BUILDING THE CHURCH

EQUIPPING EVANGELISTS TO BRING THE GOSPEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONCERN
BUILDING THE CHURCH

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“AND THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM WILL BE PREACHED IN THE WHOLE WORLD AS A TESTIMONY TO ALL NATIONS, AND THEN THE END WILL COME.”
- MATTHEW 24:14

THE MOST IMPORTANT, DANGEROUS ENDEAVOR

I got saved by someone who shared the gospel with me as I walked between bars as a college student. That moment changed the trajectory of my life. Alcohol would have done me in.

It gives me immense joy when International Christian Concern can feed a desperate, persecuted family, or help free a prisoner in Iran. But I also have the heart and passion of an evangelist, so my soul sings when ICC can build God’s kingdom, one disciple at a time.

In the West, we often think it takes courage to share Christ with a stranger in a laundromat or tell our boss about Jesus over tacos. And from our Western perspective, those moments take some hutzpah.

The pastors and church planters who ICC supports on the far reaches of the globe, however, stand to lose much more than a bruised ego. They carry the mantel of Christ, with the gospel tattooed on their hearts, and march forward into a spiritual minefield. Satan fights for the same common ground, the same lost souls.

These evangelists are the ones who left the safety of the 99. And they navigate where two kingdoms collide, where evil forces can run roughshod over them. I cannot tell you how dangerous their work is. They are killed, beaten, tortured, thrown in prison, and ostracized from everything near and dear to them.

Pastor V boldly shares the gospel and faces radical Hindu nationalists who want him killed in India. He reaches remote villages with a bike and Bibles we gave him, and launches house churches. In China, Pastor An holds Bible studies despite being arrested and having his church shuttered. In Zanzibar, Pastor James was beaten, had his home and church destroyed, yet continues to share the gospel.

We are about to start a new training center for church planters going to India’s toughest regions. We’ve always partnered with others but have grown to the point where we can do it more cheaply and effectively ourselves. Keep us in prayer. We don’t seek to grow ICC’s footprint or any denomination’s footprint; we simply want to grow the kingdom on the front lines of the battle.

As always, we have nothing to give them, only what you pass through us to them. And for that, I thank you.

God bless you!

JEFF KING
President: International Christian Concern
Author: The Last Words of the Martyrs and Islam Uncensored

- MATTHEW 24:14
YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION WITH THE WORD OF GOD

ICC connected with a couple that was called to serve in Indonesia seven years ago. They work tirelessly to preach the gospel to children in their community with little support for their ministry efforts. Although more than 40 children regularly visit their learning center to hear about Jesus, very few have Bibles of their own. ICC came alongside this ministry to provide them with a supply of new Bibles that they can distribute among the children.

The husband shared, “We are very grateful for the blessings that have been distributed to the children. We have been praying for the Bibles for a long time because the children who came to the dormitory did not have a Bible…With the help of the Bibles that were given to us, it was very helpful for our children to learn to know God. Thank you, Lord Jesus. Bless ICC.”

SONIA IS A CHRISTIAN IN EGYPT WHO WORKS AS A SECRETARY AND WHOSE HUSBAND SELLS HOUSEWARE GOODS ON THE STREET. DUE TO HER FAITH, SHE OFTEN EXPERIENCES HARASSMENT FROM HER MUSLIM WORKMATES. AS THEIR ATTEMPTS TO CONVERT HER TO ISLAM FAILED, THEY BEGAN TO GROW MORE AGGRESSIVE AND INSULT HER HUSBAND.

In order to help Sonia support her family in a safe environment, we provided her with a supply of houseware goods for her to partner with her husband and expand their business. This will also allow her to stay close to her family, since her previous job required her to work in another village.

“Thanks for the help,” Sonia expressed. “This will push me and my husband to work well… he sells houseware goods to clients in [this village] and I sell to my neighborhood here.”

