# **Prayer Alert**

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My heart rejoices in the Lord; in the Lord my horn is lifted high. My mouth boasts over my enemies, for I delight in Your deliverance. (1 Samuel 2:1)

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

Please pray for the general and presidential elections in Chile on 16 November and the Tonga general election on 20 November. See the 2025 elections prayer guide.



We invite the Prayer Alert community to join us on the free online Interseed House of Prayer app where we are praying and sharing thoughts on the weekly prayer guide issues and themes.

Interseed is available on the Android and iOS platforms. More info HERE.

#### Invitation - to serve with the PA team!

How would you like to join our Prayer Alert team? We are a group of volunteers based in different parts of England. If you appreciate what we do and are confident with browsing the internet, discovering relevant articles and basic editing, we would love to hear from you! Please hit 'reply', introduce yourself, and we will be in touch.

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

David Fletcher and the Prayer Alert team.

#### **Praise Reports**

Jesus appeared to Hamas member's wife in dream
Persecuted pastor imprisoned and beaten before 'mind-blowing' miracle
Warwickshire: Wall of Answered Prayers is proceeding
India: supreme court rejects accusations of forced conversion

## **British Isles**

I have never authorised attacks on ministers, says PM Trump says he has 'obligation' to sue BBC because 'it defrauded the public'

Thousands of NHS staff to lose jobs after deal approved Two-child benefit cap to be scrapped?

Seven charged with sex and drug offences in Bristol grooming case Northern Ireland: Presbyterian Church moderator steps down over safeguarding failures

## **Europe**

Serbia: protesters form human shield against Jared Kushner's development plans

Hungary / USA: Trump gives one-year exemption from sanctions Russia / USA: resumption of nuclear testing in tit-for-tat decisions

## Worldwide

Brazil: hundreds of Indigenous protesters at COP30 demand real protection Syria: why al Sharaa's visit to Washington is so important Leading Christian scientist champions truth, wisdom, and humility South Africa: prominent Afrikaners condemn Trump's allegations ahead of G20

Pakistan: twelve killed in suicide bomb attack in Islamabad

## **Praise Reports**

## Jesus appeared to Hamas member's wife in dream

Juman al Qawasmi, once married to a Hamas member and raised in a culture of deep hostility toward Israel and Christianity, experienced a dramatic encounter with Jesus that transformed her life. During the 2014 Gaza conflict, after praying desperately for God to reveal Himself, she dreamed of Jesus standing before her, telling her, 'You are my daughter; don't be afraid'. She described an overwhelming peace she had never known in Islam, where she felt she could never do enough. Juman had already begun questioning a belief system marked by violence, yet she had never heard the name Yeshua before this encounter. Born in Qatar to a father who was among Hamas's founders, she once voted for Hamas but now openly rejects its agenda of hatred, corruption, and control. Discovering more about Christ through an Egyptian Christian website, she was deeply moved by His teaching to love one's enemies and amazed to learn that many Muslims are meeting Jesus through dreams. With radiant joy, she now urges others: 'Cast your eyes on Jesus; He is the way!'

Praise: God for revealing Jesus to Juman and many others seeking truth, bringing peace, joy, and miraculous salvation across the Muslim world. (Acts 26:18)

More: www.godreports.com/2025/11/jesus-appeared-to-hamas-members-wife-in-dream/

## Persecuted pastor imprisoned and beaten before 'mind-blowing' miracle

Todd Nettleton of Voice of the Martyrs is urging believers worldwide to pray earnestly for persecuted Christians, especially during the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. He explained that this initiative was not created as a campaign but simply answers the persecuted church's first and most urgent request: 'Pray for us'. He described how deeply suffering believers understand the power of prayer, having seen God intervene when all earthly help failed. He recently heard testimonies firsthand, including a remarkable account from an Indian pastor arrested under an anti-conversion law. Determined to keep preaching the Gospel, the pastor was imprisoned and brutally beaten for seven days - hung upside down and struck by guards until they were exhausted. Yet he felt no pain, describing God's supernatural protection. In an astonishing turn, the same warden who ordered the beatings invited him to speak about Good Friday and later granted him freedom inside the prison to share Christ. The pastor even prayed for the warden's sick son, who recovered miraculously.

