

Prayer Alert

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But I cry to You for help, Lord; in the morning my prayer comes before You. (Psalm 88:13)

We are pleased to enclose this week's edition of Prayer Alert.

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Thank you for partnering with us in praying for the nations.

Blessings,

David Fletcher and the Prayer Alert Team

Praise Reports

[She tried to commit suicide several times](#)
[Prayer meeting has continued for 24 years](#)

British Isles

[Huge rise in harmed or killed babies](#)
[Change in mood at No 10](#)
[Christmas travel plans for students](#)
[Brexit border concerns](#)
[Second wave will be more gruelling](#)
['Life-saving' gambling laws review postponed until 2021](#)
[Church pastor deception](#)

Europe

[Post-Brexit trade talks to continue](#)
[Greece: another refugee camp fire at Samos](#)

Worldwide

[India: pray for Hindus](#)
[Ethiopia: Christian women, children and elderly massacred](#)
[Global: engaging with the Bible](#)
[Democratic Republic of the Congo: violence escalates](#)
[China: Hong Kong opposition condemned](#)
[Mozambique: 50+ beheaded by IS-aligned extremists](#)
[Israel: third lockdown during Hanukkah?](#)

Praise Reports

[She tried to commit suicide several times](#)

At the Global Outreach Day, Christian felt that there was someone in the audience who had attempted suicide in the last couple of weeks. Using the microphone, he shared this word of knowledge and some other words of encouragement. A woman who was part of the outreach team then gave her testimony publicly for the first time. After the testimony, a young woman approached the ministry team and shared private details about her life. She said she had been raped several times in her life as a child and had already tried suicide several times: the last time was six days earlier. After the team shared the Gospel with her, she experienced the presence of Jesus and gave her life to him. She felt a wind blow on her back, not understanding what was going on. The team explained this could be the Holy Spirit who wanted to reveal himself and to touch her life. She said she will not attempt suicide again.

Praise: God for Go2020 bringing millions of people the truth of salvation, healing and deliverance from sin and death. (Psalm 115:1)
More: www.go2020.world/en/go2020continues

[Prayer meeting has continued for 24 years](#)

Only New Year's Day and Thanksgiving interrupt the daily 6 am prayer meetings that Pastor David Galvan has held since 5 February 1996 at New Life Church in Dallas. On Thanksgiving, the church holds an annual baptism in an area lake, incorporating prayer into the meeting. On New Year's Day, the church is in worship and fellowship from 7 pm on New Year's Eve to the early hours of the New Year, including prayer. Other holidays, including Christmas, are included in the daily schedule. When Covid-19 restrictions briefly limited gatherings to ten people months ago, Galvan transitioned the daily prayer hour from the church's 190-seat chapel to a conference call. Attendance has more than quadrupled. 'All these years up to the pandemic, it attracted from 5 to 12 people on weekdays and on Saturday it was about 70. Now we're averaging 35 to 50 daily'.

Praise: God for unceasing daily petitions for national and international needs, year in, year out. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)
More: godreports.com/2020/11/daily-prayer-meeting-ongoing-for-24-years/

British Isles

[Huge rise in harmed or killed babies](#)

Ofsted's chief inspector revealed there was an alarming 20% rise in babies being killed or harmed during the first lockdown. Out of 64 babies which were deliberately harmed in England, eight died. Some 40% of the 300 incidents reported involved infants, up by a fifth on 2019. The 'toxic mix' of isolation, poverty and mental illness caused the March to October spike. Health staff and social workers were hampered by Covid restrictions. Many regular visits could not take place; others were carried out by telephone or video links. When schools closed in March, children's charities and teachers expressed fears that children at risk would be left even more vulnerable under lockdown. This was one reason why schools stayed open for vulnerable children, but babies can't tell an adult if

there's a problem. Often, abuse is only uncovered when there's a critical injury, or it's too late - another young life damaged or lost.

Pray: for health practitioners to be alert to hidden dangers caused by poverty, redundancy, isolation, inadequate housing and close family proximity pressures. (Proverbs 1:5)

More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-54827702

Change in mood at No 10

Most people haven't heard of Lee Cain but the resignation of the prime minister's top aide raises the question of whether it heralds a changing of the guard and a new Johnson era, now that Brexit is almost done. Mr Cain is part of the Vote Leave team that has dominated the PM's first 18 months in office. He and Dominic Cummings have shaped his premiership more closely than anyone else, with an iron grip on the operation of No 10. But during that time, relations have soured between Downing Street and many ministers, as well as many Conservative MPs concerned about the leaks, the U-turns and the way things are run. Pray for the Holy Spirit to make a clean sweep through parliament, replacing 'power struggles' with harmony and positive influence based on facts. Pray for a new era in which government ministers practise peaceful relationships where there has been tension.

