

Prayer Alert

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www.prayer-alert.net | editor@prayer-alert.net

I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You. (Psalm 119:11)

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

You may like to explore our new online Prayer [Alert Prayer Wall](#) where we can add our own prayers and praise, interactively. We trust that you will find this helpful and encouraging!

Can you help? - Prayer Alert is brought to your inbox without charge thanks largely to the generosity of individuals and organisations that freely provide most of the resources we need to operate. However, we would be grateful for donations from appreciative subscribers towards our costs. Please click the 'Donations' button above to make a contribution.

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

Blessings,

David Fletcher and the Prayer Alert Team

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Praise Reports

Woman without pulse miracle

In an Instagram testimony a young lady testified before the congregation about a miracle she witnessed [in a street outreach](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/p/CvEmFy6N5pe/>). One Friday night, she and her team were in the street to worship God, preach the Gospel and lead people to Christ. But after the outreach finished they noticed a commotion. Police were surrounding a lifeless lady on the street. One of their team members felt a conviction from the Holy Spirit that they needed to pray for resurrection. So, they went closer and began praying for the lady, who still had no pulse. She had been dead for ten minutes already, but they began to declare life for her. At first nothing happened, but they didn't give up. They kept praying. A few minutes later, the lady's eyes opened. It was a miracle. She began to breathe again.

Praise: God for His resurrection power that flows through the prayers of His people. (Psalm 118:17)

More: godtv.com/prayer-woman-without-pulse-miracle/

USA: revival among Generation Z

Generation Z grew up with iPads and iPhones. They are connected to technology. American Survey Centre calls 1/3rd of this age group 'religious nones' (no religious affiliation). A summer camp leader says, 'It's essential we preach and teach the Bible, sharing the love of God to them when they're young - before the world has a chance to beat them up, chew them up and spit them out.' This year, 3,000+ campers accepted Jesus as their personal saviour at Crossroads Summer Camp. The camp leader attributed this surge in salvations to the goodness of God compared to what the world has to offer. The Crossroads leader said, 'I think they've seen the materialism of our world. The ideologies that are being shoved down their throats. They're all empty. When they feel the presence of God, when they taste and see that the Lord is good, nothing else will satisfy them.'

Praise: God for all who are reaching the next generation with the gospel and teaching them God's truth and purpose for their lives. (Proverbs 22:6)

More: www2.cbn.com/news/us/traveling-evangelist-says-christian-revival-happening-now-among-generation-z

British Isles

Embryos should not be treated as commodities

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) regulates UK fertility treatment and embryology research. They want laws regulating fertility treatment and research to have less strict inspections and be inspected less regularly. Given the ethical controversies surrounding fertility treatment and embryo experimentation, Christian Concern believes regular inspections should continue and not simply be based on an opinion about current risks. HFEA also wants to store embryos in a research bank so that they can be allocated to research projects when needed. But Christian Concern believes life is sacred from conception and should not be treated as a disposable commodity. The proposed clause opens a way to create embryos for eventual destruction without valuing human life. These are not pieces of biological matter, they are human beings made in the image of God. As Christians, we are called to care for the most vulnerable, those overlooked or manipulated by others.

Pray: for God to grant us hearts that care deeply for other humans, particularly at their smallest and most vulnerable. (Psalm 139:15,16)

More: christianconcern.com/comment/embryos-should-not-be-treated-as-commodities/

'They ask for directions - we point them to Christ'

A group of Christians in Hampshire who took over the local tourist information office when it was in danger of being closed say it has become a valuable way of engaging people with faith. Their organiser said, 'Tourist information centres everywhere are closing because everything is online. But older people prefer to go to a tourist information centre to pick up a leaflet etc. When we took the centre over from the council they were delighted. We open on reduced hours, giving out leaflets and selling books to pay the bills. It's now quite a ministry. People come in asking questions like where are the toilets, or when does the next bus go? Then they start coming up with issues that as Christians we feel qualified to signpost them in the right direction'.