Praise: God for sustaining Todd and other persecuted believers with miracles, courage, and opportunities to share Christ amid suffering. (2

Corinthians 12:9)

More: www.faithwire.com/2025/11/11/persecuted-pastor-brutally-beaten-imprisoned-before-mind-blowing-miracle/

#### Warwickshire: Wall of Answered Prayers is proceeding

More than twenty years after the vision was first received, plans for the Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer in Warwickshire are finally moving forward. The 169-foot-high monument, almost three times the size of the Angel of the North, will be made from a million bricks, each digitally linked to a unique story of answered prayer. Its creator, Richard Gamble, a former chaplain to Leicester City Football Club and the 2012 Olympics, describes it as 'a monument to make hope visible'. Designed as a Mobius strip symbolising eternity and God's unending faithfulness, the project has faced years of financial and engineering challenges. But a £30 million gift from a Christian Tory peer has now transformed its future, covering the majority of the £45 million cost. Gamble says the vision has always been about glorifying Jesus through the testimonies of His people. When completed, the wall will stand as a national landmark of faith, thanksgiving, and answered prayer.

Praise: God for providing miraculously for this monument of testimony. Pray that it may draw millions to faith. (Psalm 96:3)

More: anglicanmainstream.org/article/revealed-the-tory-peer-spending-30m-on-a-giant-monument-to-god/

#### India: supreme court rejects accusations of forced conversion

On 17 October India's supreme court of India rejected a religious conversion case against officials of a noted agricultural university in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, after a protracted legal battle which started in April 2022. The officials, and also staff of a mission hospital, had been accused by a Hindu nationalist of coercing a woman into converting to Christianity and then forcing her to bring nearly sixty other women for a conversion meeting. The court found no credible evidence to substantiate the allegations, and stated that the complainant did not have the legal right to file the complaint. It also recognised serious procedural deficiencies and violations of due process. Delighted Christian community leaders have claimed the ruling as a historic victory which strengthens faith in the justice system and affirms the constitutional promise of religious freedom. It provides a crucial precedent for cases under similar state-level anti-conversion laws, and stands as a reminder that even in cases involving sensitive socio-religious issues, the principles of due process and statutory integrity remain paramount.

Praise: God for this notable victory. Pray that other similar cases will follow this legal precedent. (Isaiah 1:17)

More: persecution.org/2025/10/20/indias-supreme-court-rejects-religious-conversion-case/

#### **British Isles**

## I have never authorised attacks on ministers, says PM

Keir Starmer has firmly denied authorising anonymous briefings against members of his cabinet after reports suggested some aides believed he could face a leadership challenge from health secretary Wes Streeting. At PMQs, he called such attacks completely unacceptable, insisting he appointed his ministers because they are 'the best people to carry out their jobs'. Streeting, who missed PMQs to address an NHS conference, rejected claims he was plotting a leadership bid and criticised what he described as a 'toxic culture' inside No 10 - though he does not believe the prime minister is responsible. Kemi Badenoch accused Starmer of having 'lost control of his government', while speculation persists within Labour about who might stand if a contest were triggered. Despite a large 2024 majority, Starmer's leadership has faced turbulence; with the Budget and devolved elections looming, internal unity is being tested.

