

## **Stirling Free Church 11/04/21**

When joining us by Zoom instead of going directly to the service you will be held in a 'waiting room' until you are let in.

All activities are conducted online via Zoom. If you would like to join us for any of our activities please contact us at [stirlingfreechurch@gmail.com](mailto:stirlingfreechurch@gmail.com)

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April - 11:00 am Rev Iain MacAskill – The Ascension  
11<sup>th</sup> April - 7:00 pm James Blackwell – The Lord's Prayer,  
followed by a time of prayer

### **Court Case.**

Court dates have been set for our case against The Robertson Trust; they are 19, 20 and 23 April.

We plan to meet each morning 19-23 April at 09.30 am to pray for this and for Iain and Kenneth who will be called as witnesses.

### **Midweek Activities**

Prayer for the City, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 2:00PM

### **Coffee and Chat each Wednesday at 11:00AM**

Join us for an informal time of fellowship.

### **House Groups**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 7:30 pm. Study 10 on 1 Corinthians Chapter 16

### **Questions**

- 1 What jumps off the page at you?
- 2 List the various characters and groups Paul mentions in this passage.
- 3 List and describe Paul's concerns in this passage.
- 4 What does Paul's involvement with and concern for so many places and people tell us about being a Christian?
- 5 How does this passage challenge what our context says about living as individuals and living as part of a community?
- 6 How might our churches change if we applied what this passage says?

# OPEN DOORS

## WORLD WATCH LIST:

Open Doors have asked for prayer for the persecuted church each week, based on their world watch list, taking one country each week.

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list/>

**Syria is in 12<sup>th</sup> place on the World Watch List.**

### **How many Christians are there in Syria?**

Syria has about 677,000 Christians, about 3.6 per cent of a population of almost 19 million. The number of Christians in the country has decreased in the past decade, as many have fled conflict and persecution.

### **How are Christians persecuted in Syria?**

Persecution remains extreme in public and private life for Christians in Syria. Christians from a Muslim background are vulnerable to pressure from their family and communities, who perceive conversion from Islam as bringing dishonour. Sometimes these families even request that local officials covertly monitor Christian converts.

In areas controlled by Islamic extremist groups, public expressions of Christianity are banned and most churches have been seized or destroyed. In government-controlled areas, this threat is less – but there are still numerous abductions of church leaders, and Islamic dissidents are still active. Violent attacks continue, while Covid-19 has exacerbated many existing vulnerabilities in the past year.