

# Weekly Prayer Requests

03/05/10

“The Cross of Christ...

...elevates human society, gives freedom to the slave, sets women free from degradation and shame, builds every hospital that ever sheltered a sufferer, sends its red cross banner to the battle field, and better still, teaches the nations to turn their swords into plow-shares and study war no more.”

A.B. Simpson, August 3, 1907

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

## Earthquake Hits Chile

[news.ca.msn.com/top-stories/cbc-article.aspx?cp-documentid=23573944](http://news.ca.msn.com/top-stories/cbc-article.aspx?cp-documentid=23573944)  
An 8.8 magnitude earthquake hit Chile on Feb 27, killing over 800 people and damaging 500,000 homes. Damage is estimated at \$30 billion and will take 3-4 years to restore everything back to normal. Powerful aftershocks have panicked coastal residents, who are running to higher ground to avoid any further damage from a tsunami.

## More Quakes Shake Communities

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20100304/wl\\_nm/us\\_quake\\_taiwan](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20100304/wl_nm/us_quake_taiwan)  
Two other earthquakes shook areas around this world this week, although damage is reported to be limited. A 6.4 magnitude quake hit Taiwan on March 4, injuring 11 people and causing minor damage. Meanwhile a 6.6 magnitude tremor hit off the coast the Indonesian island of Sumatra on March 5. There were no reports of injuries or damage.

## Over 60 Killed in India Temple Stampede

[www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/asiapcf/03/04/](http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/asiapcf/03/04/)  
63 people, most of them children, were killed when a stampede broke out at a temple offering free utensils and food in northern India. The incident occurred when the main gate of the temple in Pratapgarh district came down as worshippers rushed for their share of meals.

## Death Toll Climbs to 33 in Suicide Blasts

[www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/meast/03/04/iraq.violence/index.html](http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/meast/03/04/iraq.violence/index.html)  
The death toll from 3 suicide attacks in central Iraq has climbed to 33, while 42 others remained injured. The first two explosions involved suicide car bombs, while the third was a bomb placed at a hospital where many of the injured from the first attacks were being rushed. The blasts came days ahead of parliamentary elections.

## Drugs, Alcohol Suspected in Teens' Deaths

[www.news1130.com/news/local/](http://www.news1130.com/news/local/)  
Two teenage girls from BC's Lower Mainland died suddenly after they were found in medical distress on March 2. Their deaths are being linked to a lethal cocktail of alcohol and drugs they consumed the night before. Such experimentation seems to be on the rise in many communities.

## International Teacher Killed in Car Crash

[www.cmalliance.org/news/2010/02/24/](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2010/02/24/)  
Ana Porras de Ladines, a teacher at Alliance Academy International in Ecuador, was killed in a head-on collision on Feb 13 along with her husband Emilio and their young son Asaf. Their daughter Alejandra survived with minor injuries. The couple had been serving as international workers prior to returning home to Ecuador.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

## Attacks in Punjab Similar to Orissa Mayhem

[www.compassdirect.org/english/country/india/15915/](http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/india/15915/)  
*India:* Attacks on Christians last month in Punjab state were eerily similar to the anti-Christian violence in Orissa state in '07 and '08. This time, banners depicting Jesus drinking and smoking were put up in local markets to provoke Christians, thereby justifying retaliation by the offenders. Hindu nationalists proceeded to beat and act out violently to those who opposed to the banners.

## Persecution on the Rise

[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)  
*Uzbekistan:* Government officials continue to fine members of the Baptist Union and harass Protestant Christians. In addition, children who attend Protestant schools have been forced to write statements promising that they would stop going to church.

## Church Leaders Arrested

[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)  
*Iran:* Hamid and Reyhaneh, a former-Muslim couple who led a house church, were recently arrested by police in Isfahan. Twenty secret police officers arrested and assaulted Reyhaneh when she resisted. Officers confiscated computers, telephones and literature, including many Bibles.

OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS

LOCAL PRAYER REQUESTS