

**July 18, 2021**

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome. We are glad you're here.

*Basking in the Blessings of the*  
**PSALMS**



Lord of all power and might, who is the author and giver of all good things; graft into our hearts the love of you Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's Psalm: 37

**2021 Camp Meeting**  
August 13-15 Trinity Pines

**Scott & Vicki Shaw**  
Camp Meeting Directors

**Verne Ward** Director of Global Missions  
Featured Speaker

Information at  
[www.tpines.org/camp-meeting](http://www.tpines.org/camp-meeting)

**Registration:** Cindy at 208-888-0988

**The Strength Paradox**  
**PSALM 8**

**Pastor Zach Carpenter**

**Baptism**

Baptisms will be part of our worship service on July 25. Please contact the church office at 208-888-2141 or [office@myvsn.org](mailto:office@myvsn.org).

**Volunteers Needed**

VSN has a need for volunteers. We need ushers, greeters, communion servers, setup/tear down for events, security team, worship arts, and more. We need those who are passionate about and knowledgeable of all that VSN offers and have a heart to share that with newcomers for our welcome center. We also need those willing to take photos and videos to document events of the church. Please contact the church office to let us know you are interested in serving!



**Valley Shepherd VBS**

**July 26-30 \* 6:00 - 8:30 pm**  
**Ages Kindergarten to Sixth Grade**

**Volunteers Needed!!**

## Prayer Requests

Our nation & leaders

Military/Law enforcement

Church of Week:

Eagle

Pastor Tim Bunn

Church Finances

Income during summer months

Those with chronic health issues

Persecuted Church: Morocco

Imprisoned Christian:

Yousef Nadarkhani, Iran, held 1090 days

## Thursday Morning Men's Prayer

6:30 am in the Prayer Chapel

Breakfast for those who can at  
KJ's American Grille (formerly called JB's)

## Stay Connected

If you have or know of a need please  
contact the church office.

## Cry Room Available

Across from the Chapel in Rm 105

## Sunday Morning Connections:

**Connexions** led by Cindy Pusey

**Mariners** led by Keith Ricketts

**Branches** led by Bob Arnold & Ken Altman

**Ambassadors** led by Bob Marsland

**Living for Christ** led by Fred Fender

**Adult Life Application** led by Gail  
& Craig Zickefoose

**20-Something** led by April & Matt Drinnon

**University-Age** led by Angie Pearl  
& Kevin Thompson

**Undefined** led by Kim Nixon

Call the church office at 208-888-2141  
to connect to these groups.



## VBS Volunteers Needed!

## Financials

July offering to date: \$37,761

Needed each month: \$95,295

## Order of Service

Welcome

Scripture Reading

Worship in Music

Invocation & Lord's Prayer

Worship in Music

Church Family Announcements

Baby Dedication

Sermon

Benediction

Sermon Notes:

office@myvsn.org

myvsn.org

208-888-2141

# MOROCCO RESTRICTED

## CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN MOROCCO



### OVERVIEW:

Morocco is ruled by a monarch who is purportedly a direct descendant of the prophet Muhammad and intends to govern the nation with Islamic principles. The North African country has experienced over 1,100 years of Islamic oppression since Morocco's historic people group, the Berbers, were forced into Islam by invading Arabs in the eighth century. Today, only a fraction of 1 percent of the population is Christian. The growth of Christianity has been slow, with a major setback occurring in 2010 when hundreds of missionaries were forced to leave the country. With the rise of digital technology and social media, more Moroccans are coming to faith in Christ.

### MAJOR RELIGIONS:

Nearly all Moroccans are Sunni Muslims.

### PERSECUTOR:

The government is the main persecutor. Family, friends and communities also persecute Christian converts.

### WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN MOROCCO:

There are no church buildings in Morocco. Bible distribution and missionary activity are not allowed in the country. Christians have difficulty finding fellowship, but networks of underground churches have developed. A number of Christians have been imprisoned on charges of apostasy and proselytizing.

## **ACCESS TO BIBLES:**

About 35 million people live in Morocco, but few printed Bibles exist in the country. It is difficult to get a Bible, but believers access Scripture through creative methods such as digital files on SD cards, which they can use on their mobile phones and tablets.

## **VOM WORK:**

VOM supports various forms of outreach and provides assistance to new converts.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- *Pray for the wisdom of believers caught by secret police*
- *Pray that believers will boldly share the gospel with their families*
- *Pray for unity among Moroccan Christians*
- *Pray that Bibles will become more accessible throughout the country*
- *Pray for King Mohammed VI and other government leaders*

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## Prisoner Profile



PRISONER NAME	LOCATION	ARRESTED	HELD
<b>Yousef Nadarkhani</b>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Jul 2018	1082 DAYS

Yousef Nadarkhani and three of his church members, Saheb (Zaman) Fadaee, Mohammad Ali (Yasser) Mosayebzadeh and Mohammad Reza Omidi, are serving 10-year prison sentences on charges of “acting against national security” and “promoting Zionist Christianity.” The men are all members of the Church of Iran.

Yousef, 45, had spent nearly three years in prison after being sentenced to death for apostasy in 2010. He was acquitted in September 2012.

The believers, along with Yousef’s wife, Fatemeh Pasandideh, were arrested on Friday, May 13, 2016. Yousef and Fatemeh were released on bail the same day, while Saheb, Mohammad Ali and Mohammad Reza were released on bail two weeks later.

The four men were sentenced in July 2017 and began their sentences a year later in July 2018, after violent arrests at their homes. Fatemeh was reportedly told she would be arrested if she left Gilan Province. Saheb, Mohammad Ali and Mohammad Reza were also sentenced to 80 lashes each for drinking wine during Communion.

Yousef became a Christian at age 19. His wife is also a Christian convert from Islam, and the couple have been fighting for more than 10 years for the rights of their two boys to be recognized as Christians. For the past several years, the boys have been denied certificates showing they completed their studies, because they refused to take Islamic classes.

### **10-Year Sentence Reduced**

On June 22, 2020, Yousef Nadarkhani's prison sentence was reduced to six years. Further areas for appeal are also being explored

**Address for Saheb (Zaman) Fadaee**

Evin Prison  
Saadat Abad  
Tehran  
Islamic Republic of Iran

**Please note:**

When writing a letter, never mention the name of the source of your information or the name of any organization such as Voice of the Martyrs or Prisoner Alert. It is not dangerous for a prisoner to receive letters from individuals, but if an organization is mentioned they may be accused of links with 'foreign organizations' and receive harsher sentences. Also, please do not state anything negative about their government. For the latest information, including letter writing tools and helps, please visit [PrisonerAlert.com](http://PrisonerAlert.com).

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