

**Monday 13 January**

**Algeria            Pop: 43m            Muslim: 99%**

*“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Prov 29:18*

Algeria lies on the Mediterranean coast and borders Morocco, Mali, Niger, Libya and Tunisia. It is a vast country, the largest in Africa and the tenth largest in the world. It has a population of about 43 million, who mainly live in the fertile north. About 80% of the land is covered by the Sahara Desert.

Algerians are ethnically a mix of Berber and Arab. Most speak Arabic and identify as Arab, but significant numbers identify as Berber and retain the Berber language, with the Kabyles being the largest group. Although 99% of the population is Muslim, there are thousands of Christians from a Kabyle background. However, it is a difficult country in which to be a follower of Christ, and Algeria is ranked 22nd on the Open Doors World Watch List. The vast majority of the population, 36 people groups, remains unreached.

In the Book of Proverbs 29:10-18, we see the results of good and bad leadership. “When the wicked thrive, so does sin” (v16) whereas when “a king judges the poor with fairness, his throne will be established forever” (v 14). In February 2019, protesters took to the streets, demanding President Abdelaziz Bouteflika’s resignation after 20 years in power. In April he resigned, with protesters accusing him and his leaders of widespread corruption and state repression. They have been protesting every Friday since then. It is generally the young who are driving this protest movement, both on social media and on the streets of the capital Algiers. About half of Algeria’s population is under 30 years of age. They want to see freedom and democracy in their country. The latest protests were ahead of the presidential elections held on 12th December. People were unhappy that all 5 candidates supported or served in the former president’s administration. Abdelmadjid Tebboune was elected and protests continue as many argue that the vote was rigged and see the regime as inept, corrupt and unable to manage the flagging economy.

- Let’s pray that President Tebboune and his government will be wise, of vision and restraint, treating everyone fairly and justly.
- Pray that Algerians making up the many unreached people groups would begin responding to the message of the gospel and that the Kabyle church would be able to support them and help them establish strong, fruit-bearing fellowships.
- It is not uncommon if you are a follower of Christ to have met Jesus in a dream or vision as in the Bible stories. Pray that many more Muslims in Algeria will encounter Jesus in this way and be powerfully saved and empowered to be His witnesses.
- Pray for the young men and women to find hope in Jesus Christ, for their protests to be peaceful and their voices heard.

Source of some material: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cp7r8vlglyet/algeria>

**Tuesday 14th January**

### **God uses godly people to change a nation**

In the Book of Daniel, we read about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. They were people of faith who refused to be frightened or intimidated by Nebuchadnezzar, the leader of the country they were in. You can read the full account in Daniel 3:13 - 4:18.

“Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?” Daniel 3: 13-15.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to bow down and worship the image of gold. They believed in God’s absolute power to deliver them and if He didn’t, they determined to trust and obey Him. This was an amazing witness of their faith to Nebuchadnezzar. However, his conversion was not complete. Later in Chapter 4 we read his remarkable testimony of how he did eventually come to acknowledge God. “It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High has performed for me” (v 4:2). By this stage his attitude had completely changed and all the glory was given to God (v 3).

One of the main points of the Book of Daniel is how God uses inspiring examples such as Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel and their absolute faith in God to change a king’s life and to change a nation.

- Let’s pray that God will use inspiring examples of men and women of faith to influence the next leader of Algeria and so change this nation.
- It takes great courage and belief to stand for truth and trust God as deliverer. Let’s pray for our field workers to stand firm in this nation and believe in God’s deliverance, to see Muslims have a change of attitude and an amazing testimony such as Nebuchadnezzar’s.
- Let’s pray that the church will shine in Algeria and see amazing fruit as a result of their godly witness.

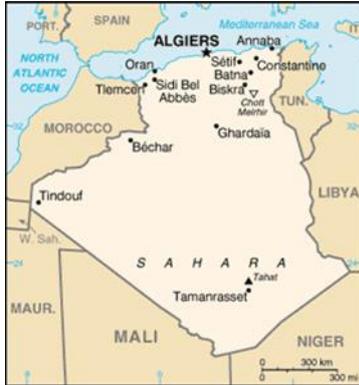
**Wednesday 15th January**

### **Algiers**

One way to impact countries with the light of Christ is to pray for strategic cities. The capital city of Algiers is one such key gateway city for reaching the Arab and Berber peoples of Algeria.

Algiers is located on the Mediterranean Sea and in the north-central portion of Algeria. It has been called ‘Algiers the White’ for the glistening white of the buildings seen rising up from the sea. It’s known for its old walled city with steep winding streets, Ottoman palaces and a ruined citadel. The

17th-century Ketchaoua Mosque built during the Ottoman rule is located there, as is the Great Mosque - the oldest mosque in Algeria built in 1097.



Today Algiers is an important economic, commercial and financial centre. The present-day city was founded in 944 by Bologhine ibn Ziri, a Berber. Algiers became part of the Ottoman Empire in 1529. Owing to its location on the periphery of both the Ottoman and European economic spheres, and depending for its existence on the Mediterranean Sea that was increasingly controlled by European shipping, piracy became the primary economic activity.

