



PRAY FOR BURKINA FASO

In Burkina Faso, the persecution of Christians is deeply tied to a broader set of challenges such as escalating insecurity, and the rise of jihadist insurgencies. Armed groups such as Jama'at Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) are attempting to impose extremist ideologies and expand territorial control. Jihadists dominate illicit economies, including human trafficking, animal and mineral smuggling, and informal gold mining, to fund their operations. Religion is weaponized: churches are burned, Christian institutions are forced to close and converts—especially from Islam—are pressured or punished. In this volatile context, being a Christian, particularly a convert, has become increasingly dangerous.

1. Burkina Faso has a population of about **23 million from diverse ethnicities and cultures**, though with a history of cohesion. Thank the Lord for the country and its rich heritage. Pray for restoration of cohesion where it has broken down due to extremists.
2. **Christians form 23%** and have played a significant role in society, by building good schools, hospitals, etc. Thank the Lord for the Church. Pray for continued opportunity to bless society.
3. Pray that the Church will **continue courageous outreach** to society and government, even if space to do so is shrinking.
4. Burkina ranks 16th on the 2026 WWL, with Islamic oppression the strongest persecution type. Islamic militant groups have retained steady influence over recently. Pray for **abundant grace and wisdom for Christians** to navigate the situation.
5. Pastors have been **providing care** amid growing complexity and specific targeting from rebels. Pray for protection, provision and wisdom. Pray for comfort, as they deal with loss and trauma.
6. Christian women face abduction and sexual violence during militant attacks. This causes trauma, and shame. If not addressed, this will weaken and destroy both families and the larger Christian community. Pray for **greater awareness among authorities**, the church and her partners and for proactive ways to protect women. Pray for sufficient physical and emotional care to survivors.
7. Islamic militant groups target Christian men and boys for forced military service, physical attacks, including murder if they refuse to convert. Survivors battle with trauma. Pray that the Church will become **sufficiently equipped** to care for all affected. Pray that men will receive **good discipleship** to be able to provide spiritual care to their families. Pray for the Church to find **proactive solutions** to the violence-induced economic challenges men face.
8. Youth are facing lack of access to education and jobs, and many have become radicalised or found “employment” with radicals. Pray for the church to offer youth an alternative through discipleship, a **Biblical view on economics** and helping youth to find viable ways to make a living. Pray that church partners offer sufficient support in this.
9. Due to the Islamic militant attacks in the north and east 6,000+ schools have been closed. Pray for more effort by the government, churches and their international partners to provide **solid education to children**, especially those living in rebel-controlled areas, or in displacement.
10. Islamic militant influence has eroded some of the peaceful coexistence. Pray that the Church will not allow enmity to take root, but continue to **seek healthy relationships** with all who may not worship Christ, while continuing to share the gospel.
11. In some parts of the country, there may simply be no Christians to kidnap or kill anymore. Even some “safer” parts of the country have become risky. Pray for continued grace to navigate these circumstances and **to remain salt and light in society**. Pray that Christians will resist fear and despondency and continue to follow Christ in these circumstances.
12. Perpetrators of violent persecution of Christians are a mixture of groups affiliated to ISIS and al Qaida. Pray that the flow of resources to them will be cut. Pray for **hunger for justice and peace** with the Almighty and that many may come to faith.
13. Internal displacement has soared, affecting nearly 10% of the population. **Pray for peace** so that people can live productively.

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