



FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q When is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) this year?**
Sunday, November 9th, 2008.
- Q What if our church already has something scheduled on that day?**
No problem! Choose another day that is free for your congregation and remember the persecuted church in prayer on that date (though we hope, of course, that you remember to pray for the persecuted every Sunday).
- Q Why does Canada observe IDOP on a Sunday that conflicts with Remembrance Day services?**
IDOP is an international event and is recognized by churches around the world on the second Sunday in November. If this date conflicts with your own Remembrance Day services, we encourage you to observe IDOP on a different Sunday--or you can combine both into one service, as many Canadian churches do every year.
- Q We agree that prayer is essential. What more can we do to assist the persecuted church?**
The mandate of IDOP Canada is strictly to focus on praying for the persecuted church. Feel free to contact any of the partner ministries that make up IDOP Canada for advice on how you or your church can get more involved in serving the persecuted church.
- Q Are there prayer resources that will help us to pray for the persecuted after November 9th?**
Yes, all of the partner ministries that make up IDOP Canada have prayer resources such as monthly or quarterly newsletters, e-mail prayer alerts, maps, and other helpful tools that you can obtain (many of them free!).
- Q Can our church sponsor a persecuted Christian as a refugee?**
Yes, although many persecuted Christians do not wish to leave their homeland. Contact one of the IDOP partners for more information. (Note: not all of them are involved in this kind of ministry).
- Q Can I write letters to encourage those who are persecuted?**
Yes, occasionally you can, depending on whether it is safe to do so and whether addresses are available. Contact the IDOP Canada partner ministries for guidelines on how to write to persecuted Christians (Note: not all of the partner ministries may have these resources).
- Q Can my congregation write letters to political leaders on behalf of Christians in prison?**
Yes. The Internet Resources on Religious Freedom document in this kit provides links to help you get started. You can also contact the partner ministries that make up IDOP Canada for the names of Christian prisoners and addresses to write to, as well as guidelines on how to write to government leaders (Note: not all of the ministries may have these resources).