



PRAY FOR NIGERIA

The persecution landscape for Christians in this country is complex. Recent data on violence presents a mixed but concerning picture. After a period of relative stabilisation, killings and abductions appear to be rising again, with sharp increases recorded in late 2025. While Christians continue to be affected profoundly, the violence is increasingly impacting Muslim communities as well, reflecting a shifting and complex pattern of conflict driven by ethno-religious, economic and environmental factors. The scale and spread of violence, particularly involving Fulani militant groups alongside Boko Haram and Islamic State – West Africa Province (ISWAP), continues to drive widespread insecurity and displacement.

1. Thank the Lord for Nigeria, one of the giants of Africa that plays an important role in the region and the continent, and for its wealth. Pray for the Lord's continued blessing on this nation.
2. Christians form about 46% and come from diverse denominational backgrounds. The church is active in local and international outreach. Thank God for the Church's presence, even in regions most hostile to the gospel. Pray that God will continue to build His Church and that she will grow despite severe persecution. Pray that Christians will remain bold and obedient in sharing the Gospel. Pray for continued grace, protection, and faithfulness of pastors. Pray that they may have all they need as they work, often amid great opposition.
3. Nigeria is 7th on Open Doors' 2026 World Watchlist, with Islamic radical violence the most prominent type of persecution. In the Muslim-dominated north, Christians live under immense pressure from Islamic militants. More believers are killed for their faith in Nigeria each year than anywhere else in the world combined. Thank the Lord for the Church's courage amid danger. Pray for grace to remain courageous in growing danger. Pray that believers will receive sufficient spiritual care.
4. In the northeast and parts of the Middle Belt Christians face brutal attacks resulting in injury and destruction of property. Survivors suffer grief and trauma. The need for care outweighs resources of Churches. Pray for more workers.
5. The attacks displace great numbers of Christians who often do not feel safe in formal displacement camps, to take refuge at Churches and/or with fellow Christians. This puts severe socio-economic pressure on Christian communities. Pray for comfort to displaced believers. Pray for those caring for the displaced to find the physical and emotional strength to continue this work. Thank the Lord for every **contribution of help and the generosity of hosting communities**. Pray for provision in the needs of hosting and displaced communities. Pray for wisdom to find sustainable ways for the displaced to provide for families.
6. Countless women in Nigeria have suffered abduction and/or sexual violence. Apart from the trauma this causes, there is often also shame to deal with. Pray fervently for God's intervention. Pray for more workers to bring help and provision for all.
7. In this onslaught men are often killed, lose their ability to work or have his property seized, impoverishing their families. Many leave try to find a safer and better life far away. Pray for discernment for the Church to find the spiritual, emotional, and physical solutions.
8. The median age in Nigeria is 17. Young people often feel marginalised. Pray for efforts by the government and Church to bring hope. Pray for thorough discipleship and sound view on economics coupled with practical help to uplift and create a hopeful future.
9. About 18.5 million children, the majority girls, have no access to education in Nigeria, mostly because of the jihadist attacks on schools. Pray for more physical and emotional care of children, and that they will receive the education they need.
10. Groups like Boko Haram and ISWAP often act with impunity against Christians and Muslims who do not support their ideology. Pray that the Holy Spirit will bring many to salvation.
11. Islamic militancy occurs in the context of complex environmental and socio-economic challenges. Pray for wisdom and transparency for the government to find solutions to the drivers of the crisis.
12. Nigeria is a Federal Presidential Republic led by Pres. Bola Ahmed Adekunle Tinubu. When he took office in 2023, he prioritized action against violence. Pray for wisdom and courage to not give up in protection for all Nigerians, no matter their tribe or faith.

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