

Response in Ghana

A local evangelist writes: "The majority of Northern Ghana's population are poor at reading and many are illiterate, so we use the Audio Bible to meet these needs. It serves two purposes, firstly to bring non-believers to Christ and secondly to revive the believers. We are not just evangelising people, but discipling them for Christ.

"In the past three months I have run 180 listening groups with 3130 listeners, and 21 of these have come to Christ. A Bible listening group is a group of local people who meet weekly to listen to the Word of God in their mother tongue. But there are still 26 ethnic language groups that need MP3 players for the Audio Bible. Very few churches work among these groups, which is why we make them our prime mission field."

Macedonian Call



Preparing for Easter in Japan

In time for Easter this year, a publisher in Japan will produce a Japanese version of *The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross*, followed later this year by *The Ology: Ancient Truths, Ever New*. Pray that among a populace that is well educated but largely ignorant of the gospel, these books will open children and families to the great joy of knowing Jesus.

Sparklit

Nigeria's kidnappings

On Sunday morning 18 January 2026, armed men attacked three churches in southern Kaduna state, Nigeria, kidnapping 177 worshippers, almost certainly for ransom. A week earlier one of these churches saw 21 of its members kidnapped but released after payment of a ransom. Repeated abductions in the region in recent times have caused some Christians to abandon their homes and move to safer areas.

Open Doors

The southern Philippines

Mindanao, the largest island in the southern Philippines, is agriculturally rich but religiously full of tension. In a country that is nominally Christian, Mindanao has many Islamic militants. They are not a majority, but they control certain areas from where they carry out extremist activity aimed at establishing their own Islamic state. Although the national government resists the aggression, it has also ceded control of some areas to the Islamists, leaving the rights of Filipino Christians unprotected.

Many Christians in Mindanao are in a state of constant anxiety. Some have been driven out of Muslim-dominated areas and many Christians have been killed. At the same time, many Christians remain active in gospel outreach, church growth, Bible school teaching and practical aid to the marginalised and needy.

Voice of the Martyrs

From a Serbian broadcaster

"Traditional radio work as we have done for decades is becoming increasingly expensive, and we have found it more manageable to do a lot of our work through YouTube. Last year I adapted your 20-part *Basic Christianity Series* [five books of four chapters each] to video format and broadcast it on YouTube. Praise God for the response. I am trying to put all the sermons from our church on my channel so that many people can hear God's clear message through this way."

From a New Zealand teacher

"I just wanted to send you a quick note to thank you for the downloadable resources on the Bridgeway website. I am currently writing a 5-year teaching curriculum for a kids' ministry here in New Zealand, and I have found your Commentary and Dictionary helpful as I try to understand, explain and write things in 'everyday' language. Making things simple is hard! Your materials are very helpful to me. Grace to you in Christian ministry."

Bridgeway

Positives amid Syria's uncertainties

The future for Christians in Syria is still uncertain. Under the previous regime, Christians were a respected segment of society and were allowed considerable freedom. Under the new president, a former Al Qaeda leader, the church has so far been left alone. Meanwhile Sunni Islamists loyal to the new government have begun a campaign against the Muslim Alawite sect, which they regard as heretical. Many Christian converts are coming from this Alawite sect and in one region a new church has been built to accommodate the growing numbers. But among the Sunni majority, whose people know little about true Christianity, these converts are still identified as Alawites, which leaves them at great risk.

In the past many Christians, deeply concerned about the direction Syria might be heading, decided to leave for other countries. Those who stayed behind, however, are now seeing a response to the gospel, not just among Alawites but also among the Druze, another minority targeted by the government. Christians need courage and discernment as they maintain their faith in a climate of political ill-will and ignorance.

Barnabas Aid / Mission Network News

Brazil's active Christians

Outreaching Christian missions are surging through Brazil's Amazon, bringing medical aid, education and the gospel message to remote villages. With an estimated 100,000 patients receiving treatments each year, evangelism and church growth are evident among indigenous communities. Evangelists, pastors and teachers accompany doctors, dentists and nurses to bring aid to the poor while spreading the gospel and nurturing churches. Nationwide, evangelical Christians make up more than 25% of Brazil's 213 million people, up from just 9% three decades ago.

Worthy News

Burkina Faso

Islamists affiliated to Al Qaeda or Islamic State control large parts of the West African Sahel, including about 60% of Burkina Faso, a third of whose population identify as Christians. Analysts and anti-terrorism experts see the possibility of Islamists becoming the de facto government of some or all of this region. Pray for God's people across the Sahel.

Barnabas Aid

Strong growth in Mozambique

A Zambian missionary in Mozambique, writes: "Our church here in Maputo is becoming a launching site for mission in Mozambique. Ladies are inspirational, as they meet for prayer, encourage one another and bring along new mothers. A group of senior women, aged 60 and above, is reaching out to senior citizens with the gospel.

"As for rural areas, in all five provinces where we work, men and women are thirsting for the truth. People sit for hours listening to the preaching. New churches are being born, and there is need for church halls and local Bible teachers among the elders. We are witnessing unquenchable zeal among believers. Men who've been liberated from ancestral worship and witchcraft are working tirelessly to build places of worship. But they also need right teaching, otherwise they are likely to embrace whatever comes their way. Our great need is for local Bible teachers."

Bridgeway

The Christians of Afghanistan

Believers in Afghanistan risk their lives by following Christ, yet their numbers continue to increase. According to one report, thirty people were recently baptised, all of them under the age of thirty. A generation growing up under the Taliban is desperate for truth and hope, which many are finding through Jesus Christ.

Barnabas Aid

Global shift in evangelicalism

A congress of the World Evangelical Alliance, which brought together 850 delegates from 124 of its 161 member nations, has appointed Botrus Mansour, a Palestinian Christian from Nazareth, as its new Secretary General.

In his first public address, Botrus Mansour emphasised that the words 'gospel,' 'good news' and 'evangel' are interchangeable. To be an 'evangelical' is to be a bearer of the good news concerning Jesus Christ the Saviour. His hometown Nazareth was an appropriate place for the message to come from, being the place where Jesus proclaimed that the Spirit had anointed him to proclaim good news to the poor, release to the captives, sight to the blind, liberty to the oppressed and salvation to all who accepted God's salvation.

Today, only a minority of Jesus' followers live in the Western world. Estimates indicate that three-quarters of the world's 650 million evangelicals live in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

New Life