Maizah grew up in a strict Muslim family in Libya, but she always had questions about God. When she was teenager she had a vision of a man of light, but she always had questions about God. When she went to prison for六 months for being part of an underground church. That's when the hard times began. Being from a Hindu area, Mohan's faith angered his neighbours. His family were targeted. They received threats, abuse and eventually things turned violent. Their house was set on by a mob and destroyed. The police didn’t defend them – they just told the family to leave and not come back. Mohan and his family weren’t able to access their land, they had no income, and no way to grow food. As a result of Mohan's brave faith, three other church families face. So, what’s even more interesting is to ask why Maizah, Fatima and Mohan would they choose to keep following him even if that means giving up all else, including their safety.

It matters because our persecuted church family show us the reality of following Jesus – that he is worth everything. They know they can be beaten up, forced out of their homes, rejected by family, arrested, imprisoned, targeted, excluded, ridiculed, ignored, spied on or even killed. But, despite the risks many still choose to stick with Jesus. And despite the dangers, the church is still shining God’s love and light. The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness cannot beat it (John 1:5).
FACT: Open Doors estimates that in India (10) 12,500 Christians were physically attacked in 2018 alone.

THE TOP TEN

1. NORTH KOREA
   Where believing in Jesus means you’re a threat to the leaders who want to be thought of as the only gods. Suspected Christians are sent to prison and labour camps.

2. AFGHANISTAN
   Where it’s illegal for an Afghan person to be anything other than a Muslim and owning Christian materials is illegal.

3. SOMALIA
   Where most people are Muslim and if you are even suspected of being a Christian, you could be murdered on the spot.

4. LIBYA
   Where there are just 150 estimated Libyan Christians and no churches for Libyan Christians. It’s illegal to take Arabic Bibles or share the gospel.

5. PAKISTAN
   Where churches have to have security because of attacks and Christians can be accused of insulting Islam and arrested on false charges.

6. ERITREA
   Where Christians are thought of as spies for Western governments and many are imprisoned in horrific conditions, sometimes in shipping containers.

7. SUDAN
   Where converting from Islam can be punishable by death and where churches are being closed or confiscated by the government.

8. YEMEN
   Where sharing about Jesus is illegal and where war has put Christians at risk from extremist Islamic groups.

9. IRAN
   Where Christians are watched by secret police, often facing arrest and imprisonment in horrible prisons and where leaving Islam can mean death.

10. INDIA
    Where around 12,500 Christians and about 100 churches were attacked in 2018 and where being Indian means being Hindu.

FACT: In Iran (9), Secret churches are monitored and raided. Dozens of Christians are in prison in appalling conditions.

FACT: In North Korea (1), any evidence that you are a Christian will get you arrested and imprisoned.
Write three one word points as prayers for a country

1. 
2. 
3. 

Amen

Fill in the space!

I'M ILLEGAL IN NORTH KOREA

Whack this one on your Bible

Is on my heart

Stick these prayer hands on countries you are praying for
Maizah grew up in a strict Muslim family in Libya, but she always had questions about God. When she was teenager she had a vision of a man of light standing in her room who said, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” Her family moved to Egypt where they had a Christian neighbour who explained to Maizah that the man she saw was Jesus.

Maizah secretly became a Christian – her family didn’t know. They all went back to Libya and Maizah was part of a secret church. But the church was raided by police. Maizah’s name was found and her Christian identity was uncovered. Her parents were set on by a mob and destroyed. The police didn’t defend them – they just told the family to leave and not come back. Mohan and his family weren’t targeted. They received threats, abuse and eventually things turned violent. Their house was set on by a mob and destroyed. The police didn’t defend them – they just told the family to leave and not come back. Mohan and his family weren’t able to access their land, they had no income, and no way to grow food.

They were completely rejected, isolated and alone. But Mohan said, “Jesus didn’t call me to a life of comfort…but he does promise to walk with me.” As a result of Mohan’s brave faith, three other families were inspired to ask questions about God and have also come to know Jesus.

Father God, thank you for Christians like Zafar, Fatima and Mohan. Thank you that they have stuck to their faith. We pray for the people and places on this map. Put this map up in your room and...