



150 days: Pray for Chibok girls.



Open Doors

Serving persecuted **Christians** worldwide

What can we do?

11 September 2014 marks 150 days since over 200 Chibok school girls in Nigeria were abducted by Boko Haram - 150 days without love and family; 150 days without freedom of choice. You can read more about the background of the abductions on page 6.

Sometimes when we're faced with a huge injustice like this, we can be paralysed by fear, or the idea that we can't do anything.

We can. We can **educate** others. We can mobilise others to **act** against it. And by educating and mobilising others, we're helping to **transform** the world that we live in and restore it for God's glory. Here's three simple things you can do:



1. Use your voice for the voiceless

The Chibok school girls have literally been silent for 150 days; they may not have a voice which is heard but we do. If you're on social media, like Twitter and Facebook, we invite you to use your voice for the voiceless. Although there was a lot of social media publicity after the girls were kidnapped, the girls are now largely absent from the media.

- a) Change your profile picture to one of yourself holding up the #bringbackourgirls sign and with your mouth taped shut (signifying the silence of the girls).
- b) Sign up for our Thunderclap.

What is it? Thunderclap is a website that allows people to pledge a social media post. All pledged posts will go out at the same time, on the same day, saying the same thing – in order to achieve the maximum impact. When you click the link and choose 'Support with Facebook', 'Support with Twitter' or 'Support with Tumblr', we'll send just one message through your account, at a certain time on 11 September.



If you are part of the **Asia and Pacific fellowship** – sign up for your Thunderclap here - <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/15867-bringbackourgirls>.

If you are part of the **Africa, Caribbean-Americas and Europe** fellowship – sign up for your Thunderclap here – <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/15866-bringbackourgirls>.

The message includes a link to Open Doors, a Christian charity that is encouraging us to write messages of hope, encouragement and love to the Chibok families. (The link will become live by 11 September).

2. Pray together

Please join with us in prayer on 11 September. Pray for:

- **The young women** – pray for strength, courage and protection. Pray that their faith would be deepened as they lean on God as their rock.
- **Their families** – pray that God will sustain hope in their hearts, and a support network for the. Some of the parents have died since the kidnappings – pray for families who are suffering double grief.



- **The government** – pray for wisdom and discernment for the president and government in this difficult political situation. Pray that it would make wise and courageous choices to enable these young women to return home soon.
- **The village of Chibok** – pray for God’s protection as Boko Haram continues to terrorise them and there is a looming threat of famine.
- **Boko Haram** - As hard as it is, pray for the members of Boko Haram and for a softening of their hearts. Pray that they will be merciful and release the girls voluntarily.
- **Persecuted church in Nigeria** – pray for the safety of Christians in Nigeria who put their lives on the line to worship God and for the protection of the Open Doors team as they take Bibles, relief and training to believers in need.
- **Girls’ Brigade Nigeria** – pray for GB in Nigeria as they equip and empower girls to experience the life to the full that Jesus gives. GB Nigeria asks us to: ‘Pray for the same return of all the young women who have been held hostage for close to 150 days.’



3. Creative prayer activity with your GB group

On the week leading up to the 11 September, you can empower your GB group to pray for these young women by using this creative prayer activity by Open Doors, a charity which supports and advocates for the persecuted church across the world. These creative prayer activities would be perfect to do with your whole group at the beginning and end of the night - use the background notes to help them understand the situation. Feel free to do one or choose a few. **(And remember you can use it to pray any time, not just 11 September).**

Prayer paper chain

- Print out the paper chain girl template on page 4.
- Write a name on each of the girls, using the list provided on page 5.
- Colour in each paper girl and pray as you do it, remembering that God has the name of each girl engraved in the palms of His hand.
- Cut along dashed lines (above the heads and at the feet).
- Fold along fold lines (accordion style) so that the girls can stand up.

Try and make a chain of at least 180 girls! Hang them on a wall for all to see or fold them so they can stand on a desk or table.



