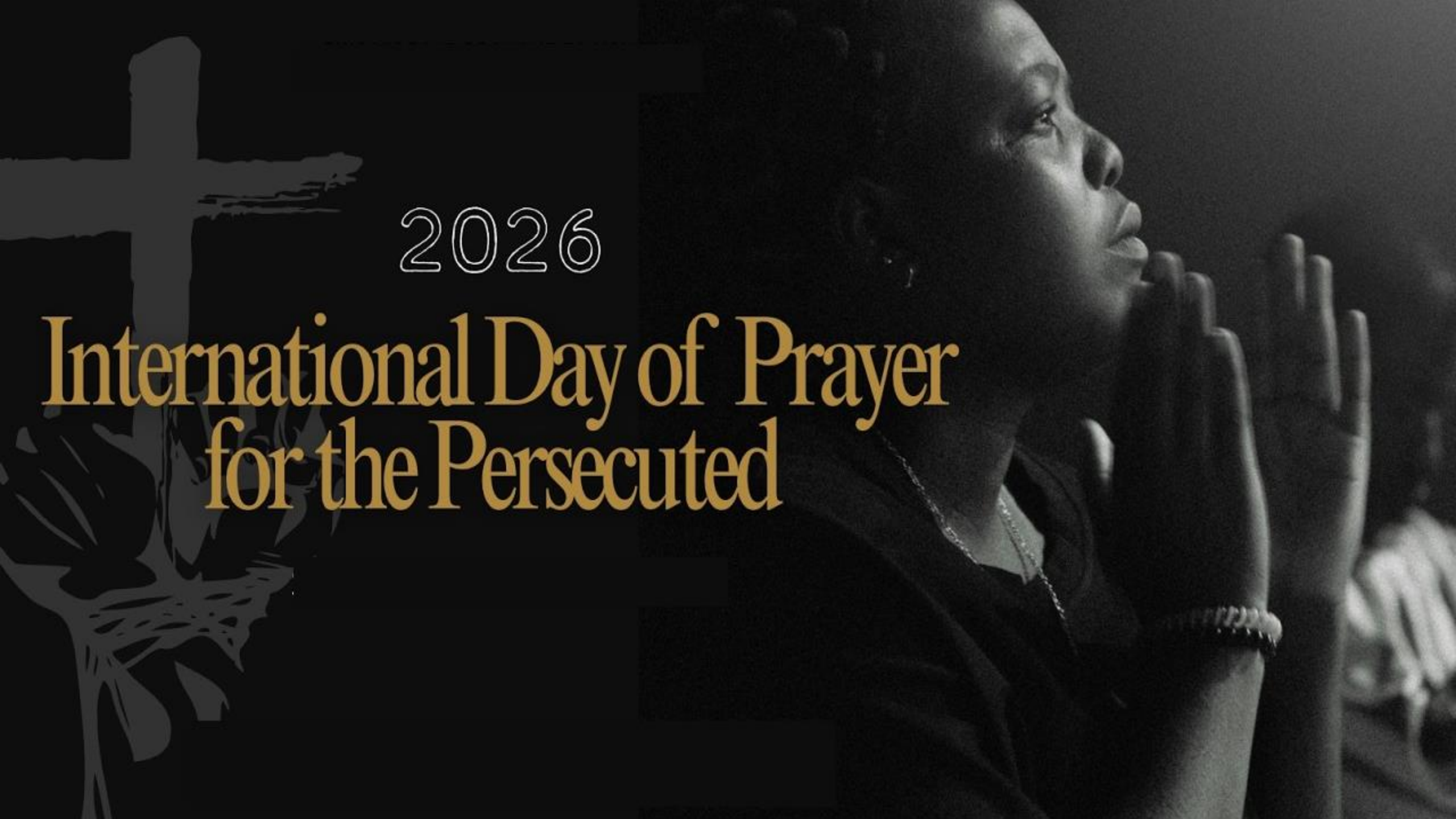


A black and white photograph of a woman in profile, facing right, with her hands clasped in prayer. She is wearing a dark top and a beaded bracelet. The background is dark and out of focus. On the left side, there is a faint, stylized graphic of a cross and some foliage.

2026

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted



“Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured a great conflict full of suffering, public insult, persecution, and solidarity with those in prison, joyfully accepting the confiscation of your property for better and lasting possessions.”

Hebrews 10:32-34



“Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body”

Hebrews 13:1-3



Big Idea:

Because we belong to one body, we must remember the persecuted church as if we were chained together with them.



First, love keeps going.

Second, remember means standing in their place.

Third, we are in the body.



