

SEPTEMBER 2010



Praying for Women in Isolation and Fear



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Millions of women are isolated by their culture or religion, and fear controls every aspect of their lives. In many countries, dictators, warring faction or fanatical religious beliefs determine their daily activities and their destiny. Those who have immigrated to other countries many times still live under the control of their families and communities.

Many isolated women and girls understand only their local language, and their fathers and husbands control who and what they know. For some, even their mothers and mother-in-laws seek to control them with fear. Abuse that is physical (beatings, burning, neglect, lack of food, little medical care), emotional (shame, guilt, loneliness, rumors, slander) and spiritual (occult, charms, bondage, false religious teachings) destroys their dignity and keeps them from knowing God.

Thousands of women living as immigrants far from home are isolated by language barriers and believe they have no one to turn to. One of Project Hannah's National Coordinators in Europe has seen God bring lost and suffering immigrant women to her church. Opening her home and heart to them, she has watched God work in their lives and bring salvation and joy even in the midst of their struggles.

Project Hannah's *Women of Hope* programs can reach even the most isolated women living in fear. Behind closed doors, in cities and villages around the world, women are listening to God's Word and receiving hope. *Women of Hope* is also available so that immigrants in Europe, Canada and the United States can hear about God's love in their heart languages.

Please pray with us for women in Algeria, Afghanistan, Myanmar, North Korea, Turkey, and many other countries, who are isolated and live in fear, but desire to know more about the one true God. Pray that immigrants will find a friend who will lead them to Jesus.

Women of Hope broadcasts in over 55 languages.

Monthly prayer calendars are used in more than 40 languages. (www.projecthannah.org)

23. Women struggling to survive in Afghanistan. Pray that the Holy Spirit will encounter leaders in Afghanistan in a supernatural way in order to reveal Jesus, as He did with Saul – to open blind eyes, soften hearts, convict of sin and create new life (Acts 9:3-6).

24. Women in North Korea who risk their lives because of their deep desire and hunger for God's truths. Pray for family members who are imprisoned in labor camps when a relative is arrested for possession of Christian literature (Associated Press).

25. The small number of Uyghur Christians to have opportunities to share God's story of love and redemption with their neighbors and family during Meshreps (social gatherings). Pray for Uyghur women who suffer from domestic violence, poor health care and little education.

26. Those who experience domestic violence in their homes where violent words, controlling behavior or physical and sexual abuse by a family member, caregiver or loved one are humiliating and devastating.

27. Women in Asia (Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar) who are isolated by political, religious and cultural standards and have little freedom to choose for themselves without persecution.

28. PH's Albanian WoH production team as they work on programs that will encourage and instruct women who are new believers or who are searching to know God. Pray that God will prompt women to turn on their radios and tune in to the station at just the right time to hear of the hope He offers them.

29. Pastors and church leaders to be willing to speak out against infidelity and abuse by church members and to encourage those being abused to come to them for help and safety. Pray that they will be firm with the abusers and follow through to make sure that the abuse stops.

30. Women whose husbands travel abroad and stop sending financial support or return and infect them with HIV/AIDS.

Please pray for...

1. Isolated women to have opportunities to hear about God's love and to experience the peace and mercy He offers them. Pray for understanding for listeners who have difficulty with the concepts of grace, forgiveness and repentance (Eph. 2:8-9).
2. Women who live in poverty, lack an education and have little freedom of choice concerning their religion, marriage and their own health.
3. Those attending Project Hannah's (PH) Americas Region Forum in Brazil August 30-September 4. Pray also for the Wednesday afternoon event that will be open to the public.
4. Immigrants to find Christian friends who will sincerely reach out to them and care for them as individuals who deserve to be treated with dignity and kindness. Many have never had a Christian offer to help them. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in" (Matt. 25:35).
5. Production of the *Women of Hope* (WoH) programs that reach isolated women in countries that punish, imprison, torture and kill those who change their religion or possess Christian literature. Pray for those writing scripts for the WoH Dari (Afghanistan) program so women can hear of God's love for them in a context that they will understand.
6. Women controlled by family members. "My husband tore up my Bible and forbid me to listen to the radio station that aired Project Hannah programs. I began secretly listening to the programs on CDs, but my husband discovered this, too, and took away the CDs and the CD player. He could have taken everything away, but Jesus cannot be taken away, neither today nor tomorrow!" (Algerian, Berber-Kabyle listener)
7. Women in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) who have many

obstacles that hinder them from hearing God's Word. Please pray for God's protection and provisions for Christians living in Central Asia.

8. Women in warring countries (Afghanistan, Iraq, Congo) who are victims of the brutality of rape, mutilation and kidnapping, and the hardships of starvation and caring for the family when the men are killed. Pray for women who play a prominent role in rebuilding their war-torn societies.
9. Women who live in fear knowing that rumors and slander can cause family members to attack and even kill them for dishonoring the family.
10. Women and girls who can't trust their family members to protect them or to give them opportunities to thrive.
11. Women and girl refugees who are vulnerable to sexual violence and trafficking as they seek employment. Pray that Christians will help them to be safe and know that they are special to God.
12. Women who seek protection through magic and charms as they follow the cultural practices that have been passed down over many generations. Pray for women who follow false religions and the occult because they have never been given the opportunity to know the One True God.
13. The people of North Korea who are isolated from the rest of the world and know only the twisted information their leader tells them. Pray that radio signals will get through to the few who have radios so that they can learn more about God and His truth.
14. Radio distribution to women who are isolated by their culture or not able to attend a church. Pray that these women will grow in their walk with God as they hear His Word.
15. Women in India who are forced to abort their female babies. Pray also for the millions of India's

mothers who live in fear because they do not have sufficient daily food for their families and their children are malnourished.

16. Little girls and women who are forced to undergo female genital mutilation and suffer lifelong scarring, physically and emotionally. Pray that governments will pass laws banning this practice and enforce the laws with strict punishment.
17. Women who live in poverty and lack information about basic healthcare and are neglected, lack enough food for survival, and receive no medical care or childbirth assistance. Pray that WoH will become available to these women so they can hear its life-giving messages.
18. Women who are verbally abused and live with shame because they are led to believe that they are the cause of the failures of their husbands, fathers and sons. Pray for women who are falsely led to believe that it is their fault that they have conceived a girl rather than the cherished son.
19. Isolated women in oral cultures who can't read the Scriptures to have the opportunity to hear God's Word through radio programs. Pray also for Marli as she speaks at the International Orality Network Conference Sept. 20-23.
20. Women who live in bondage and the darkness of false religions, the occult and abusive cultural practices. Pray for women who live in areas where the change of religion is a death sentence.
21. PH's 13-year dream and vision to reach isolated women in Afghanistan. Pray also that WoH would become available for women with similar worldviews in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey and Uyghur speakers in Central Asia and Western China.
22. Christians in India and other countries who have had their homes destroyed and loved ones killed because mobs from other religions have attacked them.