Pray: for integrity, unity, and truth in political leadership, strengthening governance for the good of the nation. (Proverbs 11:3)

More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c3vnyg1q503o

### Trump says he has 'obligation' to sue BBC because 'it defrauded the public'

Donald Trump has intensified his criticism of the BBC, threatening a billion-dollar lawsuit over what he claims was a dishonest editing of a speech he delivered before the 6 January 2021 Capitol riot. The threat follows the resignation of BBC director-general Tim Davie, who stepped down amid the controversy. Trump told Fox News he felt an 'obligation' to sue, accusing the broadcaster of 'defrauding the public' and turning what he described as a calming speech into something radical. His legal team has demanded a full retraction of what they consider defamatory statements, warning that failure to comply will trigger legal action. Sir Ed Davey has urged Keir Starmer to ask Trump to drop the lawsuit. Starmer defended the BBC as a vital and independent institution, across the world, while acknowledging the need for accuracy and accountability. Culture secretary Lisa Nandy warned MPs against undermining the broadcaster, emphasising its national importance as charter review approaches. The situation has reignited debates around impartiality, political pressure, and the future governance of the BBC.

Pray: for truth, fairness, and accountability in global media, safeguarding public trust amid rising political pressures. (Proverbs 12:17)

More: www.itv.com/news/2025-11-12/trump-says-he-has-obligation-to-sue-the-bbc-because-it-defrauded-the-public

#### Thousands of NHS staff to lose jobs after deal approved

Thousands of NHS administrative and managerial staff in England are set to lose their jobs after the Treasury approved a deal allowing the health service to overspend this year to fund redundancy costs. Earlier, the government confirmed that 18,000 roles would be cut as part of major reforms bringing NHS England back under the Department of Health and halving staff numbers in local Integrated Care Boards. The £1bn cost of pay-offs will be recovered in future years through expected savings, with ministers insisting no additional funding is being provided beyond existing spending plans. Health secretary Wes Streeting argued that patients and staff want bureaucracy reduced so frontline care can be prioritised, saying the reforms would help rebuild the NHS. Government estimates suggest the changes could save £1bn annually, enough to fund over 100,000 extra hip and knee operations. However, the Royal College of Nursing warned that losing expert staff risks harming patient care rather than improving it. NHS leaders have called the agreement 'pragmatic' but acknowledged the uncertainty and disruption facing affected workers.

Pray: for compassionate decisions that protect patients, support staff in transition, and strengthen sustainable frontline healthcare. (Isaiah 58:10) More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c3w9y9dpv5qo

#### Two-child benefit cap to be scrapped?

Keir Starmer has given his clearest indication yet that his government intends to scrap the two-child benefit cap, strongly suggesting the change will be included in the forthcoming 26 November Budget. He said he would not promise to drive down child poverty without being prepared to take 'a number of measures' to achieve it. His comments closely followed remarks from Rachel Reeves, who said it was wrong for children to be 'penalised' simply for being part of a larger family. Treasury sources described her comments as a deliberate 'signal of intent', with ministers reportedly favouring a full removal of the cap rather than more limited alternatives. One estimate is that abolishing the cap would cost around £3.5bn by 2029/30. The move comes amid unease within Labour ranks over the party's commitment not to raise income tax. Starmer insisted he was 'personally committed' to reducing child poverty, saying it was a defining achievement of the last Labour government and a priority he intends to pursue again. See <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/live/cn8xppxyxe7t">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/live/cn8xppxyxe7t</a>

Pray: for policies that genuinely lift children from poverty while supporting families with fairness, compassion, and sustainability. (Psalm 82:3) More: inews.co.uk/news/politics/two-child-benefit-cap-scrapped-budget-starmer-4035175

#### Seven charged with sex and drug offences in Bristol grooming case

Seven men aged 19 to 26 have been charged with more than forty sex and drug offences in a major grooming investigation in Bristol. The case involves alleged offences against eleven complainants between 2022 and 2025. The police began their inquiry in late 2023 after receiving a tip-off about the suspected exploitation of a teenage girl. Initial arrests were made last April, with the suspects later re-arrested in coordinated raids this week. The defendants face a wide range of charges, including multiple counts of rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation of a child, and drug supply. They all appeared at Bristol magistrates' court and were remanded in custody ahead of a hearing on 17 December. The police said that safeguarding victims is at the centre of the investigation, with support measures put in place. Prosecutors reminded the public that the men have the right to a fair trial and warned against sharing information that could prejudice proceedings.

