

Nigeria

Population 183.5 million (89 million Christians)

Main Religion Islam, Christianity

Government Federal republic

- Thousands of Christians have been killed or abducted by Boko Haram
- Hausa-Fulani Muslim herdsmen are also targeting Christians and destroying churches
- Christian villages in the northern region lack clean water, health clinics and education opportunities

Prayer points:

- For an end to violence by Boko Haram and Hausa-Fulani Muslim herdsmen, and wisdom for the government to deal with these groups effectively
- For protection for Christians, particularly girls, and for the safe release of all who are held captive
- Praise God that, despite their fear, many Christians continue to reach out to their neighbours with the gospel.

Sudan

Population 39.6 million (1.9 million Christians)

Main Religion Islam

Government Republic

- Islam is deeply embedded in Sudan's culture – conversion is illegal
- Blasphemy laws are often used to prosecute Christians, particularly Muslim-background believers
- The government has demolished churches, killed Christians through targeted bombings and allowed others to kill Christians with impunity

Prayer points:

- For strength and comfort for those imprisoned for their faith, particularly Muslim-background believers
- For protection for Christian girls, who are often forced to marry non-Christian men
- Praise God that, in spite of persecution, the church in Sudan is growing. Ask God to use the church in Sudan to demonstrate the love of Christ to their nation

Eritrea

Population 6.7 million (2.5 million Christians)

Main Religion Islam/Christianity

Government One-party state

- Christians are considered a threat to the state – they have been attacked, tortured and beaten
- Some have been imprisoned in metal shipping containers in scorching temperatures
- Islamic extremism is growing, with the sympathy of the government

Prayer points:

- For unity among the church. Traditional denominations do not always recognise Christians from other backgrounds.
- For strength and comfort for those who are imprisoned
- For protection for Christians, particularly those who attempt to escape Eritrea; they often end up in the hands of traffickers

Yemen

Population 25.5 million (Thousands of Christians)

Main Religion Islam

Government Republic

- Estimates suggest there are just a few hundred indigenous believers in Yemen, and their faith must be kept secret
- Leaving Islam is forbidden
- Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula has also historically kidnapped and killed Christians in Yemen, and continues to be a threat

Prayer points:

- There are thousands of expat Christians who are allowed to meet in the few churches that exist. Ask God to keep them safe and use them to bless Yemen
- For protection and wisdom for secret Yemeni believers
- 45% of the population lives below the poverty line. Pray for a stable government to be formed that will care for the people and guarantee freedom for all