INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER for the PERSECUTED CHURCH

The International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians is a special time set aside as a global prayer meeting on behalf of persecuted Christians. They stand as bold witnesses to Christ on the world's most difficult and dangerous frontier mission fields.

Hebrews 13:3 - "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body."

Key Text: Acts 4:13-20

I. Proclaiming the gospel in the face of persecution.

A. How do we endure?
- Acts 4:13

"In early 2024, police arrested Brother Manish, a pastor in India, ahead of a planned evangelistic outreach in his village. They accused him of violating the state's anti-conversion laws."

"As he heard the news, he would not be released but placed in jail, his response was "Lord, You are bringing me to this jail," Manish prayed, "so here also I will preach the gospel and bring people to Christ."

B. How do we conquer fear?
- Acts 4:20

"I believe the prayer they pray after their persecution was their prayer all along." (Acts 4:29)

"That same boldness we heard in Bassam's story, a faith that could not remain silent. He said, *"no matter what happens to me, I will tell others of Jesus."*

C. How do we respond?

1) Pray – For the gospel work in our lives and theirs.

2) Give – Both locally and globally.

NOTE: Go to www.persecution.com/donate to discover the three ways you can support VOM efforts all over the world.

3) Share - The hope of Christ with those around us.

Application:
This morning, we recognized our brothers and sisters all over the world are being greatly persecuted for their faith! We pray for them and for the endurance to continue to stand for Christ.

We pray that we will remain strong, amid persecution, suffering well for the cause of Christ!