Pray: for 2021 to see a God-shaped style of leadership that builds consensus rather than arguments with MPs, Whitehall, the media, and Brussels. (Titus 2:7)

More: news.sky.com/story/is-a-new-johnson-era-coming-lee-cain-departure-signals-change-in-mood-at-no-10-12130558

Christmas travel plans for students

Revd Naomi Nixon, CEO of the Student Christian Movement, has criticised the Government's plans to get English university students home before Christmas. This was in reaction to a travel window, between 3 and 9 December, for students to go home in evacuation-styled staggered time slots. In-person teaching is also due to end. She said the procedure is brutal and confusing; treating students differently from everyone else in society. What if students have exams after the cut-off date, or live off-campus? Are students living in regular housing and streets to be treated differently from other people living in that street travelling at Christmas? Will students who have expensive train or plane tickets falling outside the travel window be refunded? There will be students isolating after a positive test, and students who have left foster care and are now 18 with nowhere to go.

Pray: for Revd Naomi's concerns to bring justice for students during lockdown. (Amos 5:24)

More: premierchristian.news/en/news/article/student-christian-movement-says-government-s-christmas-travel-plans-fail-to-treat-students-as-full-equal-adults

Brexit border concerns

The 'Haulier Handbook' (to prevent Brexit border meltdown) is a guide to the mountain of new red tape required to transport goods across borders. It was promised in early September but will now not be fully available until 7 December, three weeks before it is needed. Logistics UK, representing freight groups, warned that time is running out to prevent 'lorry queues at Dover and empty shelves in Northern Ireland' when the transition period ends in 50 days' time. 'With the economy still reeling from handling the impact of Covid-19, the last thing UK plc needs is another major shock of our own making,' said the Logistics director of policy. Construction of border inspection posts for checks on animal products crossing the Irish Sea has not yet started, and will take up to six months to complete.

Pray: for clear guidance to be available when needed, and for workable plans to replace fear of chaos. (2 Timothy 1:7)

More: www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-border-handbook-delays-january-lorries-b1720990.html

Second wave will be more gruelling

UK doctors have been warned the second coronavirus wave will be 'gruelling professionally and personally' with increased pressure throughout the winter. NHS chiefs and all four British medical officers have written to medics urging them to brace for a 'prolonged' Covid-19 outbreak over the coming weeks or even months. Healthcare professionals will have to be flexible, which 'may entail working in unfamiliar circumstances or surroundings, or working in clinical areas outside of their usual practice.' Their warning comes as Boris Johnson's official spokesman told a Westminster briefing that England's lockdown will not be extended. He insisted, 'When the current national measures come to an end on 2 December, we will be returning to a regional tiered approach.' Pray for rapid tests to speed up a return to normal life. Pray for God to inspire peace and remove the fear caused by continual negative media updates. Also, pray for the encouragement caused by news of the Pfizer vaccine to become reality.

Pray: for our world-leading academics and clinicians as they detect, evaluate and distribute safe vaccines across communities of all ages. (Jeremiah 33:6)

More: www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/uk-coronavirus-live-latest-updates-students-vaccine-b64978.html

'Life-saving' gambling laws review postponed until 2021

The inquiry into gambling laws promised in the election manifesto should have begun this month. But the culture and media department now says it is 'not imminent'. The UK betting industry has seen revenues surge to £14.5 billion a year because of lax regulations and more gambling on smartphones. Not getting this review under way now will be a matter of life and death for hundreds of families. Two gambling addicts take their own life every day, with many more left bankrupt. One in ten children admit gambling with their own money. The Government is under pressure to curb advertising, prevent punters spending thousands online, and help the 55,000 children suffering from addiction. Richard Holden, a Tory member of a Commons committee which has investigated gambling, said, 'The fact that the most senior civil servant in the culture department now seems to be backing away from getting the gambling review started is very worrying.'

