

November Prayer points: Praying for the Nations

| Country | % Christian | |
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| Bangladesh | Less than 1% | Suffered severely due to Covid with high % of deaths and also economic issues due to collapse of garment industry and reduction in remittances from those working overseas. Things improving with pressure forcing many big companies to reverse their decisions on non-payment etc. Vaccine response has been good though. Hosting large numbers of Rohingya refugees. Suffers major environmental problems due to low lying nature and water contamination. Predominantly Muslim. |
| Bhutan | Less than 1% | Bhutan is the only country, at least in Asia, where the government more interested in pursuing happiness among its people than encouraging them to make money. Bhutan faces a number of socio-economic challenges. Poverty and youth unemployment remain high, the healthcare system is in disarray, the ecological landscape is under threat due to climate change and there are high incidences of violence against women. The government has put in place policies and schemes to address some of these challenges. However, most of these measures have not had the desired outcomes. |
| Korea, South | 29% | One of the most prosperous countries in the region. Major issue relates to relations with North Korea and continual threat of attack. Human rights in S Korea are generally regarded as good although it is a masculine society and there are concerns over women's rights. These are being brought into the open. Had a very firm covid response with extremely low number of deaths. |
| Malaysia | 10% | A relatively prosperous country which is subject to Islamic law or influence. It is an offence to try to preach the Gospel to Moslems. Violence against Christians is rare but there are examples of harassment. Concerns have been expressed over some aspects of human rights. There is a lack of accountability on the police. LGBT rights are non-existent. Malaysia is unwelcoming to refugees. |
| Nepal | 2% | Strong laws which prohibit Christians sharing the Gospel with Moslems. Christians may also be subject to violence or intimidation. Human rights are worsening with restrictions on association and freedom of expression. Women's' rights have improved on paper but entrenched traditions have been little changed by the legal reforms. Has suffered severely with Covid due to under resourced health system. |

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| Singapore | 19% | On the surface a democracy but the Government uses severe contempt laws to stop any criticism and harassment of opposition politicians is common. Initially covid response was good but the large migrant worker population was not protected. Migrant workers are frequently poorly treated. Singapore uses both corporal and capital punishment on a regular basis. |
| Taiwan | 5% | Major issue facing Taiwan is China's territorial demands which see a real threat of invasion. Recently there have been hundreds of instances of Chinese aircraft entering Taiwanese airspace. Human rights are generally regarded as good with free elections and peaceful transitions of power. A strong covid response has been criticised as weakening rights to privacy but generally it is regarded to have dealt with the pandemic well. |
| Thailand | Less than 1% | Subject to draconian laws following what amounted to a coup in 2020. This has led to arrest and harassment of opposition leaders and activists. Covid laws have been misused to stop protest. Thailand has some long standing internal wars in progress. There is use of torture and lack of accountability of the police and army. Thailand regards refugees as illegal entrants. |
| Indonesia | 10% | While violence against Christians is rare it does happen, including some bomb attacks. Indonesia is becoming more conservative as a Muslim state and rules against evangelising are strict with Christian converts subject to harassment and it is becoming harder to maintain places of worship. Indonesia uses 'blasphemy' laws to stifle criticism. There are also concerns about human rights and women's rights. |
| Seychelles | 75% | Potentially one of the richest countries in the region due to natural resources and tourism but both are under pressure due to pollution and the pandemic has decimated tourism. Generally there is a good record on human rights but some issues with child labour are reported. As a low lying archipelago, the country is highly susceptible to sea level changes. |
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