Pray for freedom

Read Luke Ch.5:18-19, and write it or print it in large letters for people to meditate on - use these verses to help you pray for the freedom of the girls.

Pray for Nigeria

Print out a map of Nigeria or the Nigerian flag, and attach sticky notes with prayers onto it. Pray for the Nigerian church and for The Girls' Brigade.

Heart prayers

Read Romans Ch.8:35-39. Cut out paper hearts and write prayers on them, asking God to let the abducted girls know that nothing can separate them from His love. You could stick them on the map of Nigeria as well.

Because I Am a Girl prayer

On a large piece of paper, draw around a woman or girl you know to create an outline. Write prayers for the abducted girls and Bible verses inside the outline.

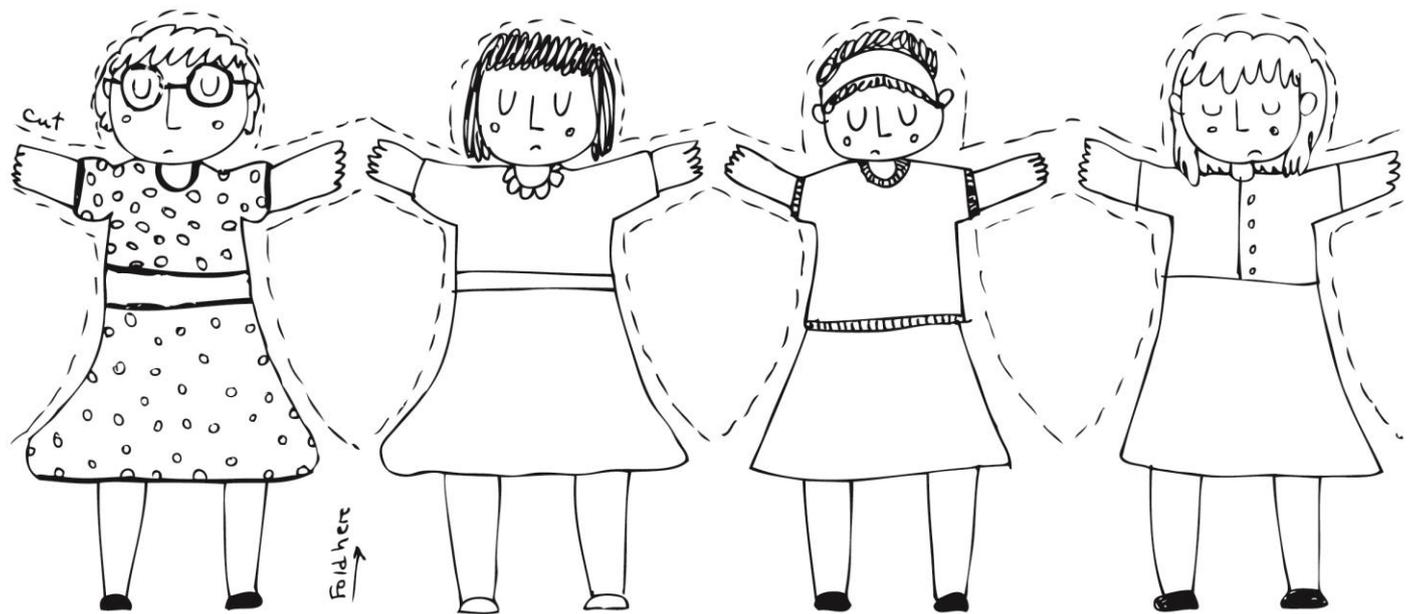
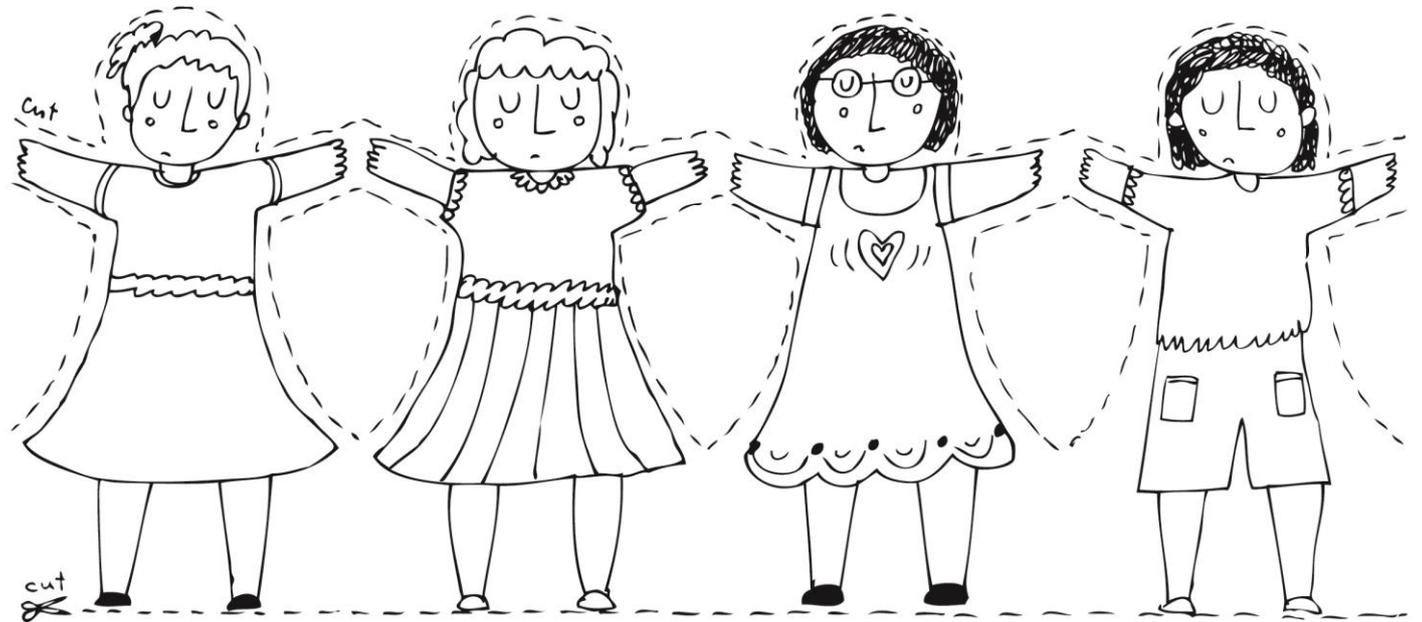
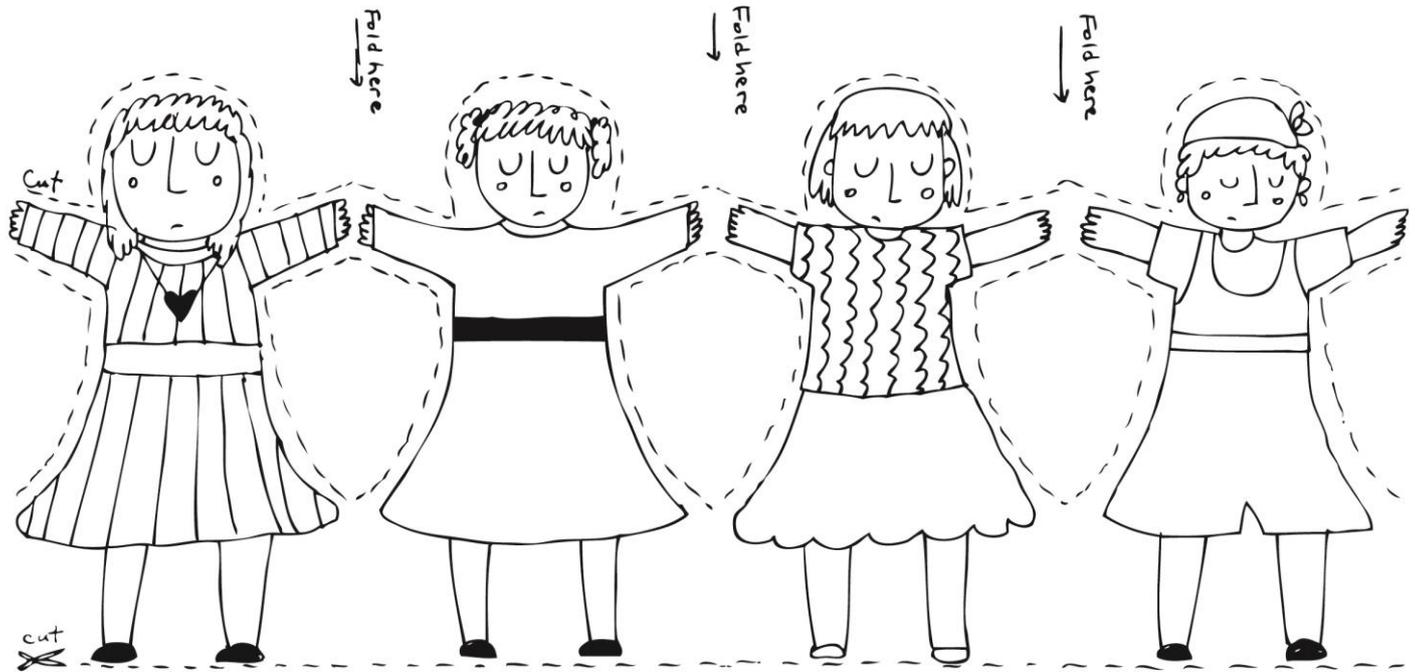
'I've called you by name' prayer