Pray: for God to bless the culture department with the wisdom and compassion that protects adults and children from gambling addiction. (Psalm 138:7)

More: www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8936153/Life-saving-review-gambling-laws-set-postponed-year-officials-say.html

Church pastor deception

Mariam Mbula is currently senior pastor with Salvation Proclaimers Anointed Church (SPAC Nation). Its leaders, including Mariam, encourage young congregants to take out loans and give huge sums to the church. The church was founded by Tobi Adegboyega, who is worth 2.5million and drives a £150,000 Rolls-Royce - number plate PA5TOR. An investigation is under way into fraud allegations and offences relating to individuals associated with SPAC. The church denies financially exploiting young people, saying it has a 'robust complaints procedure' and 'well-run disciplinary system' and 'is not responsible for what goes on inside individual leaders' or members' houses'. It attracts large numbers of BAME and helps them leave a life of gangs, drugs and knife crime. For a documentary, [see \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IOzXILyeek\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IOzXILyeek) For background, [see https://insidecroydon.com/2019/11/04/dont-call-us-cult-like-says-tory-backing-cult-like-spac-nation/](https://insidecroydon.com/2019/11/04/dont-call-us-cult-like-says-tory-backing-cult-like-spac-nation/)

Pray: for the gospel of truth to be freely given to powerfully deliver communities from corruption, addiction. and death. (Psalm 120:2)
More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/stories-54818692

Europe

Post-Brexit trade talks to continue

Negotiations for a post-Brexit trade deal between the UK and EU are expected to continue next week as the deadline draws nearer. The two sides resumed talks in London this week, with a UK government source saying they were in the 'final stage'. But big gaps still remain, and the UK described the EU's position on fishing access as 'wholly unrealistic'. Boris Johnson is prepared to move forward without a deal. If nothing is agreed, the UK will trade with the bloc on World Trade Organisation rules - leading to tariffs on many imports and exports, which could push up costs for businesses and consumers. Both sides say they want to avoid this outcome, but the EU will not do a deal 'at any price'. Mr Johnson said the UK will prosper either way.

Pray: for God's principles and procedures to rule and reign in this EU/UK split. (Galatians 5:22)
More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-54902278

Greece: another refugee camp fire at Samos

According to the UN Refugee Agency, there are approximately 19,600 migrants and refugees on the Aegean islands as of 8 November. A series of large blazes destroyed Greece's largest migrant camp, Moria on the island of Lesbos, back in September. The Greek authorities said that the fires were deliberately started by the camp's residents. Officials on Samos reported a similar fire at a migrant camp on 2 November, the second blaze to hit such a facility over the last ten days. The cause of this fire has not yet been determined, and the number of migrant tents destroyed by the blaze is not yet known.

Pray: for the Greek migration and asylum ministry to put better safety procedures into the camps, and for God to protect vulnerable families from injustice and persecution. (Exodus 23:9a)
More: sputniknews.com/europe/202011111081127658-second-fire-breaks-out-at-migrant-camp-on-greeces-samos-over-past-10-days-reports-say/

Worldwide

India: pray for Hindus

With over one billion people, Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world. The majority of them have never heard the name of Jesus, and fewer than 2% of Protestant missionaries are serving among them. In India, Hinduism is much more than a religion; it is a way of life and a cultural identity. Acts of violence and intimidation by militant Hindus are on the rise, particularly against Christians. The barriers to the Gospel are many. But prayer opens doors. Join Christians around the world in prayer for Hindus from 8 to 22 November. During this time, Hindus will be celebrating one of their most important holidays, the Festival of Lights (Diwali). Despite the candles and fireworks, these millions remain in darkness, separated from the only true source of light - Jesus Christ. Together let us watch and pray.

Pray: for Hindus to abandon their thousands of gods to follow the one true God; may people of all castes boldly follow Christ and turn from the myth of karma. (Romans 10:14)
More: www.prayercast.com/india.html

Ethiopia: Christian women, children and elderly massacred

Survivors of a massacre at a school in the western Oromia region of Ethiopia reported that 54 ethnic Amhara were massacred, probably more. The Amhara are mostly Christians. About 60 armed terrorists, identifying themselves as the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), swept into Gawa Qunqqa village, Guliso District at around 5 pm on 1 November. Some survivors were able to flee to a nearby forest while the assailants rounded up women, children and elderly who were unable to run away. Then they shot the defenceless group and burnt 120 houses. 'This senseless attack is the latest in a series of killings in the country in which members of ethnic minorities have been deliberately targeted', said Amnesty International.

Pray: for God to comfort and watch over the friends and relatives of victims of the attack, and the 200 families who fled the area. (Psalm 9:9)
More: news.barnabasfund.org/At-least-54-ethnic-Amharas--mostly-Christian-women--children-and-elderly--reported-massacred-at-school-in-Ethiopia/

Global: engaging with the Bible

For hundreds of years, the Church has worked hard at translating, publishing and distributing the Bible. Only around 250 million people are still waiting for Bible translation to begin in the language they know best. But all this is just groundwork for the main task of seeing

the nations become disciples of Christ through engaging with the Bible. Technology provides audio Bibles, Bible study apps, and videos dramatising Biblical content; these are a great blessing, especially where Bibles are hard to acquire, where literacy is low, or where it is a security risk to have a hard copy. Bible engagement is a challenge to every church across the nations. Pray for God to increase the number of all those who work in the gap between the Bible and the world: Bible teachers for children and adults; those who present Bible truth through music, art, dance, drama, fiction and other forms of storytelling and learning; and scholars and commentators.

