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1 NOV 6 Pray for the 'wandering swallows' of North Korea: street children, deserted by desperate parents, or orphaned by the famine. Jong-Cheol (11) escaped to China where he became a Christian - but was caught and returned. Guards interrogated him about his faith. He didn't survive.

4 NOV 9 When Xiao Ming was eight, his dad was imprisoned in China for being a church leader. Eight years later they were reunited - but were strangers. Open Doors has worked with them to help rebuild their relationship. Pray for children who cannot see their mums or dads because they're in prison for their faith.

7 NOV 12 Pedro is a wanted child. Wanted by illegal armed gangs in Colombia. Pray for him. He's no longer in school after being bullied by teachers and students because of his faith. "I want to study," he says, "but I cannot. I trust that God will help me, because He knows that we serve Him with our hearts."

10 NOV 15 Japheth is 18 months old - and he's a survivor! He was stabbed by an extremist in an attack one year ago in Nigeria, whilst being cuddled by his mum. His parents and siblings died in the attack. Japheth is in good health now. Pray that he will live to the glory of God.

13 18 NOV Susan (14) in Uganda needs prayer for healing. When she became a Christian her father locked her up for six months. Her younger brother poured water under the door for her to drink. Most days she could only feed on mud. She can talk and eat now, but can't walk and needs to resume her studies.

16 NOV 21 Pray for Jackeline, living at the Colombian Open Doors Children's Centre since her father was murdered. "What happened to me happens to many children and I want this to stop! I don't remember him much anymore, but I do miss him a lot. I would like him to be here, to embrace me, just to feel him holding me."

2 NOV 7 When Muslim extremists threatened to blow up Leah's home in Baghdad, her family fled for safety. Though almost everything had to be left behind, she insisted on taking her Bible. But the nightmares went with her. Pray for her as she receives counselling, learns a new language, and makes new friends.

5 NOV 10 Growing up as a Christian in a mainly Muslim country can be confusing - and challenging. At home you're free to love Jesus, but at school you have to keep it quiet. You can lose your friends. Amir's life is like that. Seeing his dad being arrested didn't help, either. Pray for his peace of mind and a sense of self-esteem.

8 NOV 13 Fidelis (10) lived in a village in northern Nigeria. The situation there is volatile. Earlier this year Muslim extremists attacked his house in the middle of the night: Fidelis was shot and killed. Pray for his family. Tragically, this experience is shared by thousands of families. Comfort, comfort Your people, Lord.

11 NOV 16 Pray for Carol, Jacob, Jinkai, Reuben and Malita in Nigeria. They watched their father die in hospital. He was stabbed by a Muslim extremist during April's post-election violence. Pray for the grace to forgive. Like all fatherless families, they are dependent upon God's provision.

14 NOV 19 Pray for boys Yahaya, Matthew, Ezekiel, Nuhu and girls Esther, Shamdetu, Safiratu and Mary in Nigeria. They're unhappy at being forced to recite the Quran at school. Pray for them to give their best in their studies and to gain understanding as they read their new Children's Bibles.

17 NOV 22 Children in Colombia are targeted as recruits for illegal armed groups. Miladis says, "This happened last year while we were in school. Some flyers were passed around to recruit the children from our school. They ordered that the first ones to come must be the pastor's daughters." Pray for their protection.

3 NOV 8 Being a Christian in Pakistan often means poverty, abuse, discrimination, vulnerability. Rika is too young to be selling colouring books on the streets, carrying her baby brother. It's dangerous. Pray for her new church, supported by Open Doors, which meets in a field, and aims to help such families.

6 NOV 11 Remember Yati. Her family used to scavenge the city dumps of Indonesia. When her dad died they had nowhere to live. Muslim relatives refused them shelter. But Open Doors referred them to a safe house. Now she has a job. "I want to teach children about the love of Jesus, because I have experienced it myself."

9 NOV 14 Sarah (7) lives with her mum in Ethiopia, but her six siblings have moved to live with other relatives. The past two years have been tough. Her dad was brutally killed in 2009 and since then her mother has struggled: the restaurant business has not gone well - and now they are in debt. Pray for a better future.

12 NOV 17 Pray silently for children in Libya, Algeria, Eritrea, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, Djibouti, Sudan and Somalia - for those whose families must keep their faith secret. Life is full of risk and uncertainty. Pray for their present safety and hope for the future: that one day they will be able to proclaim their faith openly.