In 1830 it came under French control. In 1962 Algeria gained its independence, with Algiers as its capital. Since then this city has undergone huge expansion. In 2011, the city's population was estimated to be around 3.7 million. An estimate puts the population of the wider metropolitan city at around 5.4 million; nearly 13% of Algeria's population. 53% are from an Arabic-speaking background, 44% from a Berber-speaking background and 3% are foreign-born. Many have never heard the gospel message or met a follower of Jesus.

- Let's pray for this strategic city. As people of different backgrounds live together, pray it will be in a spirit of unity and peace.
- Pray that God would open doors for the preaching of the gospel and send labourers into the harvest fields there.
- Pray "your kingdom come, your will be done in the city of Algiers as it is in heaven". Matt 6:10

#### Thursday 16th January

Listen to the worship song, Bring An Awakening: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4W8tt7B0BI>

The lyrics can form the basis of our prayers, as we praise God and cry out on behalf of Algeria and its people.

- So we have come to kneel before Your throne,  
With faith and confidence in You alone.  
That You would heal this land and overwhelm Algerians with your hope,  
For Your glory, make them holy.
- Come like the sound of roaring thunder,  
Cover Algeria with signs and wonders,  
Bring an awakening.
- Come and consume them with Your power,  
Jesus they need You in this hour,  
Bring an awakening, they need an awakening.
- The increase of Your kingdom has no end,

So we Your church will rise and take a stand.  
Miracles and life will flow as we reach out our hands  
For Your glory, Make Algeria holy.

## Friday 17th January

### The following article is from a Frontiers worker in North Africa

*“The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how.” Mark 4:26–27*

Jessica, a Frontiers worker first introduced Maisah to the Word. When she first heard it she responded with joy. Her belief in Jesus grew quickly and she was baptised. Jessica met with her each week for Bible study and prayer. She offered Maisah all the support and encouragement she could, but after several months, Maisah’s new faith seemed to wane.



“It was as though the enemy came and snatched what had been sown into her heart,” Jessica says. Still, Jessica and her husband, Andy, are praying that Maisah will renew her love for Christ.

But while Jessica was discipling Maisah, another Muslim friend was quietly studying the Word. Zainab, a language teacher, had heard Jessica share dozens of stories about Jesus during their lessons. But Zainab didn’t seem interested in hearing the gospel message.

After Jessica stopped taking lessons, she didn’t see much of Zainab, but the lingering seeds of truth Jessica had planted in her language teacher’s heart were still growing. When they finally met again, Jessica discovered that Zainab had been studying the Bible on her own. Her love for the Word and trust in Jesus had grown deep.

“She isn’t fully in the Kingdom yet,” says Jessica. “But she’s passionate for Jesus and sharing Him with others. It’s only a matter of time before she declares Him her Lord and Saviour.”

Jessica and Andy know they are to be faithful in sowing seeds of the gospel, praying for a harvest, and humbly trusting the results to the Father. “God is the one who causes the growth of His Kingdom, not us,” says Andy. They are greatly encouraged as they see God working.

- Pray that Zainab will continue to grow in love for Jesus and put her faith in Him.
- Ask God to revive Maisah’s faith so that her love for Christ will be renewed.
- Praise God for the seeds of truth Frontiers teams are sowing in Muslims and their communities in Algeria and North Africa.

- Pray that the seeds planted in Muslims' hearts will mature into flourishing faith in Jesus Christ all across this country and region.

### **Saturday 18th January**

Let's finish our week of prayer for Algeria with different prayer points based upon God's Word in **1 Tim. 2:1-4**

*"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.... This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."*

Pray for the M'zab, an unengaged people group in Algeria. They are a distinct tribe of Berbers who are particularly suspicious of foreigners and even of other tribes. Their regional capital is Ghardaia. Pray that God will open doors for the gospel to come to these people, because God desires the M'zab "to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Women in Algeria have much freedom compared with those in other Arab countries, having the right to vote and run for public office. Some are very well educated and in certain sectors, such as the legal profession, they are the majority. Pray that women in Algeria will become educated about Jesus.

Satellite broadcasts, radio and the internet are ways of bringing the good news to Algeria. Pray that God will bring powerful testimonies and teaching through these channels directly to the hearts of seekers in Algeria. Pray also that God would connect seekers with follow-up discipleship.

From AD 395-430, St. Augustine presided as bishop of Hippo, now the city of Annaba in Algeria. He was a prolific writer and some of his more famous works are 'The Confessions,' and 'The City of God.' As an Algerian, he worked tirelessly in the Roman world and was integral in shaping much of Christian theology, as it exists today. Pray that God will raise up theologians from amongst modern-day Christ-followers in Algeria.

Give thanks! God is working miracles in Algeria. He still sets the captives free. And He is doing this today, answering our prayers for Algeria.