ICC SUPPORTS CHRISTIAN TEEN KICKED OUT OF HOME BY MUSLIM PARENTS

In 2017, at the age of 13, Safina came to know the Lord after a miraculous healing. Disapproving of their daughter’s newfound faith, Safina’s Muslim parents kicked her out of the family home. In the following years, she bounced around the homes of extended family members who also met her with threats and violence.

Eventually, Safina connected with a social worker and her husband who is a pastor, who were able to take care of her. Following the pandemic lockdowns, this family was struggling financially because they relied on the support of their church which was no longer able to meet. Still, they wanted to support Safina during her time of need.

ICC came alongside them to provide Safina with two years of school fees and supplies so that she can continue her education. As it is a boarding school, we also provided her with a mattress, bedding, household essentials, personal hygiene items, and more to alleviate the cost of her schooling.

To learn more about how you can support these initiatives, visit www.persecution.org or give us a call at 800-422-5441.
**ONGOING INITIATIVES**

**AFGHANISTAN CRISIS**

ICC continues to rescue Christians and help them escape to safety in other countries. For some underground Afghan Christians hiding from the Taliban, ICC provides rent assistance, food aid, utility costs, and other aid.

**MBB RESCUE**

In April, ICC launched an initiative to support Muslim-background believers (MBBs) in the Middle East with safe housing, food, medical care, business support, and more. Among these believers is a Christian convert who was forced to flee town after being kidnapped and blackmailed because of his newfound faith. In his new town, ICC helped him with the startup costs to open his own barbershop so that he can once again earn an income with the skills and training he already has.

**GENERATION TRANSFORMATION**

In order to break the chains of generational poverty, ICC uses its Generation Transformation program to tackle educational deficits, job discrimination, and a lack of access to capital within the persecuted world. In one case, ICC connected with a family that was forced to flee their homes and jobs to protect their daughters from forced marriages. With ICC’s support, the daughters and son were able to return to school and the son (pictured above) plans to continue his education by studying radiology in college.

**EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR ORPHANS IN INDIA**

In 2008, anti-Christian riots swept across the Kandhamal district of India’s Odisha state. After more than a month of violence, 120 Christians were dead, 8,000 Christian homes were destroyed or looted, and 56,000 people were displaced. Following these riots, ICC began supporting a children’s home that served 14 children who were orphaned by the violence.

The Indian government later changed how it regulated orphanages within the country, and ICC was no longer able to support these children. They were sent back to extended family, and have faced numerous obstacles since then. In recent years, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic situation worsened by the lock downs, the children are struggling to complete their educations.

In response, ICC stepped in to assist the 10 orphans who are still minors with educational assistance. We were able to provide each child with a year’s worth of tuition fees as well as their books for the year.

“I am thankful to ICC for helping me and taking care of me like a father after the death of my father,” one student shared. “I was hopeful and praying to God [to help] me to complete my studies. After many days, again ICC came forward like an angel and [provided] educational support which we were not able to pay [for] several years.”

Another added, “I am thankful to ICC for helping me to continue my studies. I was facing humiliation when my name comes in first in the list who did not pay the fees… I am thankful to ICC for reconsidering me and providing educational support for continuing my studies.”

To learn more about how you can support these initiatives, visit www.persecution.org or give us a call at 800-422-5441.
It seems counterintuitive to press into danger to escape a turbulent situation. But when a ship is stuck at sea, the best thing to do is to take the crashing waves head on.

When Jesus commanded the disciples to get into the boat to go ahead of Him, He knew the fear that would pierce their hearts hours later. In the darkness, they struggled to move anywhere as the winds were against their oars. For some time, they struggled. Alone.

Just before dawn broke, Jesus stepped onto the water to meet them. The disciples were in disbelief! How weak they must’ve become to see the ghost, as it was really Christ.

But Jesus calmed their fear and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” Then He climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down.

Spiritual Storms
Just like the physical storm the disciples faced, we face a spiritual storm in this broken world.

One of the most important things International Christian Concern (ICC) does is push the gospel out into the most dangerous places on Earth. Unlike the disciples who braved the storm for a few hours, Christians in these areas can face a lifetime of oppression, discrimination, and violence.

