



# GB's Prayer for Chibok Girls & Nigeria



**Father,**  
**You are a God of compassion.**  
**You love each one of the missing 195 young women from Chibok. You know them by name. They are your precious to you.**  
**Please comfort them all including our GB sisters Abigail, Deborah, Grace, Awa, Esther and Deborah. Fill them with your hope, courage and strength. Let them know that they are never, ever alone.**

**You know the many, many people affected by Boko Haram's violence. The world may have forgotten them, but you haven't. We pray for the 25 women who were abducted in an attack in NE Nigeria just last week. We think of the 2.6 million people who have been forced to leave their homes. We can't imagine what this is like. Please provide for all their needs.**

**We praise you for the 81 young women who have been rescued or who have escaped. We pray for healing and restoration for them. You are a comforter of the broken-hearted. For the devastated families and communities in Nigeria, please provide your healing. Thank you God for the shining light of the church in Nigeria and for how GB is transforming lives throughout the country. We pray for wisdom & courageous leadership from the government and for peace for this nation.**

**We don't understand why these girls, families and communities are suffering so much. We know that your heart is breaking with ours. We trust your promises Lord. As Ephesians 3:20 says, anything is possible with you. You can do immeasurably more that we can ask or imagine.**

**Please help these young women (and the many others) return to their families. Our hope remains in you. Amen.**



[www.gbworldwide.org](http://www.gbworldwide.org)





# How can you use this prayer in GB?

GB International is inviting members and friends to say this prayer on 14/15 April 2017, the third anniversary of the Chibok girls' abductions. However it can be used any time. There are a number of ways which you can use this prayer individually, in Girls' Brigade and in Church. Please feel free to adapt this prayer activity to suit the needs of your young people.

### In Girls' Brigade:

- Use it as part of your opening or closing devotions along with a brief update of the situation in Nigeria (see p.3). One person could read it out or you could print copies so the group can say it collectively together.
- Include a longer time for creative prayer and reflection. You can find creative prayer ideas in this free GB resource - <http://gbworldwide.org/bring-back-our-girls/>.
- If you haven't done so already, link the prayer with practical action through GB International's Cards of Hope initiative - <http://gbworldwide.org/project/gbs-cards-of-hope-initiative/> or through the Hope for Girls resource - <http://gbworldwide.org/projects/hope-for-girls/>.

### In your Church:

- Send this resource to your church leader and encourage them to include this in a church service or your next GB service.

### In your regional/national GB:

- Share this prayer resource on your social media and communication networks.
- Use the prayer at your next regional/national leadership team meeting.

### Individually:

- Spend some time in personal prayer on 14/15 April 2017.
- Share the prayer on your social media networks and encourage others to join in.

However you choose to engage, we'd love to know what you are doing! Share on email ([home@gbworldwide.org](mailto:home@gbworldwide.org)), on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GirlsBrigadeWorldwide) ([www.facebook.com/GirlsBrigadeWorldwide](https://www.facebook.com/GirlsBrigadeWorldwide)) or twitter ([@\\_GBWorldwide](https://twitter.com/_GBWorldwide))





## Update: 3 years on

This is an anniversary that we never wanted to be commemorating. Three years on and 195 young women remain missing and separated from their families in Nigeria. Six of them are our GB sisters – Abigail, Deborah, Grace, Awa, Esther and Deborah.

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!

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 Hausa-Fulani herdsmen, a traditionally nomadic Islamic tribe. In 12 of the northern states, Sharia (Islamic law) has been implemented, and Christians in these states face discrimination and restrictions in accessing community resources, such as clean water, health clinics and higher education. Displaced Christians often also suffer discrimination when aid is being distributed.

81 girls and women have managed to escape or have been rescued. As survivors of sexual violence and abuse, their stories are full of horror. Many are now HIV+ and pregnant. 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. We thank God that Open Doors is helping to build a new trauma centre in north-east Nigeria.

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.

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.

