

## PRAY THENS

## El Salvador is undergoing one of the most significant political transformations in its modern history.

In July 2025, President Bukele's New Ideas party passed constitutional reforms allowing indefinite re-election and longer presidential terms—sparking fears of democratic backsliding.

These moves follow Bukele's popular antigang crackdown, launched in 2022 under a state of exception that suspended civil liberties. Over 85,000 people have been detained, many without trial.

While violence has dropped, reports of arbitrary arrests, overcrowding, prison deaths, and suppression of civil society are mounting. Rights groups like Cristosal have faced threats or been forced to suspend operations.

Supporters credit Bukele with restoring safety. But critics warn that unchecked power and a shrinking civic space risk long-term harm.

El Salvador stands at a crossroads—between security gains and the potential loss of freedom and accountability.

## TODAY, WE PRAY THE NEWS FOR EL SALVADOR

- We pray for those detained, especially minors and those held without charge.
- We pray for for civil society leaders, human rights workers, and local churches, whose voices and presence remain vital in holding space for compassion and reform.
- We pray for the Salvadoran people, that safety would not come at the cost of their human rights.