

Prayer for the Persecuted

(based on Colossians 1:9-14, Psalm 45:10, 11 ESV.)

Dear God our Eternal Father,

A great hostility is rising all over the world against your gospel and against your Church. Despite a decade of high-powered, economically-driven political advocacy for religious freedom, persecution of Christians is increasing in frequency, scope and intensity. Furthermore, because of geopolitical and economic changes, we are finding ourselves increasingly helpless (in earthly terms) to prevent it or even just escape it. Hardship, suffering, vulnerability and despair are spreading.

Father, we ask you to fill us with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that amidst whatever this world and the prince of this world might throw at us, we may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to you, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

May those who are suffering and facing trials, hardships and even genocidal violence on account of Jesus Christ and his gospel be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy. May the Spirit fill them with assurance of their salvation and an anticipation of their great inheritance in the Kingdom of God's Son. May the Holy Spirit lift their heads, restore their souls and draw them into prayer. May the Father answer their prayers, deliver them from evil and increase their faith.

Father, by your mighty power and in your amazing gracious love and mercy, purge us of all worldliness, idolatry, faithlessness and unfaithfulness, that we might be the beautiful bride you so desire. Open our eyes and ears and soften our hearts to your will. Fill us with brotherly love for all our brethren. Sanctify us. Refine us in these dark days and strengthen us for the darker days that lie ahead. May the devil have no victory over us. May your glory be revealed in all the earth.
AMEN

Some **200 million Christians** live under the dark shadow of persecution, daily risking – and regularly suffering – imprisonment, enslavement, violence or death on account of their allegiance to Jesus. A further **400 million Christians** live with discrimination and non-trivial restrictions on religious liberty that create considerable hardships such as poverty and homelessness.

Religious Liberty Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance

Morning Worship Services

November 8, 2009

Prelude	<i>Veteran's Day Presentation</i>	Video
Welcome		Dr. Gambrell
Praise	<i>I Will Call Upon the Lord Be Exalted</i>	O'Shields Chambers
Invocation		Rev. Hayes
Children's Message (11:00 a.m. Children 3 yrs. to kindergarten may leave for Children's Church)		Rev. Hayes
Scripture Reading	Romans 12:9-21	Dr. Gambrell
Hymn	<i>Eternal Father, Strong to Save (vv 1,2,3,4)</i>	Whiting
Offertory	<i>People Free to Pray</i>	One Accord
Sermon Text	2 Corinthians 4:8-9	Rev. Hayes
Special Music	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	Choir
Message	Persecuted Christians	Dr. Gambrell
Hymn	<i>They Will Know We Are Christians</i>	Scholtes
Response 386	<i>Family of God</i>	Gaither



*The flowers this morning are given
by Jack and Gretchen Williams in celebration
of their 66th wedding anniversary November 12.*



Welcome to Worship

*We are hard pressed
on every side,
but not crushed;
perplexed, but not
in despair; persecuted,
but not abandoned;
struck down,
but not destroyed.*

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Evening Worship Service

November 8—6:30 p.m.

Message Calvary Dr. Gambrell

Morning Worship Greeters - 9:30 a.m.

Front Door: Chuck and Becky McDowell
Side Door: Dee Jordan and Alice Johnson
Drive-Thru: Tom and Agnes Roller
Welcome Desk: Sadie Shannon

Today's Ushers

8:30 a.m. Gerald Smith and John Stinson
11:00 a.m. Gary Carroll, Russell Courtney, JL Dunlow, George Lowe, Ashley McLamb
6:30 p.m. Polly and Tom Parrott

Worship Nursery/Children's Church Volunteers – 11:00 a.m.

Nursery: Cassandra Courtney
Children's Church: Nelda Courtney

Security Duty Next Week

Nov. 15—Nov. 18: Ken Plummer and Larry Criminger

Notes

Building on Our Heritage

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We celebrated homecoming for the third time in our Family Life Center. This facility has been such a blessing to our church. Many events have taken place there over the last year. We want to continue planning and using this facility to grow God's kingdom. Let's continue working toward fulfilling our commitment to our building plan and our fundraising campaign. Let each of us continue seeking God's guidance in what He would do through us for our building fund.

Operation Christmas Child

The annual Operation Christmas Child "Shoe Box Packing Party" is Tuesday, November 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Double the impact and consider making standard boxes rather than large ones for boys and girls ages 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. Bring boxes and items (no liquids) for packing: small toys, hard candy, gum, toiletries, and school supplies. Please be sure to mark your box for boy or girl, and include a donation of \$7.00 for shipping. If you cannot prepare a box, we could use sponsors. We need your boxes by November 15. Our dedication service for Operation Christmas Child is Sunday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Prisoner Packets

Christmas Packets for Prisoners are due by November 29. The list for this year's packets is: (no substitutions allowed).

1 blue or black non-retractable pen **(no wire clip)**

1 6 oz. or larger toothpaste

1 adult factory-sealed toothbrush

1 4-6 oz. bar of soap

1 50-page 5 1/2 x 8 or larger writing tablet, 100 page maximum (no wire bound)

5 first class stamp-embossed #10 envelopes (purchased at the U.S. Post Office)

2 rolls of candy (Lifesavers, Mentos, etc.)

Place all items in a gallon resealable ziplock bag. Please do not add any additional items. Larger sizes can be substituted.

2010 Flower Calendar

The 2010 flower calendar and sign up sheet is on the door of the secretary's office.

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, November 10

10:30 a.m.

*Operation Christmas Child
"Shoe Box Packing Party"*

Sunday, November 15

6:30 p.m.

*Operation Christmas Child
"Shoe Box" Dedication*

Wednesday, November 18

6:30 p.m.

*Called Church Conference
Proposed 2010 Budget Presentation*

Sunday, November 22

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Called Church Conference
Vote on the Proposed 2010 Budget*

Sunday, November 22

6:30 p.m.

Children's Presentation

Sunday, November 29

Deadline for Prisoner Packets

Monday, December 7

6:00 p.m.

Widow/Widowers Banquet

Sunday, December 13

Christmas Cantata

"God Speaking"

Wednesday, December 16

6:00 p.m.

*Church-wide Christmas Caroling
No Evening Service*

Thursday, December 24

5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service

Activities for the Week

Sunday

Chapel Choir Practice	8:00 a.m.
Worship Service	8:30 a.m.
Coffee, Donuts, Juice	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (for all ages)	9:45 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Christmas Cantata Choir Practice	3:30 p.m.
Special Deacons' Meeting	4:30 p.m.
Personnel Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Children's Music	5:30 p.m.
"Living Beyond Yourself" - Beth Moore Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship Service	6:30 p.m.
Youth Worship	6:30 p.m.
TeamKid	6:30 p.m.

Monday

Quilting	10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.
Handbell Choir	11:15 a.m.
12 Step Program	8:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Lunch Bunch—"Shoe Box" Packing	10:30 a.m.
Weekly Visitation	6:30 p.m.
"Uplift" Movement Exercise Class	6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.
RAs, GAs and Mission Friends	6:30 p.m.
Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.
12 Step Program	8:00 p.m.

Thursday

"Uplift" Movement Exercise Class	6:30 p.m.
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Sunday

Operation Christmas Child "Shoe Box" Dedication	6:30 p.m.
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8:30 & 11:00 services are being broadcast live
on the church web-site: www.fbcnmb.com