



# International Day of the Girl 2017

#GBHopeEndures  
creative prayer activism





## #GBHopeEndures creative prayer activism

On Wednesday 11 October, UN's International Day of the Girl (IDG), Girls' Brigade is mobilising the global family to continue to pray and advocate with and for the Chibok girls (and many others impacted by Boko Haram violence). Currently 113 girls remain missing since their abduction on 14 April 2014; some of them are GB members. Since 2009, 20,000 people have been killed and over 2.6 million have been forced to leave their homes. (See p.5 for an update on the current situation).

On IDG 2017, Girls' Brigade is inviting its members and friends to participate in a simple creative prayer exercise and social media activity to raise awareness and mobilise the wider Church to continue to pray; to say that we believe hope endures.

### Hope Endures Creative Prayer Activity

This creative prayer is simple to use with children and young people of all ages in your own GB group as an opening or closing activity. Feel free to adapt it to your GB group. You could even use it in church.

Remember that this resource can be used anytime in the lead up to 11 October 2017.

*Materials needed: colourful paper, pens, scissors, decorations (optional) and camera.*

1. **Use the update** on p.5 to share some news about the current situation of the Chibok girls and the wider situation in Nigeria.
2. **Share Ephesians Ch.3:20** with the group and facilitate discussion (if age-appropriate). How has God already answered prayers for Nigeria? How has God answered prayers in your own life? Share why you continue to hope for the Chibok girls and the many others who have been impacted by Boko Haram violence.
3. **Invite each person to draw around their hand and cut it out.**
4. **Choose a name from the list of remaining missing Chibok girls** and write it in the centre along with #GBHopeEndures (see p. 4 for names)





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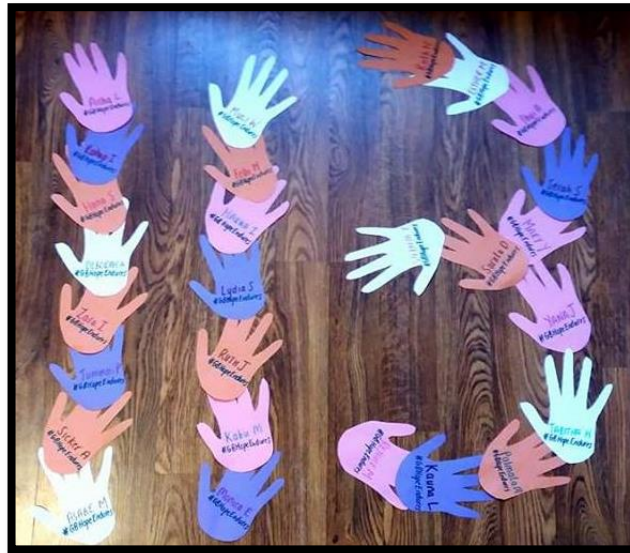
5. Invite each person to write five short sentence prayers on the thumb and each finger of the template:

- **Thankfulness:** Praise God for the return of 167 young women who have escaped, been found or released.
- **This young woman:** IDG 2017 marks her 1276th day in captivity. Pray for safety, protection, comfort and safe return for her.
- **For those who have returned:** As survivors of sexual violence, life is hard for many returning girls and women. Pray that communities and families would embrace them rather than stigmatise and ostracise them. Most need high quality long term care and rehabilitation. Pray that God would provide these resources.
- **For the nameless:** Since 2009, 20,000 people have been killed and over 2.6 million have been forced to leave their homes. Pray for strength, resilience and hope for all the people and communities affected by violence. In the midst of the unimaginable horror, pray that God will provide comfort, peace and love.
- **For the Nigerian Church and GB:** Nigeria is number 12 on the Open Doors 2017 World Watch List, the annual ranking of countries where Christians face the most extreme persecution. Christians in northern Nigeria have not only faced attack by Boko Haram but also face discrimination and restrictions in accessing community resources, such as clean water, health clinics and higher education.