Pray: for justice, protection for vulnerable young people, and healing for every victim impacted by this exploitation. (Psalm 10:17–18) More: www.thetimes.com/uk/crime/article/seven-charged-with-sex-and-drug-offences-in-bristol-grooming-case-2psmb85gc

#### Northern Ireland: Presbyterian Church moderator steps down over safeguarding failures

Rev Trevor Gribben, moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, is stepping down after an internal review uncovered 'serious and significant' safeguarding failures across the denomination between 2009 and 2022. The Church admitted that individuals had been harmed or placed at risk due to systemic shortcomings in its central safeguarding functions. Failures included not responding adequately when victims sought help, failing to refer cases to statutory authorities, and allowing some known offenders to return to worship without proper monitoring. Rev Gribben apologised unreservedly, acknowledging that these failures occurred partly during his tenure as General Secretary, even though he was not directly responsible for safeguarding operations. Church convenor Rev David Bruce said record-keeping gaps and failures to follow the Church's own guidance meant that not all cases have yet been identified. He said that their priority is to support those harmed and rebuild trust by strengthening safeguarding structures. The Church has urged anyone affected to come forward, assuring them they will now be listened to and responded to appropriately.

Pray: for healing, accountability, and renewed safeguarding that protects the vulnerable and restores trust within the Church. (Psalm 147:3)

More: www.newsletter.co.uk/news/politics/moderator-of-presbyterian-church-in-ireland-rev-trevor-gribben-to-step-down-over-safeguarding-failures-5399911

#### Europe

## Serbia: protesters form human shield against Jared Kushner's development plans

Thousands of demonstrators in Belgrade have formed a human shield around the bomb-damaged former Yugoslav defence ministry building, vowing to stop its redevelopment into a luxury complex tied to a company owned by Jared Kushner, Donald Trump's son-in-law. The \$500 million project, backed by president Aleksandar Vučić's pro-Trump government, aims to transform the ruins - once bombed by NATO in 1999 - into a hotel and office district. Critics, however, see the move as an affront to national memory, calling the complex a sacred symbol of resistance against foreign aggression. Lawmakers recently fast-tracked legislation to permit construction despite an ongoing criminal investigation into alleged document forgery used to strip the site's heritage status. The protests, led largely by students and youth movements, echo wider anger over corruption and government control. As chants of defiance echoed through the capital, protesters pledged unity to defend Serbia's architectural and historical integrity against what they view as political and economic exploitation.

Pray: for justice in leadership. Pray that Mr Vučić will know how to balance integrity and diplomacy. (Proverbs 22:28) More: edition.cnn.com/2025/11/11/europe/serbia-protest-kushner-real-estate-latam-intl

## Hungary / USA: Trump gives one-year exemption from sanctions

Donald Trump has granted Hungary a one-year exemption from US sanctions on Russian oil and gas purchases, marking a diplomatic win for Viktor Orbán. The move followed Orbán's visit to Washington, where Trump expressed sympathy for Hungary's dependence on Russian energy as a landlocked nation. The decision contrasts sharply with Trump's recent threats to penalise countries doing business with sanctioned Russian energy firms. In return, Hungary agreed to buy hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of US natural gas. While the arrangement may ease Hungary's energy pressures, it risks deepening tensions within the EU, where many leaders oppose Orbán's continued cooperation with Moscow. Trump praised Orbán's leadership and hinted at shared goals for ending the war in Ukraine, underscoring their close personal and political alliance amid growing divisions over energy, sanctions, and peace strategy in Europe.