Pray: for a greater presence of the Bible in schools and for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit so that there is a hunger for the Bible in every part of the world. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

More: docs.google.com/document/d/1fZEn1useN4W1xYB-ov104viA4FFrDNQHvf0w77nTi-s/edit

Democratic Republic of the Congo: violence escalates

Father José Arieira de Carvalho, a Portuguese priest who has lived in the DRC for over a decade, reported a critical situation in the north-eastern part of the country 'where rebel groups roam across the region, looting and murdering. Recently the Lisasa village suffered a violent attack by rebel troops, claiming at least 21 lives, including that of catechist Richard Kisusi. There are reports that a Catholic church was defiled, several houses were burned down, and a medical post was looted. Bishop Sikuli Paluku Butembo-Beni called upon UN forces stationed in the region to protect the civilian population from attacks. In view of the escalating violence, the need for protection is becoming ever more pressing. The wealth of minerals has transformed certain regions of the country into a battleground for violent factions, bringing hardship and suffering to the people. It is believed there is a conspiracy between internal and external players to obscure ruthless exploitation of natural resources (mining, oil, woodland, and land).

Pray: for an end to daily violence and unjust distribution of wealth, and for God to restore the suffering church. (1 Peter 3:14)

More: www.churchinneed.org/democratic-republic-of-the-congo-violence-continues-to-escalate/

China: Hong Kong opposition condemned

Beijing's new laws will disqualify state elected legislators if they support Hong Kong's independence, refuse to acknowledge China's sovereignty, ask foreign forces to interfere in the city's affairs, or in other ways threaten national security. Four legally-elected legislators have been ejected, causing a mass resignation of most of Hong Kong's pro-democracy lawmakers from parliament. This is an 'open challenge' to China's authority. Many now see Hong Kong's limited democracy as in its death throes. The UK government accused China of breaching its commitments to protect Hong Kong's autonomy. They were promised they could keep some unique freedoms for fifty years. Dominic Raab said, 'Beijing's imposition of new rules to disqualify elected legislators in Hong Kong constitutes a clear breach of the legally binding Sino-British Joint Declaration, breaking its promises again and has undermined Hong Kong's special degree of autonomy.' The USA called it a move towards one-party dictatorship.

Pray: for God to protect the political activists as they resist the central government and new security laws. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-china-54900174

Mozambique: 50+ beheaded by IS-aligned extremists

Suspected IS-aligned militants herded dozens of fleeing victims to soccer fields to execute them and abducted others, in weekend raids in Mozambique. The commander of the police force said extremists carried out attacks on several villages in the Cabo Delgado province. They beheaded over fifty people, abducted women and children and burnt down homes. Then they went after those who had fled to the woods and continued their macabre actions. The BBC, and privately-owned Pinnacle News, reported that villagers in Mautide who tried to run were taken to the field and chopped to pieces. Police learned of the massacre committed by the insurgents through reports of people who found corpses in the woods. The oil-rich Cabo Delgado province has seen a rise of terror attacks since 2017 by ASWJ militants who have officially pledged allegiance to IS Central Africa Province.

Pray: for the Mozambique government, which is ill-equipped to counter the growing number of radical insurgents. (Psalm 10:17-18)

More: www.christianpost.com/news/over-50-beheaded-by-isis-aligned-extremists-in-mozambique.html?uid=6f9e8ab413

Israel: third lockdown during Hanukkah?

Israel's government is considering halting the gradual lifting of coronavirus restrictions, with some senior officials now weighing new prohibitions. A new report cited health ministry officials who warned that a third nationwide lockdown might be imposed during the upcoming Hanukkah festival, which begins in December. 'The idea that we may need to impose a third lockdown during Hanukkah is not unfounded,' the sources were quoted as saying. Prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu has asked experts to draw up plans for new restrictions, including nightly curfews which could be imposed across Israel. Under the current exit strategy, Israel was to have entered the third stage of the gradual reduction of lockdown restrictions next week, with shopping malls and markets reopening, along with studies resuming for students in grades 11 and 12.

Pray: for wise, faith-filled decisions that will suppress infections while allowing celebrations. (John 1:5)

More: www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/290812

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