15 NOV 20 Nubia (9) and her father were shot dead in Colombia earlier this year. Two armed men came to their house demanding money. Her father refused: he and his daughter paid with their lives. Nubia's mother, Aida, has three young children to support: Vannesa, Juliana and David. Pray for the family.

18 NOV 23 Orem! (That's 'pray' in Spanish.) Pray for the children of 34 Christian men imprisoned since 1997 in Acteal, Mexico. That's 14 years without seeing your dad. Even the 44 men who have been released haven't been able to go home yet because of threats against their lives.

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19 NOV 24 In Mexico, many children of pastors have been kidnapped, including one who has not been heard from for many months. Ask God to keep them safe and give peace to their families. One girl was released when the kidnappers grew tired of her father's prayers every time they telephoned him. Give thanks!

22 NOV 27 At a New Year's service in Egypt in Jan 2011, a suicide bomber killed at least 23 people, including children. A seven year old girl's face was badly burned and her legs broken by the blast. Pray for her healing and ask God to comfort the bereaved families.

25 NOV 30 Pray for Sama, now three years old. Born four months after her father, Rami Ayyad, was shot dead, her name means 'heaven.' "Your prayers for us filled me with the strength and the ability to endure this terrible act," says her mother, "like a stick that helped me walk and balance wherever I went."

28 DEC 3 Young children in Algeria have to learn the Quran by heart in school, from the age of 4-5 years old. Christian literature and children's Bibles can be confiscated. Pray for courage for Christian parents. Ask God to move in power so that the government will grant freedom to worship.

31 DEC 6 Eso (8) was beaten black and blue by Hindu schoolmates in India as teachers looked on. Previously his family were forced to flee their house because of riots against Christians in Badabanga. It's taken six months for him to get up the courage to go back to school. Ask the Lord to strengthen him daily.

34 DEC 9 In Pakistan, the Christian minority can feel greatly under threat. Give thanks for a boy who took his injured Muslim friend to the doctor. "I cried and prayed, 'Jesus, don't let my friend get hurt again.' I always pray for my friends, whether they are Christians or Muslims, that God will take care of them."

20 NOV 25 Give thanks that Pastor Gude Perez's family in Cuba have been granted asylum in the USA. He has two children and a wife, Kenia. However, the Cuban authorities say that they can't leave until he completes his prison sentence in 2014. Pray that God will move mountains for them.

23 NOV 28 Pray for the 4.5 million children in Iraq who have lost at least one parent in recent conflicts: half a million are on the streets. Only a few hundred are cared for nationally through 18 orphanages, some run by Christians. Open Doors supports them by paying for education fees, clothes, gifts and trauma counselling.

26 DEC 1 Remember young Bitra. She would love to sing about Jesus, but it is forbidden for women to sing in Iran. And dangerous for Christians, who worship in whispers. Her Bible is hidden and playing with other girls is difficult, in case she talks about the family's Christian activities.

29 DEC 4 Shazia (12) in Pakistan was abused by her Muslim employer and died in 2010. Her Christian parents protested at the circumstances of her death and were beaten up as they left court. They are a poor family, with two younger children still being cared for at home. Pray for them.

32 DEC 7 Isham (9) is the youngest child of Asia Bibi, sentenced to death after being accused of blasphemy in Pakistan. She writes from prison, "I think of my beloved children, whom I haven't seen for so long. The knowledge that they are still alive, despite the threats that hang over them, warms my heart." Pray for a rapid reunion.

35 DEC 10 Pray for Faryal Bhatti (13), accused of blasphemy after a spelling mistake in an Urdu exam for which she was scolded, beaten and expelled. Muslim demonstrations forced the military to quickly relocate her family. Other Christian families in her village in Pakistan are now 'very disturbed and fearful'.

21 NOV 26 Pray for the children of San Antonio, Colombia. Out of 20 children, seven have no father, because they were killed in anti-Christian violence. Other fathers had to flee. The families that remain can barely afford a notebook - so the arrival of school kits from Open Doors was 'like a gift from God!'

24 NOV 29 Remember Samy (8) in Iraq. A year ago many of his friends died in the bombing of a church in Baghdad. "Are we safe or are we also going to be killed? My dad tells me that Jesus will take care of us and I mustn't worry. God even loves the people who hurt us."

