly proclaim the gospel no matter the circumstances (*Ephesians 6:18-20*)
- Help them to rely on the Your strength and not on their own in their trials (*2 Corinthians 1:8-9*)
- We ask that Your faithful people will exemplify Your love to those who don't know You by loving, not hating, those who persecute them. Give them this extraordinary love that only comes from You. (*Matthew 5:43-48*)
- We ask that, like Paul, their imprisonment will result in the advancement of Your kingdom (*Philippians 1:12-14*)
- We pray that their passion for You will be the light that draws others to Jesus and will make an eternal difference (*Matthew 5:14-16*)
- We ask that You fill them with your Holy Spirit so as the sufferings overflow, their comfort in You will overflow as well. Let them feel Your comfort even in the most difficult times (*2 Corinthians 1:5*)
- We pray that they will rely on Your promise to give them the words to say when they stand before accusing authorities. Give them confidence and peace in this (*Matthew 10:19*)
- Lord we ask that increased persecution will only increase Your glory through the boldness of believers and that many will come to know You through their sacrifice (*Act 4:29-31*)
- Lord we pray You will give these persecuted believers the will to echo Peter's sentiment and determination to obey You regardless of what man may say (*Acts 5:29*)
- Let your Holy Spirit fill them and give them the supernatural knowledge that everything, even their very lives, mean nothing in comparison to the joy of knowing Christ and sharing Him with others. Give them Your peace in this knowledge (*Acts 20:24*)
- Lord we pray that they will never be ashamed of the gospel. Remind them that Your power brings salvation through it (*Romans 1:16*)
- Lord, as they suffer, we pray that they will find peace in the fact that they have suffered with Christ so they will be glorified with Him, being fellow heirs with Him (*Romans 8:15-17*)
- We pray that You will strengthen Your people to follow the example that has been set by these faithful believers and follow You no matter the circumstances (*1 Corinthians 4:9-14, 16*)
- We pray that those who have lost loved ones will find comfort in the fact that Christ is victorious over death, and those who have died in Christ will be raised with Him. Lord we pray that, in view of this promise, they will continue to give themselves fully to Your work. Comfort and strengthen them. (*1 Corinthians 15:50-58*)
- We pray that You will enable them to rejoice in the fact that You have a special blessing for those that suffer for You. Remind them that theirs is the kingdom of heaven (*Matthew 5:10*)

May the Lord be exalted, whether in life or in death (*Philippians 1:20*)