



RAMADAN

August 1-30, 2011

Pray with Christians to Reach the Muslim World

OpenDoors®

Day 1 • Love

"God use me to be a blessing to someone else," said Agnes, a widow in Nigeria.

Today Lord, on this first day of Ramadan, we ask that you fill Christians with Your love. Make Your Spirit shine brightly through Your people that those who do not yet know You, will be drawn into Your presence.

Day 2 • Joy

Helen Berhane spent years in a locked container in Eritrea. During this time she wrote songs about her love for Jesus...many fellow prisoners came to Christ because of her joy.

Father we pray for those who are in prison. Fill them with Your joy. "My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song." (Psalm 28:7)

Day 3 • Peace

Jesus' first words to the apostles after the resurrection were, "Peace be with You...As the Father has sent me, I am sending you....Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:19,21-22)

Lord Jesus, during Ramadan, our brothers and sisters living in Muslim dominated countries are faced with added pressures. Remind them that You dwell in them and fill them with Your perfect peace.

Day 4 • Forbearance

An Eritrean pastor, sentenced to five years in prison, wrote in a letter to his wife, "The moment I entered my cell, a prisoner said, 'Everyone in this cell is [unsaved]. You are much needed here.'"

Father, the battle to live victoriously in You can be difficult. Strengthen those who continue to serve You faithfully, in the midst of trials and struggles.

Day 5 • Kindness

When Shirin became a believer, his relatives gave him a choice: Jesus or his family? Shirin chose Jesus. Alone in the streets of Azerbaijan, a Christian man took him in.

Lord, we pray for believers who have been rejected by their families. May Your people be willing to offer a "cup of water" in Your Name to those seeking Your truth during Ramadan.

Day 6 • Goodness

As Trian lay bleeding from wounds inflicted by Romanian secret police, he begged his friend to pray with him for his persecutors. Stunned by the request, he knelt and prayed.

Father, help us to always seek another person's highest good, even when mistreated. May Your goodness and mercy be ever present in our lives as a witness to our Muslim neighbors.

Day 7 • Faithfulness

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21) Chuni's heart was burdened for a remote village in the mountains of Pakistan. In spite of the risks she traveled across dangerous mountain roads to share Jesus.

Father, embolden Your flock so that they will remain faithful in following Your will to share the Gospel to those who do not know You.

Day 8 • Gentleness

Brother Andrew says, "The Christian's only method of destroying your enemies is to 'love' them into being your friends."

Lord Jesus, during the Ramadan season we ask that Your Spirit of gentleness be revealed through us that we might love those who are seeking Your truth at this time.

Day 9 • Self-control

"Lord, prevent me from being like Peter. I am about to give up," prayed Idris after receiving a severe beating.

Father, we pray today for believers who are tempted almost beyond what they can humanly bear. Fill them with Your power to endure, with Your wisdom to speak boldly, and with Your strength to overcome; giving You all the glory.

Day 10 • Love

Tearfully, a boy agreed to give blood to a young girl who was wounded in an attack. Asked later about the tears, "I thought I was dying," he said, thinking he was to give ALL his blood so that his friend could live.

"Greater love has no one than this that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) Holy Spirit, fill us today with this Christ-like love.

Day 11 • Joy

"Please God, send a hot water bottle [to keep the newborn alive], and a doll so she'll know You love her," prayed 10-year old Ruth. The baby's mother had died in childbirth and she feared the same for the baby.

Father, this precious prayer from a child is filled with trust in You. Today, fill Christians living in Muslim-dominated countries with a child-like trust and joy.

Day 12 • Peace

In a dream Jesus appeared to Achmed, "They're right, he thought. They're following the right way."

Holy Spirit, today make Yourself known to those who are seeking You. And, in Islamic nations experiencing chaos and turmoil, may Your perfect peace radiate from Your flock drawing them to seek refuge in You.

Day 13 • Forbearance

“Must we accept persecution or must we retaliate? We are tired of forgiving just to be attacked again. It is time to defend the honor of God. What must we do?” asked a brother in Indonesia.

Lord, help Christians living in Islamic nations to not seek revenge but instead to “turn the other cheek” through the power of Your Spirit.

Day 19 • Love

For Takoosh, whose husband was killed by the Iranian government, Jesus’ command to love her enemies was impossible. Hatred filled her heart...and then she prayed. From the depths of her heart love poured out releasing forgiveness.

Father, may Your Spirit of love rule in the hearts of Christians in countries where Islamic law governs justice.

Day 25 • Faithfulness

For seven days, Muslim El Gasim saw a cross in his prison cell and surrendered his life to Jesus. After the guards discovered his conversion, they shackled and beat him. As he prayed, his chains broke loose. The terrified guards set him free.

