27. IRAN – pray for husband and wife team **Saijad and Samira** who fled Iran after becoming Christians. They were granted asylum in Europe where they work in the media ministry that broadcasts the Christian message into Iran. "Our duty is to bring to everyone the message of Christ," says Samira. Pray that more Iranians will receive that message.

28. IRAN – pray for **media strategies** of satellite TV and internet platforms that are reaching Iran's 92 million people, of whom less than 2% are Christian. One front-line worker has organized and trained 50 Farsi- speaking pastors who directly disciple more than 4,000 Iranians online. The ministry supports more than 250 Iranian underground churches and their courageous leaders. The worker said that around 1,200 Farsi speakers come to know Christ monthly through the ministry. "People are ready, and we need to be ready to help establish people and disciple them," he said.

29. IRAN – pray for **Arman**, a former Muslim who became a Christian and had to flee Iran. Now he leads a team of online evangelists as part of a media ministry that reaches into Iran through the internet. The ministry engages people across various platforms to answer their questions about Christianity and to eventually invite them into online discipleship and fellowship. Arman asks for prayer that more Iranians would receive the message of Jesus and want to grow deeply in their knowledge of Him.

30. CHINA – A court in China's Shanxi province sentenced **Yang Rongli** to 15 years for fraud in June 2025. She was the leader of a house church called The Golden Lampstand and her fraud, according to the prosecutors, was collecting offerings from the congregation.

In its campaign against independent churches, Beijing has doubled down on a troubling method: Take an ordinary practice and prosecute it as a financial crime. **Pastor Wang Yi** of Early Rain Covenant Church is another example: he was sentenced to nine years in 2019, partly for 'illegal business operations' tied to printing Christian books.

Gao Quanfu who founded Light of Zion Church in Xi'an nearly 4 decades ago, and his wife, **Pang Yu**, both 69, have recently been charged with 'fraud' for drawing a fixed salary for preaching, thus using financial laws for religious oppression. Prosecutors are seeking 12-13 years.

Gao's son, **Gao Pu** warns, "The suppression of small churches in China is a human-rights abuse issue that ought to outrage everyone. And the technique by which the Chinese government is advancing that suppression – the ginning-up of fraud charges for common financial practices- is one that, if successful against religion, will soon be applied to businesses." -WSJ

Yes, I am coming quickly.
Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

SOURCES:
CHURCH IN CHAINS; CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE; Mission Network News; OPEN DOORS; PRISONER ALERT; RELEASE INTERNATIONAL; VOICE of the MARTYRS; WORLD MAGAZINE; WORLD WATCH MONITOR

O give ear, Shepherd of Israel. Thou Who art enthroned above the cherubim, shine forth! Psalm 80:1,2

STANDING IN THE GAP

for the Persecuted Church November 2026

1. RUSSIA (MNN) – Recently a Russian court sentenced 70-year-old South Korean missionary **Park Tae-Yeon** to nearly six years in a correctional colony on immigration- related charges. She'd spent 30 years with children's evangelism in Russia. The Voice of the Martyrs Korea's Eric Foley says that during the court hearing, most of the questions focused on Park's religious activity and beliefs. Even behind bars, she is sharing the Gospel. Pray for a successful appeal, and for Park to sense God's comfort.

Call to action

- Pray Missionary Park experiences Christ's peace and presence.
- Ask God to strengthen her Gospel witness behind bars.
- Pray for wisdom and courage among Russia's persecuted Christians.
- Ask God to bring justice through Park's appeal**.**

2. NORTH KOREA

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres presented a new report on human rights in North Korea to the UN General Assembly last month. He said that "The current trajectory in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea risks bringing further suffering to a population that has endured so much for decades."

For many years North Korea has been seen as the most difficult country in which to be a Christian, and this is borne out by another recent report. The Bible Access List 2026 states, *"In North Korea, every dimension of Bible access is prohibited. Christians are treated as enemies of the state, and a Bible discovered in a routine house search can mean execution or a life sentence in a forced labour camp."*

3. CHINA – continue praying for **Pastor John Cao** who was recently released after a 7-year prison sentence. He is barred from leaving China. He has late-stage cancer and the rest of his family lives in the US.

4. PAKISTAN – continue praying for Pakistani Gospel worker, **Brother Labib**. He is an audio technician who records Christian material for *Frontline Ministries International (FMI)* in an underground secret studio. Military intelligence raided his hide out in August, forcing him to flee. Labib recently reconnected with his wife and young children, but the whole family remains in hiding. Pray for protection for the family and wisdom for Labib about resuming his audio ministry.

5. CHINA – *China Partnership* asks for prayer for the city of **Yantai. Pastor Anwei** says that his church has gone through several crackdowns in the last several years. Each time the church had to relocate. He says, "Earlier this year, the neighborhood committee called and said our family was being investigated and refused to rent us a place to meet. So our church had to relocate again."

6. IRAN – continue praying for Christian convert **Ghazal Marzban**, 43, who is on a hunger strike in Evin Prison to protest being denied a Bible and being threatened with death for apostasy. A request from a British prisoner for a Bible on Ghazal's behalf was also refused. Pray that she will receive a Bible and end her hunger strike which is damaging her health.