Pray: for discernment among world leaders, balanced decisions that promote peace, and integrity over political convenience. (Proverbs 28:6) More: www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp85dvnkpv4o

#### Russia / USA: resumption of nuclear testing in tit-for-tat decisions

Vladimir Putin's announcement that Russia may resume nuclear testing marks one of the most dangerous escalations in global security since the Cold War. He has instructed senior military and intelligence officials to prepare proposals for possible tests at the Novaya Zemlya site in the Arctic - where the Soviet Union in the past had detonated more than 200 nuclear devices, but none since 1990. The move follows Donald Trump's declaration that the USA would restart its own nuclear tests, for the first time since 1992. Both leaders' actions revive fears of an uncontrolled arms race, just as the last major nuclear treaty between Washington and Moscow nears expiry. Analysts warn that renewed testing could shatter global non-proliferation norms and invite imitation from other states.

Pray: for Putin and Trump, and other world leaders, to exercise restraint and keep all lines of dialogue open, in pursuit of lasting peace. (Psalm 46:9a)

More: www.gbnews.com/news/world/vladimir-putin-plans-detonate-nuclear-bomb

#### Worldwide

## Brazil: hundreds of Indigenous protesters at COP30 demand real protection

On 11 November hundreds of Indigenous activists stormed the UN COP30 climate summit in Belém, demanding real protection for their lands and rights amid growing frustration over government inaction. The protests, led by Amazonian communities, erupted as president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva promoted his administration's commitment to Indigenous inclusion - claims protesters say ring hollow while oil drilling, logging, and mining continue to threaten the rainforest. 'We can't eat money', said Gilmar of the Tupinamba community, voicing anger at the summit's focus on climate finance over preservation. The demonstrations followed the arrival of the Yaku Mama protest flotilla, which sailed over two thousand miles to call attention to Indigenous leadership in environmental stewardship. Despite Lula's rhetoric, Brazil's state oil company has just received approval to begin exploratory offshore drilling near the Amazon's mouth. This year's meeting is the first to take place since the International Court of Justice ruled that countries must meet their climate obligations and that failing to do so could violate international law. Note: the four nations responsible for almost

50% of global pollution (Russia, China, India, and the USA) are not even attending COP30. The conference is a major focus for prayer, as churches become more and more aware of the climate crisis. For a link to the John Stott lecture on 20 November, which will focus on the challenges which the world is facing and a Christian response, see <a href="https://www.johnstottlondonlecture.org.uk/lecture">https://www.johnstottlondonlecture.org.uk/lecture</a>

Pray: for courage among Indigenous defenders, and greater commitment worldwide to protecting creation from exploitation. Give thanks for Christians' increasing awareness of creation care, and pray that the Church will be in the forefront of action to promote it. (Isaiah 24:5) More: www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/11/12/indigenous-activists-storm-cop30-climate-summit-in-brazil-demanding-action

#### Syria: why al Sharaa's visit to Washington is so important

In a stunning U-turn of diplomacy, Syrian president Ahmed al Sharaa - once known as Abu Mohammed al Jolani, former leader of the al-Qaeda affiliate Nusra Front - has arrived in Washington for historic talks with Donald Trump. He rose to power following the collapse of Bashar al-Assad's regime and now leads Syria's fragile transitional government. Once a fugitive with a \$10 million US bounty, he is being welcomed as a potential partner in rebuilding his war-torn nation and countering extremist threats. Washington's gamble is clear: support Sharaa to stabilise Syria, curb Iranian and Russian influence, and prevent renewed civil war. Yet challenges loom large: sectarian clashes persist, and doubts remain about his transformation from militant to unifier. The visit, the first trip by a Syrian head of state to the USA since the country gained independence in 1948, could redefine alliances and reshape Middle Eastern geopolitics for a generation.