Pray: for more innovative Christian ministries to be developed in our high streets so that many more come to know Christ through all that is said and done there. (Mark 16:15-16)

More: premierchristian.news/en/news/article/they-ask-for-directions-we-point-them-to-christ-the-christians-who-have-taken-over-the-local-tourist-office

Northern Ireland police endangered

A member of the public made a freedom of information (FoI) request to the police, 'Could you provide the number of officers at each rank and number of staff at each grade?' What they received was not only a numerical table but, inadvertently, a huge Excel spreadsheet called 'the source data, which should never have been released for public scrutiny on an FoI website. It was removed after 2½ - 3 hours once police became aware of it. Each line contains information from the top of the force down - surname and first initial, their rank, grade, where they are based and the unit they work in; including sensitive areas of surveillance and intelligence. The sensitive information exposes many in nationalist communities who were taking great care to keep who they work for a secret, in some cases even from friends and family. The scale of this error is enormous; the consequences cannot be evaluated. It is probably the worst data breach in the organisation's history.

Pray: for wise and precise technological scrutiny that will remove all digital footprints and for adequate support and protection to be given to individuals at risk. (1 Samuel 2:9a)

More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-66447388

Continuing Healthcare breaking down

Despite recent increased spending on Continuing Healthcare, staff shortages and rising prices mean people with complex medical needs are lacking the help they need. Sometimes family members are so exhausted from providing continual care that they're concerned over their relative's safety. Declan is one of the 16,000 people needing Continuing Healthcare. He has severe, progressive muscle wasting and cannot move unassisted. He requires a ventilator to breathe and has chronic heart and respiratory failure. The care he needs to be able to live at his family home should be met by NHS's Continuing Healthcare scheme that enables people with high complex needs to live outside of the hospital. Declan is entitled to 24/7 support by experienced care workers plus extra help mornings and bedtime. His mother has been asking for care overnight and during her working hours - but repeatedly faces shortfalls in meeting Declan's needs.

Pray: for the Government to support the NHS financially so that it can afford to train care staff to operate specialised equipment that keeps patients alive. (Titus 3:14)

More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-66058222

Importing Chinese cars raises espionage fears

British lawmakers warn that imported technology embedded in Chinese electric vehicles could be used to harvest information on drivers. With China leading the global EV market, cheaper Chinese vehicles are expected to dominate UK automotive sales. A cross-party group of MPs have expressed concern to the government that Britain is on the verge of handing control of critical infrastructure to Beijing, with all of the 'associated security risks.' An unnamed senior government official said that if it is manufactured in China, how certain can you be that it won't be a vehicle for collecting intel and data? Why have electric vehicles manufactured by countries that already spy using technology? Why wouldn't they do the same here? The UK already suspects China's technology imports are a security risk and barred Huawei from the 5G network in 2020, ordering all equipment and services to be removed by the end of 2023.

Pray: for the Government to assess the security risks wisely so that zero-emission sales go forward without using high-risk products. (Proverbs 19:20)

More: english.almayadeen.net/news/politics/uk-fears-chinese-spy-cars:-the-telegraph

Silent prayer near abortion facility

Adam Smith-Connor has pleaded not guilty to charges related to breaking a local 'buffer zone' around an abortion clinic and praying silently outside the medical facility. He was approached by police outside the clinic earlier this year. He thought he would not be prosecuted, as the statutory time-limit for pressing charges had elapsed. At his hearing on 9 August he said, 'We are standing in the nation of the Magna Carta, the nation which has championed democracy and freedom. We have a history of upholding human rights we can be proud of and a respect for freedom that I fought to uphold when I served this country for twenty years in the army reserves, including in Afghanistan. Yet here I stand before you, being prosecuted for a thought crime.' His legal team contend that freedom of thought is protected absolutely through the Human Rights Act and therefore, the local council has no power to prohibit silent prayer.