Print out the list of the names of the abducted girls, cut out each one and put them in a bowl. Pull out one name and pray for the safe release of that girl. Keep it in your purse or wallet, stick it on a mirror or keep it on your desk to remind you to pray for her.

Light in the darkness prayer

Light candles to represent the girls as you pray for them. You could use 18 candles each representing 10 girls if space is limited.





- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Deborah | 47. Saraya | 93. Maryamu | 139. Saraya |
| 2. Awa | 48. Jummai | 94. Lydia | 140. Kauna |
| 3. Hauwa | 49. Mary | 95. Laraba | 141. Christiana |
| 4. Asabe | 50. Jummai | 96. Naomi | 142. Yana |
| 5. Mwa | 51. Yanke | 97. Rahila | 143. Hauwa |
| 6. Patience | 52. Muli | 98. Ruth | 144. Hadiza |
| 7. Saraya | 53. Fatima | 99. Ladi | 145. Lydia |
| 8. Mary | 54. Eli | 100. Mary | 146. Ruth |
| 9. Gloria | 55. Saratu | 101. Esther | 147. Mary |
| 10. Hanatu | 56. Deborah | 102. Helen | 148. Lugwa |
| 11. Gloria | 57. Rahila | 103. Margret | 149. Muwa |
| 12. Tabitha | 58. Luggwa | 104. Deborah | 150. Hanatu |
| 13. Maifa | 59. Kauna | 105. Filo | 151. Monica |
| 14. Ruth | 60. Lydia | 106. Febi | 152. Margret |
| 15. Esther | 61. Laraba | 107. Ruth | 153. Docas |
| 16. Awa | 62. Hauwa | 108. Racheal | 154. Rhoda |
| 17. Anthonia | 63. Comfort | 109. Rifkatu | 155. Rifkatu |
| 18. Kume | 64. Hauwa A | 110. Mairama | 156. Saratu |
| 19. Aisha | 65. Hauwa | 111. Saratu | 157. Naomi |
| 20. Nguba | 66. Yana | 112. Jinkai | 158. Hauwa |
| 21. Kwanta | 67. Laraba | 113. Margret | 159. Rahap |
| 22. Kummai | 68. Saraya | 114. Yana | 160. Deborah |
| 23. Esther | 69. Glory | 115. Grace | 161. Hauwa |
| 24. Hana | 70. Naomi | 116. Amina | 162. Hauwa |
| 25. Rifkatu | 71. Godiya | 117. Palmata | 163. Serah |
| 26. Rebecca | 72. Awa | 118. Awagana | 164. Aishatu |
| 27. Blessing | 73. Na'omi | 119. Pindar | 165. Aishatu |
| 28. Ladi | 74. Maryamu | 120. Yana | 166. Hauwa |
| 29. Tabitha | 75. Tabitha | 121. Saraya | 167. Hamsatu |
| 30. Ruth | 76. Mary | 122. Hauwa | 168. Mairama |
| 31. Safiya | 77. Ladi | 123. Hauwa | 169. Hauwa |
| 32. Naomi | 78. Rejoice | 124. Hauwa | 170. Ihyi |
| 33. Solomi | 79. Luggwa | 125. Maryamu | 171. Hasana |
| 34. Rhoda | 80. Comfort | 126. Maimuna | 172. Rakiya |
| 35. Rebecca | 81. Saraya | 127. Rebeca | 173. Halima |
| 36. Christy | 82. Sicker | 128. Liyatu | 174. Aisha |
| 37. Rebecca | 83. Talata | 129. Rifkatu | 175. Kabu |
| 38. Laraba | 84. Rejoice | 130. Naomi | 176. Yayi |
| 39. Saratu | 85. Deborah | 131. Deborah | 177. Falta |
| 40. Mary | 86. Salomi | 132. Ladi | 178. Kwadugu |
| 41. Debora | 87. Mary | 133. Asabe | 179. Falta |
