

More violence in Congo

News has been received that eight Christians in north-eastern Congo were beheaded in yet another brutal attack by the Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP). This terrorist group has killed around 800 Christians in north-eastern Congo in the past year. According to anti-terrorism experts, it is clear that the Islamists are ‘explicitly targeting Christians because of their faith.’ Ask God to give courage to His people as they face the threat of death simply for following the Lord Jesus Christ.

Barnabas Aid

Vanuatu’s many languages

The Pacific Island nation of Vanuatu is one of the world’s most linguistically dense nations, with 130 languages spoken by its 320,000 people. Some very old Bible translations are being updated and new translations are being made into the heart language of people who have no other access to the written Word. The goal is to see communities across Vanuatu reading, teaching and living out the Word of God in their own languages.

Sower

Indian Christians and justice

A group of Christians who distributed Bibles in India’s Uttar Pradesh state were accused of forcibly converting others. However, in a court order released last month, the state’s high court affirmed that distributing Bibles and preaching religion are not crimes. India’s constitution guarantees freedom of religion, yet Christians continue to be harassed under anti-conversion laws. Many lawsuits drag on for years, so pray for Christians to maintain their faith and hope.

Mission Network News

North Korean Christians

On the Chinese side of North Korea’s border, Korean Christians provide help for those who escape from North Korea. The initial help is with food, but in time there are opportunities to share the gospel.

One couple who received food later received a Bible, where they read what they had never heard of before. When, after some time they became believers in Jesus Christ, they were given refuge in a Christian safehouse, where they began long-term Bible studies. One outcome of this was that they wanted to return to North Korea to spread the message that had changed their lives. This was a high-risk venture, but one year later they sent a coded message back to their friends in China, ‘Our family has grown to five.’

No one knows how many Christians are in North Korea, because they must operate in secret and meet in small, trusted groups. If they are discovered, they and their families are likely to be imprisoned in labour camps, from which there is usually no release.

Open Doors

From a church leader in Malawi

“A group of pastors from various churches were writing down some policies on the marriage issue but wanted some help, so they borrowed my Bridgeway Bible Commentary and Dictionary. Now they have come to me and asked me to say thank you for these powerful and enlightening books that have come from Australia to Malawi. You know, you have helped a lot of ministers in Malawi over the many years since we came to know each through these books.”

Bridgeway

Church registration in Uzbekistan

Since Uzbekistan’s government eased the rules on church registration (reducing membership from 100 to 50), the number of registered churches has increased. But registration also requires churches to have their own buildings and pastors to hold university qualifications. Registered churches often help the unregistered by allowing them use of their buildings, but this puts them all at risk. Christians need wisdom and courage in operating under a strongly authoritarian regime.

Suffering Church

Sudan’s civil war

The civil war in Sudan has gone on for more than three years and created probably the world’s worst humanitarian crisis. Famine has been declared in parts of the country and an estimated 33 million people are in dire need of assistance. Both sides in the war have launched violent attacks on the small Christian community.

The war has also forced the closure of 10,400 schools. Christian ministries are doing all they can to train primary school teachers to give children some hope of a better life ahead.

Barnabas Aid

Myanmar's hill tribe Christians

Across the hill tribe regions of Myanmar, Christians are regularly attacked and churches destroyed. These attacks may come from the government's army on the ground or its air force overhead. Hundreds of Christians have had to flee their homes multiple times. Christian-led hospital and trauma centres provide free care, life-saving surgeries and spiritual support. Pray that those newly made homeless will find permanent shelter and that believers deprived of their church building will continue to know God's love and peace.



Christian workers deported from Turkey

The government of Turkey (Türkiye) has deported more than 200 foreign Christian workers over the past five years, usually on spurious national security grounds. Meanwhile the work of training and developing national church leaders and workers continues, despite the government's attempts to obstruct and discourage.

Hard times in Nicaragua

The authoritarian government of Nicaragua seeks to control all institutions, including legislative bodies, courts and elections, and punishes any who speak out against human rights abuses. Its latest move is to ban Bibles from coming across its borders. Churches and Christian organisations are harassed, and church leaders may be arbitrarily arrested, tried, sentenced to 12-15 years' imprisonment and then exiled.

Negotiating Algeria's restrictions

Believers in Algeria need much wisdom and courage as they maintain their Christian lives amid ever-present social pressures and legal restrictions. Sharing the gospel in communities where Christians are a minority can be risky, but evangelists and pastors are active in encouraging local believers to reach out for Christ. This is the case in large cities as well as in remote regions. Pray that underground and house churches will be strengthened, and that the faith of local Turkish believers will be steadfast while under intense scrutiny.

Barnabas Aid

Ukraine: living with war

It is now four years since Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine, igniting a war that has affected countless lives. The total number killed on both sides is nearly two million.

Trans World Radio is working with local ministry partners in both Russia and Ukraine to bring hope and support. A gospel worker says their Ukraine ministry partners have experienced repeated power, water and food shortages. Yet they are still there, broadcasting the comfort of Christ and mediating with practical aid. Pray for peace and the gospel to reach those in despair and searching for hope.

MNN

Cambodia transformation

Khon Khan was born to a poor Buddhist family in Cambodia. As he grew up, he wanted to become a monk, mainly to get a free education. That dream was shattered when his parents' business went bankrupt and his mother committed suicide. His life deteriorated, he became a gangster and ended in prison.

But he still wanted to learn English, and after his release found that free lessons were available at a Missions Centre. There he heard the gospel and became a Christian, committing his life to Jesus no matter where it led him. It led him to a ministry of evangelism that has seen him help plant 200 churches across 24 provinces. He also conducts feeding programs in 25 villages and has started a children's home to care for the homeless.

BN Christian World News

From Uganda: reaching Muslims

"I am here to thank you that I was introduced to Bridgeway books from an evangelist here who specialises in training Christians to reach Muslims with the gospel. The Bridgeway Bible Dictionary and Commentary and other books helped us to understand the Bible and preach the gospel so people understand it. The truth is your books have helped us so much. Nothing we can give you is equal to what you are giving us. May God bless you."

Bridgeway