

Weekly Prayer Requests

06/27/08

When men talk about God, instead of with God, they are manifesting a deteriorated faith, for the purpose of all faith is to bring us into direct, personal, vital touch with God. The mark of a decadent religion is invariably that men are deeply engrossed in discussion about God, often in very cultured language, employing esoteric phrases, and spending hours in lengthy, theological debate about the nature and character of God. But as Luther very aptly put it, "You that manifest a concern about religion, why don't you pray?"

Stedman, Ray C. "Why Pray?" www.pbc.org/files/messages/6068/0056.html (accessed June 27, 2008).

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

Typhoon Devastates the Philippines

www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SP241230.htm

The death toll from Typhoon Fengshen, which roared through the Philippines last weekend, could reach 1,100 people. A ferry carrying 865 passengers and crew capsized in the storm, leaving only 48 survivors. The storm caused landslides, severe flooding, and damages to buildings and properties, forcing 430,000 people from their homes.

Zimbabwe Attacks—Election Still On

www.cnn.com www.alertnet.org

Zimbabwe's Electoral Commission has ruled that the withdraw from the election by opponent Morgan Tsvangirai was not legal and the poll would go ahead. Tsvangirai is calling the vote a sham and pulled out because the violence—including the chopping off of hands and fingers to prevent voting—has killed 90 of his followers.

Hundreds Die of Torture in India Yearly

www.alertnet.org

Over the past 5 years, an average of 4 people have died in police custody each day, a large number tortured to death, says a report from the Asian Centre for Human Rights.

Christians Persist Despite Church Closure

www.persecution.com

Indonesia: Muslims recently closed a West Java church and blocked Christians from entering and holding services. Despite this, believers gathered together in a dirty alley outside, worshipping and praying. Pastor Julu commented, "We thanked God that He allowed this to happen to us. We were very encouraged because we knew the Apostles experienced the same thing. We are never disappointed for being Christians."

Imprisoned Journalist

www.prisoneralert.com

China: Journalist Li Ying is currently serving a 15-year prison sentence for her role in the publication of an underground church magazine. She cannot have a Bible and is forced to work 15 hours each day.

Street Preaching Leads to Arrest

<http://wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=67421>

USA: 28-year-old Jason Werner was arrested for preaching on the streets of Cleveland, after patrons of a restaurant claimed he was "yelling through the windows."

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS

Worldwide Oil Crisis

The escalating oil crisis is more than an unpleasant increase in the cost of living; it threatens to suddenly topple the world's fundamental mode of operations for dependable food, livable economies, and stable governments. Pray for solutions for today's needs and for freedom from conflict in future years.

Debbie Helsloot Update

www.mypcc.ca

Debbie Helsloot is recovering well from her accident at the Starfield concert two months ago. She is now at G.F. Strong, receiving rehab and regaining strength in her muscles, which she has asked specific prayer for. She hopes to be able to take a day trip home in July for her kids' birthdays; pray that this works out.

VBS Events Begin

Worldwide churches will be holding VBS events to provide opportunities for children, both church and unchurched, to experience the love of Jesus Christ. Pray for effective evangelism to this young generation—that through these events, God would speak into the lives of the kids.

LOCAL PRAYER REQUESTS

