

LIVING IN THE TENSION

PRAYING FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Because the New Testament was written to persecuted believers, it is filled with examples of how to pray for our brothers and sisters living in persecution. One brother reports to us, "We are not asking God to be free from persecution, but to have endurance through it." These brothers and sisters with Global Catalytic Ministries have counted the cost. They know that persecution will come, and they daily give their lives, boldly making disciples in these difficult-to-access nations because they see how powerfully God is moving and have made the choice that Jesus is **worth it.** The tension they face is living in the midst of two realities-persecution and revival. Join with us this month in praying through these passages for our underground brothers and sisters.

STRENGTHENING PRAYERS

Pray for strength, endurance, and hope to fill those living in oppression, restriction, persecution and imprisonment. Pray that their hearts would not grow dull or cold as they witness the suffering and martyrdom of their friends and co-laborers.

- Pray that they would be filled with joy and hope.
- Pray that God would strengthen them in heart and mind.
- Pray that they would experience and know how deep the Father's love is for them.

PRAYERS OF DELIVERANCE

We do not pray for deliverance from difficult regions or people, but rather we pray that God would keep each one firmly in their place with focus, resources and teammates that build up and multiply the church. We pray that they would be delivered from Judases, distractions and every obstacle that attempts to thwart God's plans and their resolve.

- Pray that faith would arise.
- Pray that they would have confidence in their calling.
- Pray that the enemy would be removed from blocking their efforts.

PRAYERS OF PEACE

Pray that persecuted believers would have supernatural peace despite the difficulties they face each day.

- Pray for peace that comes from the Prince of Peace to rule and reign in their hearts.
- Pray for peace for those who have lost loved ones, and especially for the spouses and children who are battling trauma.



ROMANS 5:3-5 "And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts."

EPHESIANS 3:16 "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being..."

2 THESSALONIANS 3:2 "And that we may be delivered from perverse (improper, unrighteous) and wicked (actively malicious) men, for not everybody has faith and is held by it."

2 TIMOTHY 1:12 (TPT) "The confidence of my calling enables me to overcome every difficulty without shame, for I have an intimate revelation of this God. And my faith in him convinces me that he is more than able to keep all that I've placed in his hands safe and secure until the fullness of his appearing.

ROMANS 15:13 "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."