

## Praying as families for those oppressed for their faith in Christ in their own families.

While Jesus came to offer eternal peace, He also acknowledged that His message could bring division within families (Matthew 10:34). Some may experience conflict and division, facing opposition from their own relatives when they embrace faith in Jesus.

There are heartfelt stories of individuals, like my dear friend, who, upon embracing Christianity, faced estrangement from his family. I have a dear friend who came from another faith, and he was prohibited by his whole family to meet his own mother whom he loved so much. His brothers did not give him access to her while she was alive and did not want him to even attend her funeral. His family has ostracized him for years, but he continues with the hope for his family to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

The initial years of faith can be particularly challenging. Many, especially those from other faith backgrounds, struggle to share their newfound love and hope with their spouses. Resistance from loved ones can cause deep pain and distress. Some patiently wait for years, hopeful that their family members will become receptive to the gospel. Others pray earnestly for aging parents to accept Christ before they pass away. Living as a Christian in such circumstances is not an easy journey.

As the Word of God spreads through various mediums, more individuals and families are turning to Christ across nations. These brave souls need our prayers, as they navigate the difficult path of going against the faith they were raised in. They require supportive fellowship and a church community that becomes their new family. May they receive the grace and



strength to continue their walk with the Lord amidst challenges and may our prayers uplift and sustain them.

## LET US PRAY

Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank you for revealing yourself to people from every nation and tribe. We praise you for those who, despite facing opposition within their families, have chosen to follow Christ. Many are struggling and enduring persecution within their own homes from parents, spouses, and siblings. Grant them the grace to stand firm and exemplify the love of Christ to their family members. Strengthen them through the power of your Spirit, and may they find support and encouragement in the fellowship of believers. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



