



BIBLE FOR LIFE

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Iraq The Bible a treasured family possession

"We were forced to flee our homeland in Mosul. We left everything, all our belongings. We had to walk for hours to reach a safe place."

A middle-aged Iraqi Christian explains how his family came to be in a refugee camp, far from their home. They couldn't even bring their most treasured possessions. "I left behind my old Bible that I was given from my father." He opens an aid package and sees a Bible. There are tears in his eyes. "A piece of my homeland is now with me."

The Christian Iraqi community is under immense pressure because of sectarian violence. Many have been forced to flee their homes and have ended up in refugee camps – some families are even torn apart in the ordeal. About one million Iraqi Christians have been displaced.

The work you support in Iraq aims to give immediate practical help through aid packages, as well as spiritual encouragement by gifting Bibles. Local churches guide distribution to the most vulnerable families.

About 12,000 Iraqi Christians will benefit from the care packages this year. •

Vietnam In our own language, God becomes one of us

"We need a Bible in our own language because when we share the gospel using Vietnamese words, God feels very far away, like from another tribe."

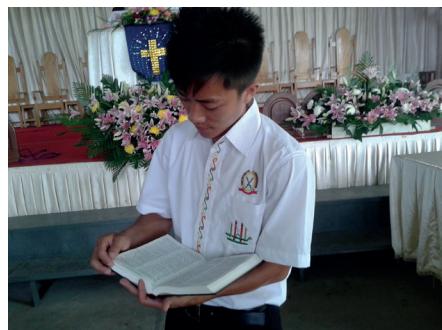
Tony is one of the translators working on the Bible for a minority language which around 35,000 people speak in Northern Vietnam. Vietnamese Christians find it hard to reach this people group because there is currently no Bible in their heart language and the government does not support Bible translation into ethnic minority languages. The translation is set to be completed by the end of this year. Because this minority group are illiterate in their own language, Bible-based literacy classes will be established as the next step in providing the Bible in their heart language for the very first time.

Translation into heart languages is such crucial work because, as Tony explains, "in our own language, God becomes one of us." •



Israel Freedom to share hope in the Middle East

Only two percent of Israelis – 160,000 – are Christians. Despite the small numbers, there is greater freedom in Israel than any other surrounding Arab country to develop Biblical resources and reach people with the love of Jesus. Our work here focuses on the minority Arab Israeli community where churches often lack the funds to support their leaders and the needs of the congregation. With your generosity, we run workshops for church leaders and their families, and courses and events that specifically reach the wider community.



China Longing to grow in faith

"It's very hard to find a Bible here. But believers need it so much for our spiritual growth." Shang is 22 years old. He counts himself fortunate

"My spiritual life has grown and been impacted most through the Bible study we have been doing," says a teenager who is not a Christian.

The team has also been creative during coronavirus restrictions, running Zoom sessions for families to help with anxiety that children and parents may be experiencing.

Thanks to you, we can impact about 10,000 Arab Israelis this year. •



because he received a Bible from Bible Society – the first in his heart language.

Most Christians in China live in rural areas with many living on less than \$1.25 USD a day. They long for their own Bibles so they can grow in faith and wisdom. Your support provides the printing paper needed for these Bibles, as well as subsidising costs so we can give a Bible to anyone who can't afford it.

Shang now wants to become a pastor. "God has been so gracious to me and so I want to serve him in his kingdom."

This year, we hope to see two million more Chinese Christians with their own Bible. •

South Africa Alive with the word of God

"You have healed every part inside of me, and made every part that was dead alive with the word of God," says an inmate in a South African

prison. Your generous support has provided him with his own Bible for the first time and it has changed his life completely.

The Bible Discipleship program operates in over 200 of the 232 South African prisons, and it brings hope to some of the darkest places. The program team, like you, believes that



Nicaragua Faith put to the ultimate test

"It is indescribable, the pain of living with the diagnosis of cancer in my only two children." Both Adolpho's children were diagnosed with leukemia. "Our faith has been tested and polished like gold."

The hospital system in Nicaragua is under-resourced and unable to provide the level of care most patients need. Families like Adolpho's struggle financially to fill this healthcare gap. The Hope and Smile project, which you support, operates at La Mascota hospital – the only place to provide specialised cancer care for children in the country. The project gives spiritual and practical support to disadvantaged families who have children battling cancer.

Adolpho's family received a free Bible which he says has been a source of enormous strength. "We learned to wait on God, to know that his promises are alive in our lives. Today I want to say thank you on behalf of my family, for all the support provided." Praise God that both Adolpho's children are now in remission!

Your support will help 52,000 Nicaraguans this year, including sick children, their families and hospital staff. •

no one is beyond the deep love of Jesus, and they share forgiveness and healing with inmates who have lived lives of anger, hatred and violence.

Thanks to your support 2235 Bibles were handed out last year alone to course graduates. •