We receive recurring reports of radical Hindu mobs beating pastors in the streets of India. We’ve been on the other end of whispering phone calls saying, “The Taliban are hunting me down. I’m afraid they’re going to kill me.” Evil knows no bounds when it comes to stopping the spread of the good news.

Facing the Storm
Yet, we will not back down.

In India, we have a solid team of church planters sharing the gospel where it’s never been heard. In North Korea, we broadcast the gospel over the radio. In the Middle East, we provide evangelists with cover jobs, so they will not be killed in the most dangerous Muslim areas.

ICC actively supports more than 300 brave pastors and church planters worldwide.

Hearing His Voice
Like Jesus stepping out into the choppy sea to rescue His disciples, Christians around the world step out into danger to create disciples. These courageous Christians are ministering amid the most intense, spiritual storm, and yet they continue to press on and worship—even if it costs them their lives.

Learn ways you can join us in spreading the gospel on page 22.
North Korean defector and Christian Illyong Ju shares the untold stories of persecution at the hands of the vicious dictatorship.

Not even the dim candle was visible from outside the home under the cloak of the night sky. Only Milky Way stars could illuminate the dark village in Chongjin, North Korea. Blankets covered the window of Illyong Ju’s family home as they huddled around black, metal contraband—a radio with access to the outside world. Most nights, Illyong Ju and his two sisters would lie beneath the cosmic mosaic of the Milky Way’s beauty, listening to the melodic tune of her flute. But tonight was special.

His grandfather, parents, and sisters gathered around their small, rickety table to share a meal, illuminated by the faint flicker of the lone candle. Though they were poor, they were happy together, he recalls. After dinner, the family gathered around the radio to listen to the illegal foreign broadcast. Blankets covered the window, and the volume was barely audible to the family that was sitting right next to it. If anyone caught wind of what was happening, they would surely be executed. But it was worth it.

“North Korea is a country where there is no freedom. There is no freedom of speech, no freedom of religion. And there is [not] even freedom of [thought],” said Illyong Ju. He carries with him the stories of his family and friends who suffered greatly at the hands of the dictatorship.

“My grandfather was a hero. He was a war veteran in North Korea. One day, in a conversation with his only friend, he mentioned about human rights issues in Jewish ideology. The North Korean government took him to the political prison camp,” he said. “My father lost his father when he was only nine years old.” A person can be sent to prison camps or executed simply because of a relationship they are tied to. Illyong Ju’s aunt and her family are locked away in prison camps right now, only because his aunt’s father-in-law was a known Christian. His cousin’s entire family was executed on the charge of “showing gospel.”

Illyong Ju recalls another believer, Mrs. Kim, who escaped to China and was sent back to a North Korean prison camp. “She got tortured and raped and in the full pain, she prayed to Jesus, ‘Jesus, I am full of pain right now, but how painful were you? You were crucified for me.’” After that confession, he said, she was able to “live Heaven’s life in the prison camp.” She evangelized and converted six fellow prisoners in the camp. Every morning, they gathered together and worshiped God with silence—only seeing each other’s eyes.

“I am lucky. My family was lucky. We escaped and we survived,” Illyong Ju said. “Every day, my life in Seoul is like a dream. Just one flashing moment in South Korea was only my dream when I was in North Korea. And today I’m living that dream.”

But there are thousands of believers like Illyong Ju who remain in North Korea, suffocating under the brutal regime’s persecution. These believers are desperate for freedom.

“I don’t want to talk about death, persecution, and darkness. Instead, I want to talk about life, resilience, and hopefulness,” said Illyong Ju. “Our brave brothers and sisters, fellow believers in North Korea, are preaching the gospel. Even this moment. They are multiplying disciples. They worship on the mountains, hills, and underground.”

The gospel is unstoppable, moving forward, and spreading life inside of North Korea, Illyong Ju says.

“I want to say to the people who are in the persecution, please don’t lose your hope. We are fighting for you, and our God is fighting for you—and we win. God is, and has already won. So please don’t lose your hope and please stay firm.”

