THIS IS FROM LOIS, WHO IS OUR FRIEND AND ONE OF OUR LISTENERS. SHE USES THIS FORMAT TO PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH.



How to Pray for the Persecuted Church

Using Philippians 1:27-30 as a prayer guide.

Philippians1:27 *Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.*

- That those persecuted are not corrupt. That they live in such a way that they can't be framed for something unrelated to their faith!

Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel

- Lord, even as Christians face persecution and nameless trials, help the them stand firmly with others. That no matter what a Christian is offered as a bribe for betrayal, that no one would betray another Christian for personal gain or immunity. May we be one in the Spirit. May all stand firm in the truth of the gospel.

28 *without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.*

- That those persecuted wouldn't be intimidated by those who are persecuting them.

This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.

- Lord, may the persecuted be encouraged! In the end, those who are making their lives miserable will in the end be the ones suffering in hell when those who are persecuted will be enjoying the glory of completed life in Jesus. Even in their present anguish and torment, may they understand without a doubt that Jesus will triumph, even for their sakes, and that God loves them deeply. Let us also pray for those who are persecuting Believers.

29 *For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him,* ***30*** *since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.*

- Paul himself understood that the conditions he was living in, even as he wrote this. In some mysterious way, may the Persecuted Church understand that persecution is a privilege greater than my comfortable Christian life.

I recently reflected on Psalm 119:161, "Rulers persecute me without cause, but my heart trembles at your word."

Replace "rulers" with "the government." The day may come when governmental authorities persecute us. May we fear the Word of God more than what mere humans and their "powerful" institutions may use in order to harm/break/kill us.