

## Yemen – Number Three on the World Watch List 2026



A believer in Yemen who said he wants to be a ‘walking Bible’, even in prison, is amongst the Christians detained in the recent crackdown in the country.

“I will also be taken, there were vehicles with agents asking about me only a few days ago,” Majed\* told Open Doors local partners towards the end of last year when the crackdown began. It was the last contact made with him.

“Yes, it is a difficult season that we, as a church, are going through, but we are the children of the King of Kings. Jesus told us that in this world we will have trouble, but He also promised us victory in Him, and this is what keeps us, and myself included, going.”

When local partners spoke with Majed, he shed light on what those in prison would be facing – and what he would likely encounter, too.

“People I know very well are currently in pain, probably being tortured. Some are also scared, sitting in the dark prison cells. In my country, especially in this region [a Houthi controlled area], when someone is taken, they could vanish for months – three, eight, or even more – and we might not know anything about them until they’re released.”

Prior to his arrest, Majid could have escaped, but he chose to remain, knowing that it could be immensely costly. Now caught, Majed’s passion for the gospel and his beloved country will stay undiminished, reflecting the remarkable courage of our Yemeni family amidst intensifying hostility.

“God has called us to be salt and light, this is what I pray I can be,” he said. “May God use me.

### Please pray

- ✠ That Majed would indeed be ‘a walking Bible’, that there will be opportunities to share with others what he’s memorised, and that he’ll be the mirror of his Saviour
- ✠ For strength, protection and wisdom for all those imprisoned, and peace, comfort and hope for their family and friends
- ✠ That this season of hostility will become an opportunity for Yemeni people’s eyes to be opened to the truth of Jesus.

*\*Name changed for security reasons*

## Ringstone in Aveland

### News Sheet

22 February

### Sunday next before Lent

*We welcome Revd Peter Lister and thank him for leading our Eucharist service*



#### Psalm 32: The Joy of Forgiveness

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’,  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

You are a hiding-place for me; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

**I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
else it will not stay near you.

**Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the  
beginning, is now and for evermore, Amen**



**Readings for this Sunday**  
**Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7; Romans 5.12-19**  
**Matthew 4.1-11**



### The Collect for this Sunday

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### The Prayer after Communion

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



### Please pray for...

Jane Nichols, Jonathan Newell, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Imogen Matthews, Pat Reid, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Judy Watson, Kevin Whitfield, King Charles III, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We remember Eben Atkinson, and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we pray for those who mourn their loss.

### Anniversaries...

Funeral anniversaries: Gordon Coupland, Brenda Hare (1 year); Isabella Beekin, Fiona Creasey, (2 years)

### From today's Gospel reading

*"At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil for forty days and forty nights."*

### Reflection:

During Lent we can look death, or anything that threatens our vocation to follow God, in the face and not be afraid. Jesus has preceded us into the place of temptation, the desert, and can help us get through our own deserts, the places where, like the Israelites, we have wandered from the path.

### So, we ask ourselves:

- ✚ What is the path I need to get back on to be a more faithful follower of Jesus?
- ✚ What ways help me return to the way of the Lord?

## Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Ringstone and Corby Glen combined Groups

<b>Sunday 22 February</b>	10.15am	Café Church	Swayfield Village Hall
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>Kirkby Underwood</b>
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Corby Glen
	11.00am	Hymns & Prayers	Irnhem
	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>	<b>Morton</b>
<b>Sunday 1 March</b>	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Bitchfield
	9.00am	Holy Communion	Swayfield
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Corby Glen
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Irnhem

---

<b>Wednesday Services</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	10.00am	Eucharist	Corby Glen

---

### Additional Services

<b>Tuesday 24 February</b>	11am	Funeral of Eben Atkinson	Rippingale
----------------------------	------	--------------------------	------------



### Did you know?.....

If you find it difficult (or forget) to bring things to leave in our drop off bin at the back of the church, you can go to the Foodbank website, and purchase items which will then be available in the foodbank. **Go to <https://bournefoodbank.org.uk/how-to-help>**

**These are a few of the things that are running low. Can you help?**

<b>Shampoo</b>	<b>Deodorant (M)</b>	<b>Pasta Sauce</b>
<b>Tinned Meat</b>	<b>UHT Milk</b>	<b>Washing Powder</b>

### Safeguarding & Contact Information

Group Safeguarding Officer - Janice Hill

janicethreetuns@hotmail.co.uk or 01778 440733 and 07972 211936

Group Administrator and for entries to the news sheet (by Tuesday please)

ringstoneoffice@gmail.com