“Our brave brothers and sisters, fellow believers in North Korea, are preaching the gospel.” - Illyong Ju

Illyong Ju courageously shared his testimony at ICC’s 2022 Persecutor of the Year Awards. To watch his video testimony, please visit our YouTube channel to watch the full press conference!
He set off to strengthen and deepen his Islamic faith. After poring over the true translation of the Quran and the holy books of Islam and comparing his findings to the Bible, something miraculous occurred.

The truth of the gospel became irresistible to Brother Rachid and changed the course of his life—and hundreds, if not thousands, of other former Muslims just like him.

Brother Rachid knows a thing or two about talking to Muslims about Christianity. He was born in Morocco to a conservative Muslim family, and his father remains a well-known and respected imam. After studying the differences between Islam and Christianity with the intent to defend Islam, he converted to Christianity when he was 19. But like so many who convert from Islam to Christianity, he was kicked out of his home and eventually forced to flee his home country.

But Rachid persisted and resisted the status quo of the Arab world. He was determined to share the gospel with more Muslims. If they knew the truth and understood the words of the Quran, they would surely see the beauty of Christ.

In 2005, he began hosting his own television program on Al Hayat TV, and has recorded hundreds of episodes. Daring Questions, one of his programs, allows Muslims to call in and ask questions. But his influence has reached more than just Muslims.

With the rise of COVID-19 and virtual evangelism, his gospel message has even reached the faithless.

“"It's all a scam. Mohammed’s a scam. God’s a scam. They just threw out everything," he recalled.

Many former Muslims believed religion was there to control them and to use for people in power’s benefit. Brother Rachid and his production crew had to come up with a new strategy to reach this group of lost people. They succeeded at getting them out of Islam, but lost a large percentage to no religion.

In an effort to show people the true religion of love and peace, they made a program for people who had lost their Muslim faith that only required two things: the person had left Islam and was currently undecided about their faith.

“It's just wonderful. It's refreshing. It reminded me, in the midst of all this uncertainty—you see so many people will disappoint you. But when you look at the other side, what God is doing in the hearts of people and how they are changing, that's why we should focus our eyes on God. Not on our understanding, not on any person, or anything,” said Rachid.

Through his television program, Brother Rachid finds creative ways to minister directly to those who are in a grey area of faithlessness.
OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS SIT IN PRISONS ALL AROUND THE WORLD, THERE BECAUSE THEY REFUSED TO BACK DOWN WHEN THREATENED FOR THEIR FAITH IN CHRIST. ALONE IN PRISON WITHOUT ASSURANCE OF A FAIR HEARING OR JUSTICE IN THIS LIFE, A LETTER OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM A FELLOWSHIP CAN MAKE A REAL, TANGIBLE DIFFERENCE TO SOMEONE INCARCERATED FOR HIS OR HER FAITH. EVEN IF THEY DO NOT OR CANNOT READ THE WORDS YOU WRITE, THE SIMPLE FACT THAT SOMEONE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD TOOK THE TIME TO WRITE THEM A LETTER CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE.

MARYAM AND MARZIYEH

Maryam and Marziyeh, two young Iranian women, operated a Bible smuggling operation in Tehran for years. With only the darkness of the night for protection, they distributed thousands of Bibles to Muslim seekers.

“We put a big map of Tehran on the wall and decided to cover each area. At night, we would carry New Testaments in our backpacks and put them in the mailboxes.” After finishing each area, they would draw a cross on the map and pray for that area.

Maryam and Marziyeh’s evangelism efforts came to a screeching halt when the police discovered what they were doing and arrested them, but not long after their arrest they began to receive letters – more than 7,500 of them! Thousands of men, women, and children each took a few minutes to write words of encouragement to two young Christians imprisoned for their faith.

Maryam and Marziyeh told ICC that the letters helped protect them and it greatly encouraged them to know that believers around the world were “standing with us in the battle, and [letting us] know we were not alone.”

WHY WRITE LETTERS?