1. Love Keeps Going (verses 1-2)



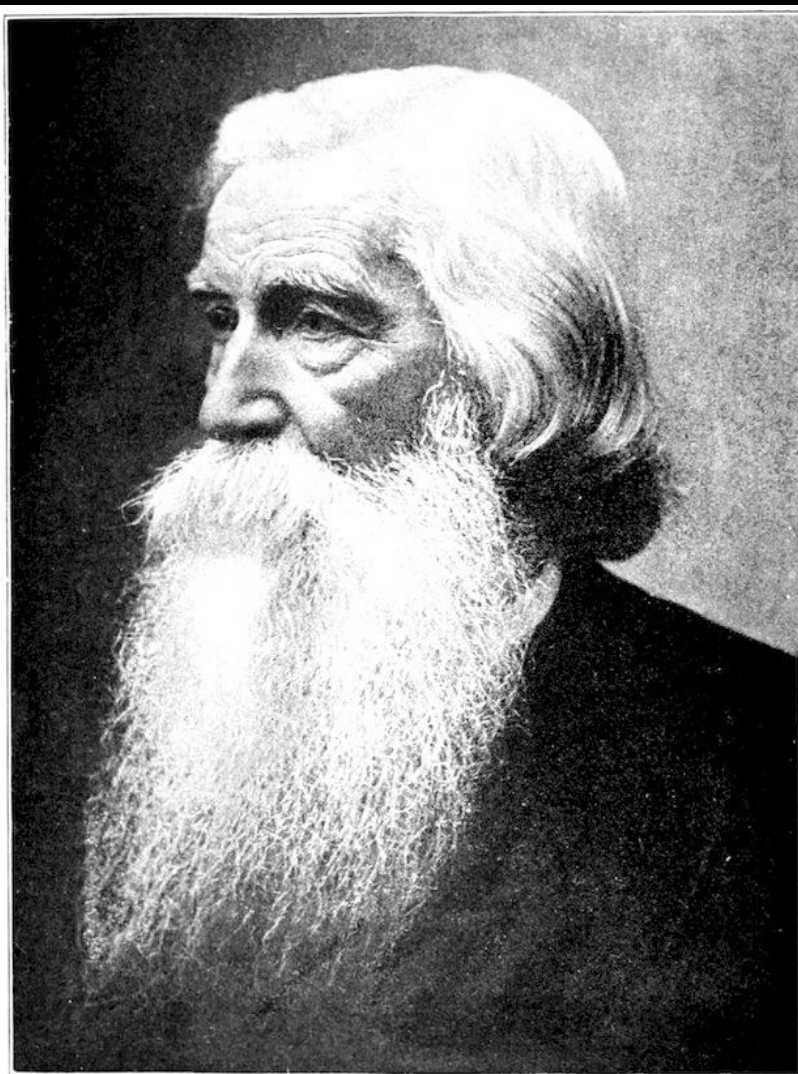
“Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body”

Hebrews 13:1-3

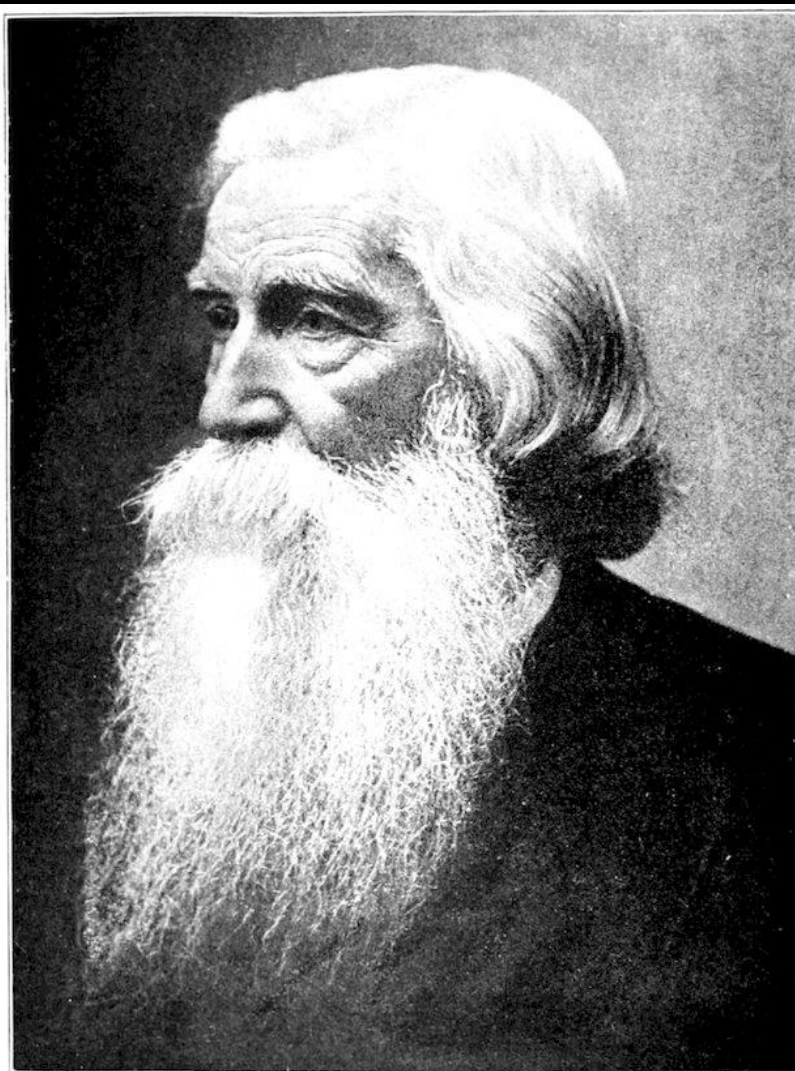


“Let brotherly love continue. **Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.** Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body”

Hebrews 13:1-3



John C. Paton.