7. **IRAN** – pray for **Parastoo** and her husband, **Delshad**. They have been harassed after becoming Christians. They lost their jobs, and Parastoo was imprisoned. After her release, she continues to reach out to women, meeting them in cemeteries where they go to mourn their dead family members. "I hope and pray that they find Jesus and know that He is the real God," she says.
8. **CHINA** – continue praying for **Wang Yi**, the imprisoned pastor of Early Rain Covenant Church. He may be suffering from advanced liver cancer. Because of severe restrictions surrounding his imprisonment and limited family access, *China Aid* has not been able to independently verify the reported diagnosis or his current medical condition. Pray that he will be given adequate medical care and that his wife and family will be allowed to visit him.
9. **VIETNAM** – Vietnam's constitution promises religious freedom, yet registration rules and national-security laws are used against independent Christian communities. Hmong, Montagnard, and other ethnic minority Christians in Central and Northern Highlands often face pressure to abandon their faith. Pray that isolated believers will have wisdom in these circumstances and the strength to resist the pressure.
10. **VIETNAM** – pray for Montagnard pastor **Y Nuen Ayun** who was sentenced to 7.5 years in prison, followed by 4 years' probation for leading an unregistered church. Pray that the Lord will sustain him and strengthen his faith.
11. **VIETNAM** – pray for **Pastor Siu Yui**, 68, and church member **Siu Dok** who were arrested in Gia Lai Province in June. Pray for their release and that other Christians in the region will not be intimidated by their arrests.
12. **VIETNAM** – continue praying for Christian prisoners **Y Pum Byal (**serving 14 years) and **Nay Y Blang**(serving 4.5 years). Pray that they receive proper medical care, access to Scripture and for God's sustaining grace.
13. **CUBA** – Thousands of unregistered house churches are denied permission to meet together. Pray that every church in Cuba will be granted boldness, joy and spiritual growth and be free from government interference. Pray for the pastors and church leaders to have courage and discernment when they are harassed and warned to stop leading worship or distributing relief aid.
14. **CUBA** – praise God that **Pastor Alexis Padron Lorenzo** who was detained in June, was released in September after 3 months' detention following a protest about blackouts and shortages. Pray for his full acquittal, restored health, peace for his wife, **Roselin**, and children, and protection for their church.
15. **CUBA** – praise God that **Pastor Lorenzo Fajardo** was released after years of unjust detention. Pray for his ongoing healing and for his wife, **Maridilegnis**, and family as they rebuild their lives.
16. **IRAN** – continue praying for prisoners in Iran. Pray for **Mehran Shamloui** who is an Iranian Christian convert serving a 10-year sentence and in prison since March 2025 for his house-church activities. Pray for **Simin Soheilinia** who was due for release from prison in Iran on the day the war began and has not been heard from since. Pray for her safety and that she will be able to contact her family.
17. **ERITREA** – continue praying for those in prison in Eritrea. Pray for **Futsum Gabrenegus** who has been in prison since 2004 because of his involvement in a Bible study renewal movement within the Eritrean Orthodox Church. Pray for **Tekleab Menghisteab** who was also imprisoned in 2004 because of his involvement in the Medhane Alem Bible sturdy group. Pray that he will continue to receive regular insulin to manage his diabetes.
18. **NORTH KOREA** – continue praying for South Korean businessman and missionary **Choi Chun-gil**, 70 who has been imprisoned in North Korea since 2014. Pray that he may know the Lord's presence and that his life sentence will be reversed.
19. **PAKISTAN-** continue praying for **Shagufta Kiran** who continues to wait in prison for her appeal against the death sentence for blasphemy to be heard. Pray she will be acquitted and released soon.
20. **CHINA** – *China Partnership* asks for prayer for the city of **Qiqihar**. Several churches in the city have been closely monitored by the government which has made in-person gathering and corporate worship difficult. Pray that the Lord will protect the churches and give members courage to continue to worship in the face of adversity.
21. **IRAN** – pray for Iranian Christian convert **Nayereh Arjaneh**. She is serving a ten-year prison sentence for attending a Christian seminar in Turkey. Pray that she will be treated well in prison. Pray for her husband, **Qasem**, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
22. **SYRIA** – pray for a new **Pastor** traveling to Syria to help start new churches after Kurdish Pastor **Nihad Hassan** was arrested in Syria. Syrian believers who came to Christ while in Lebanon have returned to their homeland. Pray that this new pastor will have favor with the local authorities. Pray that God will give him wisdom as he starts new churches.
23. **PAKISTAN** – pray for a **deacon** and his family who were forced to flee their home after he cleaned Islamic graffiti from in front of the church. A mob of at least 250 Muslims were outraged that he had removed the graffiti. He and his family fled their home. He lost his job, and the family has been living in hiding. Front-line workers have been helping the deacon obtain a new job as a motorized rickshaw driver. Pray for the safety of this church, its pastor, and its members. Pray that Pakistani Christians will be bold in spite of these vicious attacks.
24. **NICARAGUA** – Nicaraguan officials have recently placed a tax on Bibles entering the country. This latest restriction is part of an ongoing and accelerated campaign against Christian witness in the country by the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which espouses Marxist, atheistic communist ideology. A front-line worker estimated that between 60 and 80% of the nation's Protestant churches have submitted to the authority of the government-controlled Federation of Nicaraguan Evangelical Churches, which monitors and censors church teaching, places tight controls on the finances of the churches and controls the flow of Christian material, especially Bibles, to churches.
25. **NICARAGUA** cont – pray for **Pastor Rudy Palacios** and 6 ministry partners who were arrested in July 2025. They were held incommunicado for 6 months. They were released with heavy restrictions and regular police check-ins. Pray for the church in Nicaragua to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.
26. **INDIA** – Christians in India continue to face legal difficulties from state and local governments as well as violence and threats from Hindu nationalists. Recently in Chhattisgarh state, opposition to one family's Christian burial rites led to riots in which 2 churches and several homes were damaged and destroyed and at least 5 people were seriously injured.

    The chief minister of Madhya Pradesh state announced his intention to add the death penalty for some cases of Christian conversion. These escalations create an environment of fear and pressure for Christians, especially pastors who are the prime targets.

    The Maharashtra state legislative assembly recently proposed cash awards for the assault and murder of Christians.