Pray for the Persecuted Church Around the World During the Month of November

November 1-7 *Pray for courage and hope for faithful believers across the Middle East*

Deuteronomy 31:6
Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One wo goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."
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.

Lord, we lift up these faithful believers across the Middle East, in Iran, Afghanistan, Yemen, Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank, and Syria to name just a few places. You know them all, and we ask you to fill them with courage and hope as they choose each day to continue to follow you, knowing that it might bring persecution and even death upon them.
Help them to know they are not alone, that you never leave or forsake them. Lord, strengthen what remains of the church in the Middle East, so that it will shine with Christ's light, and faith will grow across the whole region.
Give them a holy boldness to quietly and wisely witness in the face of persecution.
Provide for their families their daily bread. Protect them from those who might bring them harm. Cover them under the shadow of Your wing, that they might find their peace in You. May the joy of the Lord be their strength. Lord, show your mercy and compassion to them. We pray all these things in Your precious Name. Amen.

November 8-14 *Pray for pastors, church leaders and other believers who have been imprisoned.*

Isaiah 40:31
Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall rise up on wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.
Hebrews 13:3 Remember the prisoners as if chained with them – those who are mistreated – since you yourselves are in the body also.

Most merciful and loving God, we bring before you all those pastors and church leaders around the world who have chosen to stand strong in their faith, lead their people in the midst of hardship and persecution, and suffer the loss of all things in order to gain Christ.
As they wait on You in prison, may they experience Your presence in miraculous ways. Renew their strength each day so that they can persevere in faith. Fill them with Your courage when they are beaten, given little sustenance, or left in darkness.
Empower them by your Holy Spirit to love those who persecute them, and to see and act on opportunities to reach the guards and fellow inmates with the gospel of hope. Lord, give them favor with those in authority, as they look for ways to humbly serve those around them.
Heal any wounds or sicknesses they may encounter. Refresh their spirits in Your word, as they pray and worship You. May Your joy be their strength, and may many in those unbelieving prisoners experience Your saving grace and power through them. We give You thanks and praise for these courageous servants of God. Amen.

November 15-21 ***Pray for the congregations and families of those imprisoned pastors and of those who have died for their faith.***

Isaiah 43:2
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fires you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you,
2 Timothy 1:7
God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and of a sound mind.

Father God, comforter of the widow and fatherless, pour out your love and mercy upon all those who are grieving the loss of a family member or pastor who has chosen to stand firm in their faith. Lord, give comfort to those whose family members remain in prison with little or no contact.
Surround our brothers and sisters with your love, hope and peace. May they experience Your presence daily in a deep and abiding way. Be their refuge and their strong tower in the midst of continuing threats, discrimination or attacks. Provide for them a shelter from this storm, and even a physical shelter and food as needed.
In the midst of discouragement, help each family and each congregation to stand united in faith as they continue to show Jesus' love to those unbelievers around them. Fill each person with renewed hope. Turn their mourning into dancing and fill their hearts with joy as they continue to gather and worship You. Raise up young leaders in the churches to continue to bring forth Your word and truth and thereby strengthen your people. We pray all these things in Jesus' Name. Amen.

November 22-30 Pray for believers in other parts of the world where being a Christian is dangerous or even deadly.

Psalm 34:19
Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.
Philippians 3:8
I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish in order that I may gain Christ.

Lord God, You are our Hope and our Redeemer. Place Your hedge of protection around our brothers and sisters in places such as India, North Korea, Uzbekistan, Cuba, Venezuela, Mexico, Nigeria, and Sudan who are being threatened, attacked, and even killed for their faith in You. Give your angels charge over them to keep them in all their ways. Anoint Your children in these difficult places with boldness and courage so that they can love their neighbor and be salt and light. Blind the eyes of those who would cause harm to individuals and families who risk even reading their Bible and teaching their children the ways of the Lord. Continue to strengthen their faith as they stand alone, face rejection from their families, and choose to remain when others leave. Protect those who take the risk to carry Bibles into these areas so closed to the Gospel. Keep open the airwaves and internet for Your word and encouragement to reach those who are searching for hope and those who are hungry to study Your word. Let Your Holy Spirit prevail and triumph in the dark moments and difficult places, that Your Name will be glorified. Amen.