Pray: for wisdom and discernment for all involved in this case. (Exodus 20:13)

More: premierchristian.news/en/news/article/army-veteran-pleads-not-guilty-of-silent-prayer-near-abortion-facility

Europe

Russia: prayer needs

The majority of the world looks on with disbelief at Russia's 17 months of 'battle for justice', and Russians are tired. Youths are fleeing, the economy falters, loved ones risk their lives, and they are tired of the lack of peace. Many are familiar with Orthodox Christianity, but they are non-practising. They are not familiar with the true stability and peace only found in Jesus. 17.7 million Russians don't know who Jesus is. In their deep war-torn weariness, Russia's 143 million people need Jesus to be their ultimate place of rest and their source of true peace. Putin's anti-terrorism laws ban Christians from preaching outside a church building. Evangelism in homes or online is prohibited. Pastors and missionaries trained outside Russia must attend additional state-approved education. Bible teachers are needed to provide sound doctrine. Only God, manifested through the Body of Christ, can bring the hope and deliverance this nation seeks.

Pray: for Russians in international conflict to seek Christ's peace, truth, and justice. (2 John 3)

More: prayercast.com/russia.html

Ukraine: prayer needs

The devastation wrought by Russia's invasion is heartbreaking, and the atrocities committed are galling. Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced. Tens of thousands have been killed. When the conflict ends, rebuilding will take years, or even decades. Even more complicated will be the healing of trauma experienced and, hopefully, an eventual reconciliation with its neighbour. Pray for the intervention of the God who makes wars cease to the ends of the earth and who breaks the bow and shatters the spear (Psalm 46:9). Pray Psalm 10:17-18 over Ukraine – that the Lord will hear the desire of the afflicted, encourage them, and listen to their cries. Pray for wisdom from above, and divine fortitude for Ukraine's leaders and its people. Ukraine's rich Christian heritage began in the Slavic world in Kyiv 1,000 years ago. Churches suffered greatly in the Soviet era. Next there was hostility from the Orthodox Church for other expressions of Christianity. Evangelicals have emerged from many years of persecution with larger numbers and stronger faith.

Pray: for the endurance, spiritual drive and vision of the body of Christ in Ukraine to grow despite what the enemy seeks to accomplish. (Isaiah 35:3)

More: operationworld.org/locations/ukraine/

Worldwide

Brazil: Amazon summit of rainforest nations

From 7 to 9 August, eight Amazonian nations met in Brazil hoping to agree on future strategies to protect the rainforest while sustainably developing the region. President Lula called this summit for the eight South American countries sharing a slice of the Amazon. It is the first time in 45 years that there has been a meeting to ensure a regional response to combat deforestation, crime and climate change. Three days before the event, a pre-summit meeting of civil society representatives agreed on an alliance to combat deforestation, but each country will pursue its own conservation goals when the heads of state discuss and make decisions. President Lula said that previous meetings were just talk, talk, talk, and nothing happened, and this meeting is the first great opportunity for people to show the world what they want to do. Experts and conservationists have hailed the event as a turning point for the future of the Amazon rainforest. See also <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-66446449>

Pray: for deforestation to end with new policies that reconstruct, preserve and develop the Amazon rainforest. (Genesis 8:22)

More: news.mongabay.com/2023/08/amazon-summit-sparks-hope-for-coordinate-efforts-from-the-rainforest-nations/

Israel: defence minister ready to protect sovereignty

During a visit to Israel's border with Lebanon, the defence minister Yoav Gallant warned Hezbollah not to test the Jewish state, referring to ongoing provocations by the Iran backed terrorists violating legally-binding UN resolutions. Gallant toured the region with other senior officers and was updated on defensive efforts made along the border and the construction of a barrier. In a Hebrew-language video statement, he warned Hezbollah secretary-general Nasrallah not to 'make a mistake', saying, 'If an escalation or conflict develops here, we will return Lebanon to the Stone Age. We will not hesitate to use all our power and erode every inch of Hezbollah and Lebanon if we have to. We don't want war, but we are ready to protect our citizens, our soldiers, and our sovereignty.' The UN resolution forbids Hezbollah from operating anywhere near the border between Lebanon and Israel. Alarmingly, Hezbollah's armed patrols stationed along Israel's northern frontier are provocations.

