



# AFGHANISTAN PRAYER GUIDE

A CLOSER LOOK: "THE TALIBAN CRISIS"

POPULATION: **38 million**

MUSLIM POPULATION: **99.7% - 37,886,000**

BIBLICAL LOCATION: **Cabul or Kabul**

PRESIDENT: -

TALIBAN LEADER: **Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhundzada**

LANGUAGE: **Pashto / Dari (Afghan Persian/Farsi)**



## What is happening in Afghanistan?

Afghanistan has fallen; the Afghan government has collapsed, President Ashraf Ghani fled the country, and the Taliban have taken over the entire nation. The Taliban have long been condemned for the rigid enforcement of their ultra conservative viewpoint of Islamic Sharia law, which has resulted in the callous treatment of many Afghans. In mid 2021, the Taliban led a major offensive during the withdrawal of US troops from the country, which gave them control of over half of Afghanistan's 421 districts by July. By mid-August 2021, the Taliban controlled every major city in Afghanistan, including Kabul. The most vulnerable in Afghanistan right now are young women, who are being taken as prizes, and young children, who are being taken from their families. People are desperately trying to escape or are hiding in rural areas. Christians understand the risk they are taking and know what this means for their safety. The Taliban have said to Afghan believers, "We know who you are, and we are coming for you." Yet, despite it all, they continue to spread the Gospel. While some are fleeing for their lives, a third of believers are choosing to stay, helping those around them, and sharing Jesus. Christians all over the world have been uniting in prayer, believing this is not the end of the story, but resurrection is coming and the Lord will be glorified. Join us in this prayer.

## How can I pray?

### *Prayer Points*

- We declare that evil will be overcome by good.
- Pray for believers who are leaving the country to safely find a place to reside.
- Build a wall of safety and protection of believers who are choosing to stay in Afghanistan to be divinely hidden from their enemies.
- Fix the eyes of your sons and daughters on You, the peacemaker.

### *How can I pray? continued*

- Raise up believers to love their enemies, blessing and praying for the ones who are persecuting them.
- Soften the hearts of the Taliban. Release Your transforming power by the blood of The Lamb upon the hearts of the Taliban.
- Pave the way for opportunities of signs and wonders to demonstrate You are God before the people and the Earth.
- Pray for peace and love to be with believers in Afghanistan.
- As we pray without ceasing, hear their prayers and our prayers coming alongside them, Father.

### **Scriptures to pray over Afghanistan**

John 1:5 NIV

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

God is our refuge

Read Psalms 46:1-3 NIV

Love in action

Read Romans 12:9-21

Damascus road transformation and salvation

Read Acts 9:1-31

Pray for your enemies

Read Matthew 5:43-48

Hebrews 4:16

“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

## **Look at what God is doing**

### **Light in Darkness**

You can clearly see the difference between light and darkness. Many people have fled into different parts of the country, and seeing people you know is now a rarity. Many of the believers who remained were shocked to see a disciple maker back again in their community. The disciple maker had returned to offer support in the chaos. This brought hope to believers and Muslims in that area. They were shocked to see the resilience of the disciple maker. They could see the light in them shining bright, and that their hope and boldness was in the Lord.

### **A Farmer in the Field**

Believers are fleeing to the countryside in attempts to hide themselves from the Taliban. A family who were seeking refuge came across open, unoccupied land. They saw this as the best place to stay as there were no signs of the Taliban around. They began tending to this field and living off the land for two days and on the third day a family member found them and said, “Who are the men with you?” Unsure, the family responded, “What men?” The relative reported that the Taliban found them the day before and attempted to approach the farm to confront the believer, but didn’t because the farm was surrounded by strong men in white. “The Taliban were so fearful that they left you alone.” the relative said. We praise God for sending his angels to protect His people!

## *Look at what God is doing - continued*

### **Hidden in Plain Sight**

One of our disciple makers received a call from someone who asked them to meet in a public place to receive supplies for their community. The place that was chosen was a familiar place to the disciple maker because it had been attacked in the past and they had witnessed one of their friend's death in that very spot. This is a significant detail because it shows how God can change the bad to good. When they shared the location, the DM was shocked; they knew the Taliban were all around that area, but they proceeded anyway. The building was full of Taliban soldiers, just as they had suspected. They were fearful to be so close to them, but they managed to walk right past them, as if they were hidden in plain sight. God sent a Christian into a place full of Taliban to get supplies in order to help other believers without any issue. Only God can do something like that!



### **Our mission**

GCM exists to transform Muslims worldwide through Jesus Christ by means of evangelism, discipleship, church planting, leadership development, and compassion ministries. Terrorism, totalitarian governments, the rise of radical Islam, and social upheavals have created an unparalleled window of opportunity to reach millions of despairing Afghans with the gospel.



### **Do you have a heart for this region?**

Join our weekly prayer call. Email [prayer@catalyticministries.com](mailto:prayer@catalyticministries.com) and let us know.



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