27 DEC 2 Jeener (5) doesn't officially exist, because he can't be registered as Christian. His father, registered as a Muslim at birth, became a Christian 12 years ago and is now a pastor. Jeener's parents are courageously using him as a test case for all Christians with a Muslim background. Pray for his future.

30 DEC 5 Pray for the children of Mary Nayak from Orissa, India. The family fled to the jungle when her husband's church was attacked by an 800-strong mob in 2009. Mary was seriously wounded. As a result of the attacks, the family had to relocate and could no longer afford to send the children to school.

33 DEC 8 Pray for the children of Muslim-background believers in Bangladesh who experience pressure at school. Roton remembers when his family became Christians after learning about Jesus from the Quran. "I lost all my Muslim friends; everyone hated me and my family."

36 DEC 11 Remember the Christian families of the Chin tribe in Burma. Soldiers have been responsible for the forced conscription, abduction and murder of children under the age of 15, and the rape of men, women and children from their tribe. Have mercy, Lord, and grant your hope and salvation.

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37 DEC 12 Pray for an eight-year-old orphaned boy from North Korea. He was living on the streets – now he is in a safe house for North Korean refugees in China. He doesn't want to go back, so Open Doors is trying to find him a safer place to stay and is arranging for him to be adopted by a Christian family in China.

40 DEC 15 Celebrate that Open Doors has delivered tens of thousands of Children's Bibles in their own language to children like Tran (11) in remote areas of Vietnam. And pray for Lin (12) who says, "When I became a Christian, people told me my friends would leave me. And they did."

43 DEC 18 Pray for children with disabilities in Central Asia. There is often no place for them in society. Orphans, too. Open Doors workers want to make more visits to orphanages, but the authorities prevent them. "Please pray for us to have wisdom from God how to reach out to them."

46 DEC 21 Two young children in Turkmenistan think 'Babababa', their granddad, is on holiday. Actually, Pastor Ilmurad is in a labour camp where temperatures range from unbearable heat to extreme cold. Last year he spent Christmas in quarantine. Pray for the whole family this Christmas.

49 DEC 24 Travel in prayer to Tajikistan. A new law was speedily passed this summer. The only religious functions children can now legally attend are funerals. Going to church or summer camps is strictly illegal. Pray that children will still be able to hear about Jesus.

38 DEC 13 In strong Muslim areas in Indonesia, wearing the hijab (head-covering) is mandatory, even for non-Muslims. And if you refuse to wear the hijab, you can be mocked as an infidel by your friends and teacher – or even be blocked from passing the final exam. Pray for courage for Christian girls.

41 DEC 16 Pray for Filipino children who are bullied for being Christians. Sam remembers his experience: kids threw shoes at him, wrote on his uniform, and filled his bag with sand. "When I remember my old friends," he says, "My heart breaks. Though they turned out to be my enemies, I don't hate them. I pray for them."

44 DEC 19 Give thanks for Baby Reena* in Pakistan, safely delivered a year ago in a tent after last year's floods. "Thank you Jesus! The people of God are coming to help us!" said her mother, Huma*, when she saw Christian volunteers bringing milk, tea and other basic supplies. *Name changed for security

47 DEC 22 Thank God for the children's camps that have taken place in some parts of Central Asia. All year long Christian children look forward to going. An eight-year-old girl said afterwards, "At home nobody played with me, but here are so many new friends. I hope that I will meet them again."

39 DEC 14 When Zhu Ai was nine, the police came for her father, a church leader in China. It was frightening. Now, to protect her, he has set up a dedicated hotline for the police so they approach him away from his home. Remember children like Zhu Ai who try to cope with the fear of losing their father by not growing too close.

42 DEC 17 Give thanks for Filomena and Rajakumary in Sri Lanka, both trained by Open Doors to teach Christianity in schools to Christian students. Where there is no Christian teacher, Christian children are compelled to study Buddhism and perform its rites in order to pass their exams.

45 DEC 20 Christian families in a village in Central Asia are being prohibited from using the only water source. Teenage boys guard the well and when they see Christians coming, they call for adults who prevent them from taking water. Children throw stones at the Christian children. Ask the Lord for protection and justice.

48 DEC 23 Remember Ahmed in Uzbekistan. His father became a Christian: his grandparents rejected him. Ahmed's granddad told him, "Your dad has betrayed us. He no longer goes to the mosque to pray, so people have started to hate your dad." But Ahmed is glad he's no longer drinking and beating his wife.



Open Doors

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