John G. Paton.





2. Remember Means Standing in Their Place (verse 3a)

“Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. **Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them,** and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body”

Hebrews 13:1-3



“Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, **and those who are mistreated,** since you also are in the body”

Hebrews 13:1-3



Open Doors estimates that 388 million Christians around the world face high levels of persecution.



In the most recent reporting year, 4,849 Christians were killed for their faith.

About 93 percent of them were in sub-Saharan Africa, and Nigeria had the highest toll, at 3,490.



3. We Are In The Body (verse 3b)

“Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, **since you also are in the body**”

Hebrews 13:1-3

First, it can mean we also live in a physical body.



First, it can mean we also live in a physical body.

Second, and I think more importantly, it points to the body of Christ.

“If one member suffers, all suffer together.”

1 Corinthians 12:26





“Those who were ‘tortured,’ who faced ‘chains and imprisonment,’ and ‘of whom the world was not worthy.’”

Hebrews 11:35-38



Hebrews 12:3-4 tells us to "consider Jesus, who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted."



“Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

Revelation 2:10

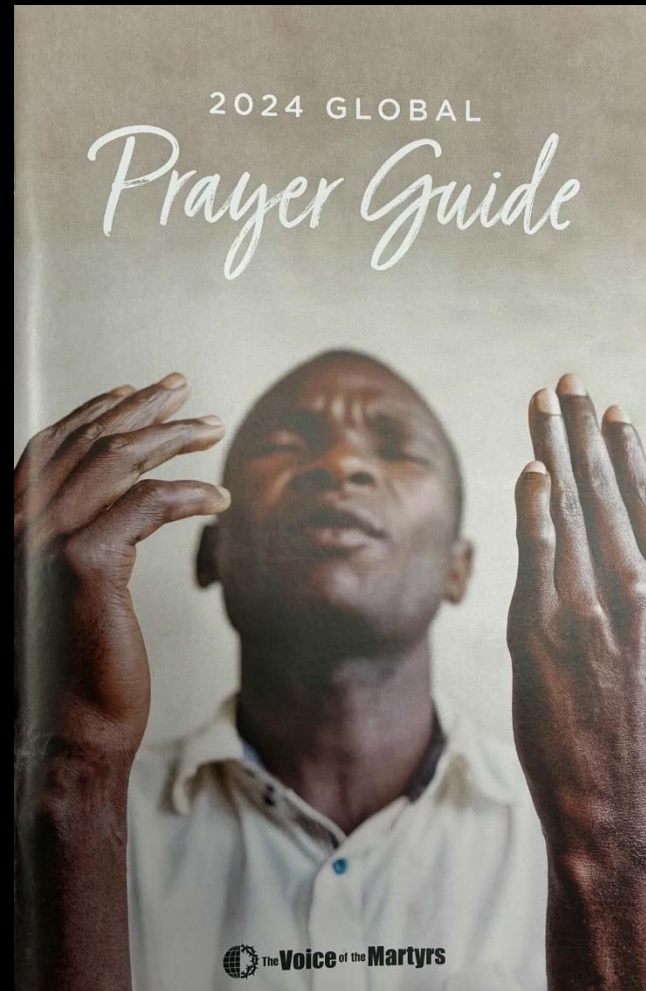


So What Do We Do?

First, Pray and be specific



First, Pray and be specific





First, Pray and be specific
Second, Give



First, Pray and be specific Second, Give

Top 3 Christian organizations helping persecuted Christians



First, Pray and be specific Second, Give

Top 3 Christian organizations helping persecuted Christians



1. Open Doors
Website: opendoors.org



First, Pray and be specific Second, Give

Top 3 Christian organizations helping persecuted Christians



1. Open Doors
Website: opendoors.org



2. The Voice of the Martyrs
Website: persecution.com

First, Pray and be specific

Second, Give

Top 3 Christian organizations helping persecuted Christians



1. Open Doors
Website: opendoors.org



2. The Voice of the Martyrs
Website: persecution.com



3. International Christian Concern (ICC)
Website: persecution.org



Hebrews 10:34 tells us that the early church “joyfully accepted the plundering of their property.”



First, Pray and be specific
Second, Give
Third, Speak



First, Pray and be specific
Second, Give
Third, Speak
Fourth, Sign



Here are the ruins of a once thriving church in Nigeria, burned by Islamist terrorists.



Hebrews 13:3 says to remember them
as though you were in prison with
them.