Maryam and Marziyeh were released in November 2008, but so many others remain in prison around the world. Every day, they face the terror of guards who aren’t held accountable for their actions. They suffer loneliness and isolation in dark prison cells, with little access to the outside world.

The letters don’t always reach the prisoner. In Maryam and Marziyeh’s case, they never actually got to read a single one. But guess who did read the letters—all 7,500 of them? Their guards! And as the guards read letter after letter, they began to treat Maryam and Marziyeh differently, knowing the world was watching everything they did. The guards even became curious about the Bible verses written in the letters and would ask Maryam and Marziyeh for explanations.

JOIN ICC

Please consider joining us in writing letters to believers who, like Maryam and Marziyeh were, are isolated in prison because of the gospel.

Visit www.persecution.org/letters and we’ll send you a digital packet that contains everything you need to write your own letters and even organize a small letter-writing event. The packet is complete with profiles of prisoners, simple guidelines, and even a few sample letters to get you started.

“Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.” Hebrews 13:3

LETTERS THAT MAKE AN IMPACT

ICC’s letter-writing initiative encourages Christians who are locked up for sharing the gospel.
Members of Professional Baseball Team Choose Their Faith Over Pride.

As thousands of corporations around the nation announced plans to recognize June as LGBTQ+ Pride month, most believed that everyone would be eager to participate. However, on June 4, five members of the Tampa Bay Rays respectfully declined to adorn their uniforms with the team’s new LGBTQ+ Pride patches, as part of the franchise’s annual “Pride Night,” citing their religious beliefs. Quickly following, the players were met with a firestorm of criticism from across the nation on social media, doubting their decision to put their faith first.

In response to the criticism on social media, from activists and even others within the league denouncing their lack of allyship, Relief Pitcher Jason Adam, one of the players who abstained from participation, clarified their stance: their choice to abstain wouldn’t change their desire to be loving and welcoming to everyone, but that for him and his teammates, “It’s just what we believe, the lifestyle he’s (Jesus) encouraged us to live for our good, not to withhold,” calling it a “faith-based decision.”

Though they knew the social pressure and condemnation they would face in an increasingly progressive America, these men dared to champion their beliefs, remaining welcoming to all, but unapologetically in their convictions.

Increased Hostilities Against Churches and Pro-Life Groups Following Supreme Court Leaks and Ruling

On May 2, Justice Samuel Alito’s draft opinion, revealing the potential outcome of the ongoing Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health was leaked from the Supreme Court, alluding to the potential revocation of the Roe v. Wade decision allowing abortion for parts of the country.

In the wake of the leak, many pro-choice Americans took to the streets, seeking to express disdain for the potential outcome. While rallies and protests were expected since Americans are guaranteed the right to express their opinions, a wave of hostility started against Catholics, who are doctrinally pro-life, and pro-life-leaning pregnancy resource centers.

Rallying demonstrators initially threatened pregnancy resource centers and several faith-based organizations. The group, calling themselves Jane’s Revenge, called for increased violence and a “night of rage” on the night of the Court’s final ruling. This ruling was finally announced on June 24, confirming the leak.

On June 17, after being pressured by concerned lawmakers and several threatening communiqués began to proliferate online from a left-wing domestic terror collective, the FBI announced that it would launch an investigation into this series of attacks and threats against pregnancy centers and several faith-based organizations. The group, calling themselves Jane’s Revenge, called for increased violence and a “night of rage” on the night of the Court’s final ruling. The weight of this case pushed these demonstrators to be bolder, as they sought to intimidate Protestants and Catholics alike and sway the future verdict. Their key message: “If abortions aren’t safe, then neither are you.” However, the fervor of many Christians remains steadfast in their convictions.

This ruling was finally announced on June 24, confirming the leak. In an urgent memo, warning them of the “night of rage” threatened by the pro-choice demonstrators. While the night of the ruling came and went without catastrophe, many pregnancy centers and Catholic groups remain wary of the months to come.