| 42. Naomi | 88. Ruth | 134. Maryamu | 180. Kwadugu |
| 43. Hanatu | 89. Esther | 135. Ruth | |
| 44. Hauwa | 90. Esther | 136. Mary | |
| 45. Juliana | 91. Maryamu | 137. Abigail | |
| 46. Suzana | 92. Zara | 138. Deborah | |

Pray for Chibok girls



#bringbackourgirls background

11 September 2014 marks 150 days since over 200 Chibok school girls in Nigeria were abducted - 150 days without love and family; 150 days without freedom of choice.

What happened to the Chibok school girls?

In the middle of the night on 14-15 April 2014, a group of militants from Boko Haram forced their way into a Christian boarding school and kidnapped nearly 250 young women, aged 16 – 18. Although the area was increasingly unsafe and the school had been officially closed for a month, these young women were called back to undertake their senior certificate exam in physics. Currently there are around 180 girls still missing (though there may be more). Some young women managed to escape, others were killed. We believe that a small number of the girls were members of Girls' Brigade.



Who is Boko Haram?

Nigeria ranks number one on Open Door's World Watch Top Ten Violence list. The country is split into two; the Muslim north and the Christian south and there has been increasingly high levels of violence and persecution against Christians. Boko Haram, a radical Islamic terrorist group, has been terrorizing north eastern Nigeria - a region that's half Muslim and half Christian - for almost five years with the goal of establishing an Islamic state. They're ideologically opposed to Western culture, as well as the education of girls, and thus co-ordinated the kidnapping. Boko Haram has demanded ransoms and release of terrorist prisoners in exchange for the girls. There is a serious concern that these girls will be sold into forced marriage, slavery or even killed.

What is being done to help then?

Although the kidnappings went unreported for two weeks, a successful #bringbackourgirls online campaign went viral. But now it has been 150 days and the media has gone silent. Who is giving these voiceless girls a voice? Although it's a complicated political situation, it's also unclear what the Nigerian government is doing to help the victims, which is why activists in the African country have been holding daily protests and taking to social media.

Why does GB care?

Girls' Brigade cares for girls because God cares for girls. We believe in hope for the Chibok girls. We believe that God calls us to build the hope-filled Gospel alternative by modelling His transformative and restorative heart.

Let's join together on 11 September and create a tidal wave of prayer across the world for these young women and their families.

