

### Sudan’s ongoing crisis

Fighting in Sudan keeps spreading to more cities, bringing increasing concern for the thousands of people who have moved from one city to the next in search of safety. The war between two generals that began last April shows no signs of stopping. A gospel worker we’ll call John says believers may be fighting to survive right now, but they haven’t lost sight of the Great Commission. He asks for prayer that God will guide and encourage His suffering people and that Christian leaders will find and help the most vulnerable among them. Christians are also among the thousands who have fled for refuge into Egypt, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

*Mission network News*

### Mission to Australia’s soldiers

Since the era of World War II, the Christian ministry *Everyman’s* has provided a robust Christian presence alongside Australia’s defence forces. *Everyman’s* workers bring the gospel and hope to Christians and non-Christians alike, especially when defence personnel and their families encounter traumatic events. Praise God for the opportunities still available to this Christian ministry in a world that has become increasingly secular.

*New Life*

### The church in Belize

Belize is a small central American nation where 40% of the territory is classified as national parks or reserves, making it a popular place for ecotourism. It is also a popular destination for short-term mission-trips, which have not always strengthened a church that already has a problem of dependency on outside aid. Belize has been described as ‘an over-evangelized nation with not enough true disciples and little increase through converts from the secular world.’ The need is for true sacrifice and fruitful partnerships with Christian entities, both inside and outside the country.

*Operation World*

### Ethiopia’s growing churches

According to a report from church leaders in one region of Ethiopia, 480 peoples gave their lives to Christ in an evangelism campaign and 160 were baptized. Another region reported 164 decisions for Christ and 60 baptisms, the majority from Muslim families. Around Ethiopia the number of conversions is increasing and church attendance is growing. In two other regions, both dangerous for Christians, underground churches were strengthened through conversions, baptisms and the provision of audio and printed materials. Deprived children were given exercise books and writing materials.

*Bridgeway*

### Summer Bible camps in India

A Delhi-based ministry to northern India reports much fruit from camps run in various centres for children, teens and adults. The emphasis in different camps varies, to include gospel outreach, discipleship mentoring, Bible teaching and preacher training. Camps include praise times, worship, lectures, workshops, crafts, games and quizzes. One-on-one counselling and sharing of the Good News are part of every camp. One recent camper commented, ‘The camp helped me see that the true Christian is not one who is always perfect but one who is honest and consistent in pursuit of a godly life. I have been forced to alter my definition of success so that it aligns with the lifestyle that God has set out for us in the Bible.’

*Delhi Bible Institute*



## **'Salt and light' in Vietnam**

*A group of believers in a village of central Vietnam have been encouraged to reach out to their community, despite the persecution they receive. They were emboldened largely through a seminar called 'Salt and Light' that aimed to show them how to become more involved in their community by building relationships with people and showing interest in daily affairs. In this way they were more likely to be the influence Christ wanted them to be. The relationship between Christians and their atheist neighbours gradually improved, and people in the community showed they had an interest in having better values and lifestyle. The believers' prayer is that some will take the next step and commit their lives to Christ.*

*Open Doors*

## **Russia**

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom has released a report on the increase in violations of religious freedom in Russia since the war in Ukraine began. Some Christian denominations outside the Orthodox Church are being targeted, since they are perceived as 'Western.' Nevertheless, believers are still sharing the gospel and some churches are still able to run summer camps for children and teens.

*Mission Network News*

## **Mixed news from Mozambique**

A Zambian missionary in Mozambique writes: "Taking the Good News of our Lord Jesus and bringing church leaders to full knowledge of God's Word has been our direction ever since we stepped into Mozambique. People need the truth. Because of ignorance and illiteracy, people embrace whatever comes their way. There is great need for local Bible teachers. We are operating in seven provinces and are witnessing how people yearn for the truth."

In contrast to this good news is the bad news coming out of a province in northern Mozambique where jihadists have taken control and, since 2017, killed more than 6,000 people. They threaten all non-Muslims that they must either convert to Islam or pay the Muslim tax on 'foreigners,' otherwise they will be killed. Non-Muslims are threatened with death if they do not join the jihad.

*Bridgeway*

## **'Worship' in North Korea**

When five North Korean Christians were discovered in a farmhouse having a secret time of pre-dawn prayer, they were arrested and imprisoned. In North Korea, the Kim Dynasty alone is to be worshipped and obeyed. Putting God above the Kim dynasty is a political crime, the penalty for which is imprisonment in a concentration camp, (along with those of the offender's next three generations) and a lifetime of hard labour. News leaked out concerning some Christian prisoners is that they refuse to deny their faith, 'even unto death.'

*Religious Liberty*

## **Turkey's Christians**

The European Court of Human Rights has ruled that Turkey violated the rights of a Greek church by refusing to allow it to register its land. It ordered Turkey to pay the church €5,000 for costs and expenses. The building has existed in the Arnavutkoy district of Istanbul since 1899. The dispute centred on the church's attempts to register an 8,394 square metre plot of land, which also has been in its possession for a long time, having been mentioned in its foundation declaration of 1936. Turkey's Christians are facing increasing hardship under the Muslim nationalist government.

*Religious Liberty*

## **From a pastor in Ghana**

*"I will be running a refresher course for pastors and will be teaching the summary of the Bible contents to help especially young ministers know the context of everything. One book that really helped me is your small red book The Christian's Bible, so I will be teaching that. I have over a hundred ministers registered for this conference for free. Then every month till the end of the year I will be having monthly pastor refresher courses. I will use that book all year because it changed my understanding of the Bible and the gospel of Christ."*

*Bridgeway*

## **Life under the Taliban**

Despite promises of more moderate rule, the Taliban have imposed even harsher restrictions on women – and on any Christians they happen to find. Afghan women routinely endure horrific torture under the banner of Islamic rule. But hope remains. An Afghan Christian who works under cover in an aid program says her work has led to new gospel opportunities. Like all Afghan Christians, she needs wisdom and courage in discipling new Christians.

*Mission network News*