Supreme Court Rules Maine Cannot Deny Tuition Assistance to Student for Religious Schools

A victory for religious freedom was achieved on May 21 when the Supreme Court ruled 6-3 against Maine’s ban on tuition assistance funds to the state’s religious schools. The court determined that the inequality violated the First Amendment’s protections for the free exercise of religion for Maine parents searching for a school.

Maine has administered a program that will provide tuition assistance to attend a private school. Students receive the assistance. While the Maine program sought to avoid subsidizing religious institutions, the program’s application was based on the parent’s preference, meaning that the conditions infringed on the parent’s ability to choose freely and exercise their religious beliefs. Going forward, Maine parents cannot be limited in their choice to select a school that is in line with their faith.

If abortions aren’t safe, then you aren’t either.

Pregnancy center in Wisconsin vandalized: "If abortions aren’t safe, then you aren’t either."
Pastor Arya had lovingly served his community in India for more than 13 years. His ministry had reached many villages during that time, but now he focused his efforts on the Christian congregation in his modest, rural village. He shepherded this small gathering of believers—his local church—and they faithfully supported his ministry with tithes and offerings. Their support provided the means for Pastor Arya to live and continue his ministry.

Distressingly, Pastor Arya’s rural village community was badly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Just as the pandemic cut deep into the livelihoods of people worldwide, the pandemic also destroyed Pastor Arya’s ability to provide for himself and his family. Disease prevention measures shut down churches in the country for many months, reducing the amount of support the pastor received to virtually nothing. The tithes and offerings provided by his congregation had served as the foundation upon which Pastor Arya could carry out his ministry, but with that foundation removed, he struggled to provide for his family.

Pastor Arya was deeply committed to his community and ministry, but he saw no way to go on. Assistance to his rural community, let alone his Christian congregation, was not a priority for the government of India’s Hindu majority nation. In these discouraging circumstances, he lamented, “I am passionate about carrying on the ministry that I have been doing for the last 13 years; the present condition of my support will not allow me to carry on.”

In this dire situation, Pastor Arya came to International Christian Concern (ICC) with the idea to open up a grocery store to supply an alternative source of income for himself and his family. He said, “I would like to start a grocery store business to raise the finances to meet my family needs and also continue the ministry at the same time.”

The idea to open a grocery store was especially valuable because his broader community was, in fact, in need of such a business. But Pastor Arya was having trouble just putting food on the table—he certainly did not have the money to build a new business from scratch. Without financial resources to invest in his idea, it would remain just that—an idea.

ICC, however, listened to Pastor Arya. Our field team learned about his ministry and present need; a project was approved which provided the inventory necessary for him to start his grocery store business.

After approving the project, ICC coordinated with a local partner to help the pastor purchase goods in bulk. He gathered the supplies and successfully opened retail operations out of a small shed. The unassuming venture was a lifeline for Pastor Arya and his family, and he began to earn a stable income. The money has not only been enough to meet his family’s personal needs, but has also been enough to cover some of the expenses of his ministry.

Pastor Arya expressed, “Thank you International Christian Concern for the support, because of your support we are able to establish the [grocery] shop in our village and it has given us great hope to our family and ministry.”

Only through the support of generous donors was ICC able to help Pastor Arya and his family. If you have a desire to support ICC’s mission to aid those who are persecuted and in need, like Pastor Arya, please consider donating so that ICC can continue this impactful work.

When all hope seemed lost, ICC supported Pastor Arya to transform his ministry, and his life.

By Claire Evans

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DEFYING THE ODDS

When all hope seemed lost, ICC supported Pastor Arya to transform his ministry, and his life.

By Claire Evans

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RIGHT: Customers shop at Pastor Arya’s grocery store. After losing financial support for his ministry, the livelihood project allows him to support his family and continue to pursue ministry.
A Light in the Dark

Night has fallen on the Christians of Afghanistan. The Taliban is hunting for Christians and has found some already. Believers receive phone calls saying “we know who you are, we are watching you, we are coming for you.” That understandably has caused many Christians to flee the country, but many others are staying because they want to be a light to the lost and the dying around them, knowing full well it may cost them their own lives.