Pray: for God to prevent Hezbollah from damaging the border fence, for the removal of terrorists in Hezbollah's tent on Israel's side of the border, and for tensions to dissolve. (John 14:27)

More: www.jns.org/israel-news/hezbollah/23/8/8/308917/

Burkina Faso: terrorists and mission

Shopkeepers near the Togolese border were returning from a day at the market when terrorists attacked, killing more than twenty people. It is a disturbing trend. Terrorists have killed more than 5,000 people so far this year. Helen Williams of World Missionary Press (WMP) says local ministries are being cautious. 'As far as we know and from everything I've heard, the ministry work continues. It may have restrictions and be a little bit more difficult, but the work goes on. WMP recently sent Scripture booklets to a ministry that goes into villages. I don't know if that's been restricted – going into different places. But we sent them a shipment of material in French and had reports and photos from them going home-to-home, having open-air campaigns and planting churches in one particular village. Eight million people who speak the Moore language they have just received their first shipment of that language. They are overjoyed.'

Pray: for believers distributing Scripture booklets in unreached villages to see many more come to Christ and for God to protect the vulnerable from terrorists. (Isaiah 41:10)

More: www.mnnonline.org/news/at-least-20-killed-in-burkina-faso-in-another-suspected-terror-attack/

Pakistan: intolerance

Pakistani Christians are crying silently for peace, understanding, and respect for their religious symbols. But their cries are not heard domestically or globally. Christianity has been an integral part of Pakistan's multi-religious society since its inception in 1947 when Muhammad Ali Jinnah promised equal citizenship rights. In 2023 Christians are treated as second-class citizens, discriminated against, and targets of hostility and violence. Often the blasphemy law is misused against them, further worsening their situation. A comprehensive strategy that includes improved security measures for religious minorities and educational campaigns to foster tolerance and mutual respect is needed urgently. The government needs to uphold its commitment to religious freedom and safeguard all its citizens, as enshrined in its constitution and in line with international covenants. Pray for the government to reassess its approach toward religious minorities and condemn violence and threats against them. Pray for incorporating religious tolerance and coexistence in the curricula for school and public awareness campaigns.

Pray: for the government to take steps to promote peace and religious harmony, with interfaith dialogues to foster mutual respect and understanding. (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

More: www.gatestoneinstitute.org/19857/pakistan-christians-sweden-quran

Laos: an unevangelised nation

Praise God for rapid church growth, even under government restrictions and persecution. Indigenous Laotians lead almost all churches and evangelism efforts. The government recognises two Protestant groups. The largest is the Lao Evangelical Church, where most Christian growth occurs. Growth also happens through 'underground' house groups. Over 90% of all trained leaders left Laos in 1975, and most congregations lack a trained pastor. Pray urgently for leaders both in the recognised churches and in the house church networks. Pray that new believers will grow strong in faith and not fall away. The Church suffers through persecution, but recognises that it drives them to prayer and total dependence on God. Much of Laos remains unevangelised. The church's growth is dwarfed by remaining tasks. The Gospel has not easily crossed ethnic barriers. Buddhism and tribal religions blend together. There are 5,000 temples but only 250 church buildings.

Pray: for local artists to write and perform Christian songs and develop discipleship tools of stories and drama, so that the gospel light may shine and draw many to Christ. (Romans 1:16)

More: operationworld.org/prayer-calendar/08-09/

Australia: plans for World Prayer Assembly

Churches and prayer and mission ministries across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands have come together in unprecedented unity that has not been seen for decades, with the vision 'A new wave of glory to cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea' (Habakkuk 2:14). Sixty days ahead of the World Prayer Assembly in Perth, planned and spontaneous prayer is already taking place across the cities. There are reports of the wave already sweeping through, and there is a lively air of expectancy as to what God is doing through this global gathering. Before it, the leaders have called for 21 days of prayer and fasting (from 28 August), contending for a 'wave of the knowledge of the glory of God' to engulf the globe, for an awakening across Australia with millions finding Christ; and a global awakening with billions finding Christ.

Pray: for an amazing move of God's Spirit to swell and cover the nations. (1 Corinthians 4:20)

More: www.ipcprayer.org/ipc-connections/item/16431-ipc-connections-august-2023-intro.html

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