Lord, may Your Spirit fill those seeking freedom to find refuge in You.

Day 14 • Kindness

“Continue until the bags are filled to the top,” shouted the youth leader. With expectation the children waited for the night to begin going door-to-door asking for bread. “When they are full, give to those who have none.”

Father, today as the sun sets and feasting begins for Muslims, may Your flock generously share what little food they may have with a neighbor in need.

Day 20 • Joy

“I can now read God’s Word to others.” Parul’s frustration was replaced with joy after attending a literacy training class.

Lord, today we pray for those who share the gospel message during Ramadan. Let Your joy be evident in their lives so that those who do not yet know You will be drawn into Your presence.

Day 26 • Gentleness

“We have turned the other cheek so many times, we have no more cheeks to turn!” said a bishop in Nigeria.

Jesus, help Christians, particularly those living in Islamic governed nations, to steadfastly “turn their cheek” when faced with adversity, so that through their gentle spirit many will be drawn to You.

Day 15 • Goodness

As Zinaida lay shivering in the prison cell, she prayed for God to warm her. Filled suddenly with supernatural warmth, she then wrapped her arms around a cellmate sharing God’s blessing.

Father, today fill Christians beyond capacity with Your goodness so that it can be shared with others.

Day 21 • Peace

“I am making my covenant of peace.” (Nm 25:12) Christians encountered a Muslim trying to hang himself. In anguish he lamented, “I have money, a wife and children, but I have no peace. I want peace.”

Father, as Christians worship You today, may their prayers fill the air attracting Muslims seeking peace.

Day 27 • Self-control

The 27th day of Ramadan is “The Night of Power” or Destiny when the Quran was purportedly first revealed by God to Mohammad. Denying self, devout Muslims will spend the night thanking God for their holy book.

Father, may Your Word produce in us godly, self-controlled lives that others might see our good works and praise You.

Day 16 • Faithfulness

An angry mob arrived before noon. Destroying everything inside the stadium, the hope of hosting the country’s first crusade was dashed. The coordinators persevered and 120 new believers arose out of the ashes.

Holy Spirit, fill Christians today with faithfulness to share Your Word regardless of circumstances, in particular to Muslims.

Day 22 • Forbearance

As blows struck his body, Domingus felt his life depart. Pronounced dead at the hospital, he was later revived. “The mob will come back and kill you. What will you do?” asked a friend. “I just want to serve Jesus.”

Thank you, Jesus, for brothers like Domingus who continue to serve You in the midst of trials.

Day 28 • Love

“Put my tears in your bottle – aren’t they already recorded in your book?” David knew that God saw every tear. In ancient Persia, women, whose husbands were off to war, stored their tears in a bottle as proof of their love.

Father, dry the tears of persecuted Christians; surround them with Your perfect love.

Day 17 • Gentleness

Unwilling to join their rebel cause, a 13-year-old succumbed to the gang’s blows ending his earthly life. Picking up the torch, his father continued to preach the love of Christ in their community.

Father, today we pray from Your Word, “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.” (Luke 6: 27-31)

Day 23 • Kindness

“Teach me so I can minister to other women,” said Ange. During the 3 years in prison, she became a Christian. Now a pastor’s wife, she was anxious to learn so she could help others.

Lord, many women living in Islamic nations are oppressed and marginalized. Send godly women to minister to them in kindness, praising Your Holy Name.

Day 29 • Joy

Nishan is a secret believer who continues to go to mosque daily but worships Isa (Jesus). Pray that he and others will have opportunities to share the Gospel there.

Father, fill these Secret Believers with a joy that cannot be extinguished by daily hardship. May that joy be a beacon of hope to those who live in darkness.

Day 18 • Self-control

“Take the helmet of salvation...” (Eph 6:17). God provides the helmet to protect our minds. When the enemy tries to infiltrate our thinking with doubts, the helmet becomes our protection.

Holy Spirit, strengthen Christians minds to not succumb to pressures during this season of Ramadan; but instead, through Your power, bear witness of Your gift of grace.

Day 24 • Goodness

“Christians are good people, but we fear them because they have the Holy Spirit,” Mohammed said. “Now, what do you think,” Adel asked, “is the Holy Spirit good or bad?” Mohammed replied, “He is good.”

Father, we pray today that Muslim neighbors will see the goodness of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians worldwide.

Day 30 • Peace

May the feet of Christians around the globe, especially those in Islamic countries, be shod with “sandals of peace” as they struggle against the darkness.

Father, on this final day of Ramadan fill the hearts of Muslims everywhere with a hunger for peace that can only be filled by Your Spirit.