Persecution drives the church underground. The danger believers face causes them to go deep with God, holding onto Him with everything they have. That closeness causes them to light up with His presence and they become a light in the deep darkness around them.

Those living in the dark hate it and are always searching for and drawn to the light. That is really the core cause of the growth of the persecuted church.

I see it throughout church history, just look at Rome. Rome decimated the church for centuries with persecution after persecution. But eventually, the church overflowed its banks and washed the old Rome away.

Look around the world today and you will see the same thing. In Iran, the Ayatollah’s have done everything they could to kill the church for four decades. They’ve imprisoned, tortured, raped, and murdered its leaders. But persecution has only caused the church to catch on fire. The result? So many people are coming to Christ, the government can’t arrest them all—only the top leaders. In fact, the Mosques are empty, and the church has exploded.

The same thing has happened in China. The Manists have used the same methods as the Ayatollahs but again, the Church caught on fire. There are probably 150+ million believers in China, and they are taking the Gospel to the world.

Our responsibility to the persecuted is two-fold. The first is to stand by them and support them in their suffering. But we must also learn from them!

The pressures of life can be crushing. But we must allow the pressure to push us to God and hang onto Him with everything we’ve got.

Then, in death, you will come alive and those living in the dark around you will see His light!

This was an excerpt from Jeff King’s upcoming devotional book focused on spiritual lessons from the persecuted. For information about pre-orders, please contact moreinfo@persecution.org.

HOPE FOR THE PRESENT

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WEEKLY PRAYERS

SUNDAY

Pray for pastors, like Pastor Arya, who are struggling to provide for their family and continue ministry.

MONDAY

Pray for Brother Rachid’s unbelieving audience, that they would come to know Christ.

TUESDAY

Pray for pastors evangelizing in rural areas of India.

WEDNESDAY

Pray for the growth of the underground Church in North Korea.

THURSDAY

Pray for those in Muslim-dominated countries and regions to challenge the status quo and share the gospel.

FRIDAY

Pray for those Christians and pastors who are imprisoned for sharing the gospel.

SATURDAY

Pray for those in your life who do not yet know Jesus, that they would put their faith in him.

To download ICC’s monthly prayer calendar, visit: www.persecution.org/take-action/prayer-calendar.
YOU CAN HELP TODAY!

EVANGELISM & GOSPEL SUPPORT

The Bible is living and active, spiritual fertilizer that brings life wherever it is spread. Jesus is our only hope. So, we spread the gospel at the front lines through printed Bibles, radio broadcasts, and discipleship-oriented materials. Below are a few countries where we have gospel outreach:

TURKEY
Genocide nearly eliminated Christianity from Turkey a century ago. To help rebuild the church, ICC supports underground pastors.

AFGHANISTAN
ICC continues to invest in the underground church in Afghanistan—named ICC's 2022 Persecutor of the Year in the 'country' category. ICC provides pastors with small businesses, translates and publishes Christian literature, and broadcasts the gospel.

NORTH KOREA
ICC broadcasts the gospel over the radio into North Korea twice daily. ICC has also hidden USB drives in rice bottles that are carried via rivers and streams into the hermit kingdom.

MALAYSIA
ICC gave 1,000 Malays printed Bibles to Christians who had limited access to God's Word or were living in rural areas.

UGANDA
ICC disciples and cares for Christian converts as they transition to their new life in Christ.

INDONESIA
ICC provides church planters with cover businesses to hide their ministry in dangerous Muslim areas.

JOIN US TODAY!

$25 sends 250 gospel leaflets into North Korea.

$50 buys 50 New Testaments in India.

$100 provides one bicycle that triples a church planter’s effectiveness.

$500 supports North Korean ministry workers for one month.

$1,200 sustains one church planter for one year.

WAYS TO GIVE:

ONLINE
WWW.PERSECUTION.ORG/GOSPEL

SEND DONATIONS:

ICC
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MATTHEW 3:16

so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness. "Then he con-
sented. "And when Jesus was bap-
tized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son," with whom I am well pleased."