

Father, we pray today for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are being persecuted for their faith. We pray that you will inspire them to speak your Word with courage and clarity. As they testify of their faith, we pray that you would fill their hearts and mouths by your Spirit! Holy Spirit, lead them to the unsaved, to those who have honest and hungry hearts, so that your Word will be seed which is sown into good ground.

Father, we know that, as your witnesses, our persecuted brethren will never be alone. You unfailingly stood with the apostle Paul as he boldly spoke the mysteries of Christ. and in the same manner you will stand with your faithful ones, and strengthen them so that the message of the gospel might be preached fully through them, and that the unbelievers might hear and be saved. Paul said that he was delivered out of the mouth of the lion, and from every evil work, and that you preserved him for your heavenly kingdom. We believe that you are no respecter of persons, and that you will also deliver these persecuted saints.

Father, give them the grace to walk in and express your love to their persecutors. May they love their enemies, bless those who curse them, do good to those who hate them, and pray for those who despitefully use them and persecute them. May the love that is displayed through them be a testimony to their tormentors. We thank you that your agape-love never fails!

If they are beaten, may they rejoice that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus. And may they never stop teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

If they are arrested and imprisoned, Lord, remind them of Paul and Silas, who after being beaten, prayed and sang praises in the darkness of the night. Then, you shook the foundations of their prison, till chains were loosed and doors were opened. Do it again, Lord! Show your awesome power to deliver your people!

Father, Jesus commissioned us, as His Body, to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Our suffering brothers and sisters are reaching people in their own lands where we cannot currently go. Just as Jesus worked

with the early Church, confirming His Word with the accompanying signs, we are assured that miracles, signs and wonders will abound in these nations as the Word goes forth, bringing glory to you. O God, look on the threats made against your people, and grant that they, with all boldness, may speak your Word, by stretching out your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the mighty name of Jesus!

Father, hear the earnest prayers of your people. When they pray, shake their meeting places, fill them with Holy Spirit power, and help them speak your Word passionately and with fearless confidence. With great power, and with miracles, signs and wonders, may they give witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus! And may your grace be upon them all!

In Jesus' name, Amen!