Pray: for wisdom in reconciliation, courage to pursue peace over power, and healing for the Syrian nation scarred by war. (Psalm 106:3) More: news.sky.com/story/from-us-enemy-to-ally-why-ex-jihadist-syrian-presidents-meeting-with-trump-is-a-really-big-deal-13467294

#### Leading Christian scientist champions truth, wisdom, and humility

Dr Francis Collins, the geneticist who led the Human Genome Project and later oversaw the US pandemic response, has reflected on faith, science, and truth in a deeply divided era. As head of the National Institutes of Health, he saw the rapid creation of Covid-19 vaccines as a miracle of both science and prayer, crediting years of mRNA research and divine guidance for the breakthrough which saved millions of lives. Yet, to his sorrow, many Christians rejected the vaccines and vilified him personally. Conspiracy theorists targeted him with hostility and threats, while some church leaders accused him of politicising faith. Grounded daily in scripture and prayer, Collins continues to champion truth and humility, warning that a society which dismisses evidence in favour of tribal loyalty risks moral decay. His new book, *The Road to Wisdom*, calls believers to rebuild trust through love, dialogue, and a renewed commitment to truth guided by Christ's teachings.

Pray: giving thanks for Francis Collins's example of faith even when heavily criticised and vilified. Pray that Christians can avoid being taken in by fake news. (John 8:32)

More: www.premierchristianity.com/interviews/francis-collins-the-christian-scientist-who-discovered-a-covid-vaccineand-then-became-a-figure-of-hate/20316.article

#### South Africa: prominent Afrikaners condemn Trump's allegations ahead of G20

Donald Trump has declared that no US officials will attend the upcoming G20 summit in Johannesburg, citing 'human rights' concerns related to alleged persecution of white Afrikaners. The decision has drawn sharp criticism both internationally and within South Africa. Trump's administration has taken a hard line against Pretoria, imposing tariffs, cutting aid, and granting fast-track refugee status to Afrikaners while blocking most other refugees. Over forty Afrikaner leaders, including journalists, clergy, and academics, have denounced the president's claims as false, stressing that no white-owned land has been seized and that violent crime affects all races. They called his narrative divisive and damaging to post-apartheid reconciliation. Following Trump's decision, a planned visit to Kenya by JD Vance, which was expected to strengthen relationships, has also been cancelled: see https://ntvkenya.co.ke/news/why-donald-trumps-deputy-jd-vance-will-not-be-coming-to-kenya/

Pray: for truth to prevail over political manipulation. Pray for the success of the G20 summit despite the USA's absence, and for an improvement in relationships between the Trump administration and African countries. (Proverbs 12:19)

More: www.npr.org/2025/11/10/nx-s1-5603421/g20-afrikaners-trump-south-africa

## Pakistan: twelve killed in suicide bomb attack in Islamabad

A devastating suicide bombing near the high court killed twelve people and injured more than twenty, shattering nearly two decades of relative calm in Islamabad. The attacker, unable to enter the judicial complex due to tight security, detonated explosives near a police vehicle. Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a faction of the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility, though the Taliban distanced itself from the assault. President Asif Ali Zardari condemned the attack, while prime minister Shahbaz Sharif accused 'Indian terrorist proxies', without providing any evidence to support his claim. The Taliban were also suspected of being responsible for an attack the previous day on a cadet college in the north-west of the country (see <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1954632">https://www.dawn.com/news/1954632</a>). International condemnations followed swiftly, emphasising solidarity and the urgent need for regional cooperation against extremism. The attacks come at a time of increased tensions with India, and peace negotiations between Pakistan and Afghanistan broke down last week, following violent clashes between their forces in October. Also this week, a huge explosion in Delhi, close to the historic Red Fort, killed eight and injured many others: it is not yet known who was responsible. See <a href="https://edition.cnn.com/2025/11/10/world/new-delhi-explosion-red-fort-intl">https://edition.cnn.com/2025/11/10/world/new-delhi-explosion-red-fort-intl</a>

Pray: for comfort for those who grieve, wisdom for investigators, and renewed resolve in all three countries to uphold peace and justice. (Psalm 10:14)

More: edition.cnn.com/2025/11/11/world/blast-islamabad-pakistan-intl

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