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- 6. Arrange the hands into the number 113** on a floor, wall or table like the photo and invite someone to lead a closing prayer. (If you don't have enough to make the number 113, perhaps get your young people to cut out a few more hands each).
- 7. Take a photo and send it to GB International** – collective activism is important and can make a considerable difference. We want to share these photos on social media and with government agencies across the world to show that #GBHopeEndures. Send a good quality photo via:  
Email: [home@gbworldwide.org](mailto:home@gbworldwide.org)  
Tagging your photo on twitter: @\_gbworldwide  
Tagging your photo on facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/girlsbrigadeworldwide](http://www.facebook.com/girlsbrigadeworldwide)
- 8. What now?** Keep the hands on a display board in your venue to encourage others to pray or let each member take their prayer hand





## The names of 113 remaining missing girls



Deborah A  
Hauwa Y  
Asabe M  
Mwa P  
Patiant D  
Saraya S  
Hanatu I  
Maifa D  
Ruth K  
Anthonia Y  
Kume M  
Kwanta S  
Kummai A  
Esther M  
Hana S  
Rifkatu A  
Ladi W  
Tabitha H  
Ruth N  
Safiya A  
Rebecca K  
Christy Y  
Rebecca L  
Laraba J  
Debora Y  
Hanatu M  
Hauwa T  
Suzana Y  
Saraya P  
Jummai P  
Marv S



Muli W  
Falta L  
Eli J  
Luggwa S  
Laraba M  
Hauwa I  
Hauwa B  
Yana J  
Laraba P  
Saraya A  
Godiya B  
Awa B  
Tabitha S  
Mary Y  
Ladi J  
Luggwa S  
Saraya S  
Sicker A  
Talata D  
Rejoice M  
Deborah A  
Salomi P  
Mary A  
Ruth J  
Esther J  
Zara I  
Laraba Y  
Rahila Y  
Ladi P  
Mary P  
Febi H

Ruth I  
Racheal N  
Rifkatu S  
Kwadugu M  
Saratu D  
Jinkai Y  
Yana Y  
Palmata M  
Awagana M  
Pindar N  
Yana P  
Saraya M  
Hauwa J  
Hauwa K  
Maryamu M  
Liyatu H  
Rifkatu Y  
Deborah A  
Asabe A  
Maryamu B  
Deborah A  
Kauna L  
Christiana B  
Hauwa P  
Lydia S  
Ruth B  
Monica E  
Rifkatu G  
Rahap I  
Deborah S  
Hauwa M

Hauwa T  
Serah S  
Aishatu M  
Aishatu G  
Hauwa N  
Hamsatu A  
Mairama A  
hauwa W  
Ihyi Abdu  
Hasana A  
Rakiya K  
Halima G  
Aisha L  
Kabu M  
Yayi A



*Please note that at time of print, the Nigerian government has not released a verified list of names of all of the returned young women. This list is from CAN charity website.*

**God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! Ephesians Ch.3:20.**





## Update: 1276 days on



This is an anniversary that we never wanted to be commemorating. 1,276 days on & counting, 113 young women from Chibok remain missing and separated from their families in Nigeria.



But there are still things to be thankful to God for including 57 young women who have escaped, 4 young women who have been found and 106 young women who have been released.



In total, 167 girls and women have managed to escape or have been rescued. As survivors of sexual violence and abuse, their stories are full of horror. Some are now HIV+ and pregnant (4 returned with children). These women require high quality long term care including counselling, safety and healthcare. Unfortunately many returning women and girls are severely isolated, marginalised, rejected and detested by both their communities and families due to the social and cultural norms related to sexual violence. There have been reports that some young women have refused to come home choosing to stay with their new husbands out of love, fear of exclusion or brain-washing. The situation is very complex.



We thank God for the stories of hope that are emerging like Rebecca. She has been affected by the violence and has now created her own NGO helping distribute aid to 2000 widows and orphans in Nigeria. We thank God that Open Doors is helping to build a new trauma centre in north-east Nigeria. Many of the girls who have been released are receiving rehabilitation care and some have started attending university and continuing their education.



Unfortunately many families and communities have been affected by the violence of Boko Haram, the most deadly terrorist group in the world. Since 2009, 20,000 people have been killed and over 2.6 million have been forced to leave their homes. The large-scale Chibok abduction receives the most publicity – but girls and women are kidnapped very frequently by Boko Haram – we don't ever find out their names but God knows!



Girls' Brigade cares for girls because God cares for girls. GB feels convicted to pray for girls and women around the world. We want to live in a world where the value of every person, regardless of gender, is championed and celebrated. Please join us as we continue to raise hope for girls.

