

Prayer Diary: Giving thanks

31 December – 6 January 2023



Despite the turbulent situations we've heard about and worked on this year, we can see evidence of God's goodness and grace throughout 2023. We are especially thankful for your continued support in praying, campaigning and giving. Thank you!

So let us step into 2024 with a posture of praise – remembering Paul's encouragement in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18:

'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'

Sunday 31 December

A key moment this year was the launch of Leave No One Behind, our documentary and report about religious minority refugees from Afghanistan. Remember them in prayer, giving thanks that their voices were heard in UK Parliament, in Brussels, and in churches across the country.

Monday 1 January

Happy New Year! Give thanks today for the gift of a new year – a fresh expanse of time and opportunities to make a difference. Pray for wisdom as we fill our calendars and commit our plans to the Lord.

Tuesday 2 January

We are delighted that so many people have used Connect & Encourage this year. Thank God for every letter sent to someone facing injustice for their beliefs. May these messages arrive at exactly the right moment, speaking words of hope and strength into their lives.

Wednesday 3 January

Twenty-one wonderful volunteers joined CSW at the Big Church Festival in May, talking to festival-goers about freedom of religion or belief for all. Praise God that over 900 people added their name to our open letter, calling for action to free Reverend Dr Samson in Myanmar/Burma.

Thursday 4 January

'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.' (Psalm 24:1) Praise the Lord for all he has made and all he has provided. Reflect on how you might use your time and talents for good in the year ahead.

Friday 5 January

Our Press and Public Affairs Team work hard to draw public attention to the situations we're shining a spotlight on. Give thanks for every blog, press release, radio interview, podcast, and other media they've produced this year.

Saturday 6 January

Lord, we praise you for your faithfulness in 2023. You are sovereign, unchanging and unwavering in your promises. Please continue to bring justice and draw close to those in need in 2024. Amen.