

The background features a repeating pattern of concentric circles and crosses. The circles are light gray and arranged in a grid-like fashion. The crosses are black and located at the intersections of the circles, forming a border around the central text.

idopp

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

FROM ASHES TO GLORY

5 & 12 November 2017

PAKISTAN

A large crowd of people, primarily men, is gathered outdoors. Many have their hands raised in the air, some in a gesture of protest or prayer. In the center, a large, light-colored wooden cross is being held up. The background shows a residential or urban area with buildings and trees under an overcast sky.

Christians are targets for murder, bombings, abduction of women, rape, forced marriages and eviction from home and country. Unjust and arbitrary blasphemy laws are used to punish Christians and prevent evangelism.

- Pray the law on blasphemy will be repealed in Pakistan, so that Christians can spread the gospel among the people and share the good news without any fear of discrimination

NORTH KOREA

North Korea is ranked as the most oppressive place in the world for Christians, #1 on the World Watch List

- Pray that the Christians in the country will have access to material on Christianity
- Pray that the government will give people of the country the freedom to practice their faith without any fear

IRAN



At least 193 Christians were arrested or imprisoned in Iran in 2016.

- Pray that freedom will prevail for the people in Iran to practice Christianity
- Pray for God's divine protection over those who leave Islam to exercise their faith in Christ

SUDAN



Sharia law is the foundation of Sudan's legal system, and leaving Islam is punishable by death

- Pray the people in authority will be touched by the Holy Spirit to have a change in heart, and make amendments to the laws in the country to protect the believers

NIGERIA

Nigeria is a federal country with Christian majorities in the southern states and mainly Muslim majorities in the northern states. Christian communities face intense persecution from radical islamic elements across the country.

- Pray for God's protection over the Christians from the Boko Haram

SRI LANKA

Although Sri Lanka is a secular state, the Constitution grants Buddhism the place of de facto state religion. Since 2015, there have been over 220 incidents of discrimination, intimidation and violence against Christians in the country

- Pray that the Christians will have the freedom to spread the Gospel without any fear of opposition from religious extremists.