

MAR – APR 2026

# STAND!

by Goshen International Ministries



In His Name the nations  
will put their hope.

*(Matt 12:21)*

Hearing  
Hope

04

Project –  
Relief for  
Victims  
of Anti-  
Christian  
Acts of  
Violence  
in Burkina  
Faso

08

## Dear Friends,

Waiting for something that never arrives often brings frustration, disappointment and despondency. Over time, one loses sight of their vision or goals and resignation sets in.

*Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life (Prov 13:12).*

How then do we restore hope in our lives?

By shifting our focus from the problem to the solution – God.

Meditate and interact with the Word of God and allow Him to renew our mind, realign our focus and restore hope in our hearts.

A Christian woman living in Burkina Faso shares on page 4 of this issue of Stand! the many women in that country who are being strengthened by the hope of a joyful future as they listen daily to the audio Bible.

Persecution of Christians in Burkina Faso has intensified over the years resulting in thousands of Christians being displaced, orphaned and uneducated.

We are collaborating with The Voice of the Martyrs in a new project to bring relief to these victims of anti-Christian acts of violence in Burkina Faso.

Details of how you can bring hope and lighten the burdens of displaced Burkinabe Christians are found on page 8 of this issue.

### ***Ephesians 5:30***

**For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones (Eph 5:30).**

Blessings!



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*(For all love gifts, please e-mail [admin@gosheninternational.org](mailto:admin@gosheninternational.org) or WhatsApp 9788 0457 to facilitate our accountability to you. If you are giving towards a specific project or cause, please indicate the name of the project or cause in your e-mail. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions with respect to the projects that we are undertaking in support of the persecuted church. Many blessings to you in the Name of the Lord!)*



# Hearing Hope

**A**fter an injury and infection left her crippled and dying, a woman in Burkina Faso heard what she believed was the Lord's voice. Today, she helps others hear the precious Word of God.

To reach Amina's tiny house, you must leave the center of Burkina Faso's capital, Ouagadougou, and navigate a maze of dirt roads that seem to stretch endlessly through the outskirts of the sprawling city.

Beyond the innumerable mud-brick houses sits a rock quarry where, for lack of proper tools, widows and young children chisel and hammer rocks with their bare hands to make gravel for a living. They work, wait and hope that someone will eventually buy their pile of small stones so they can afford to buy food.

Those who crush rocks under the blazing hot sun know that their only other alternatives to make a living is to beg or engage in prostitution.

Not far from the deplorable conditions of the gravel pit, a small group of women have found immeasurable meaning and value in studying God's Word. Three times a week, they gather beneath a corrugated metal roof in Amina's small courtyard to listen to Bible verses on an audio player.



Amina uses a special audio player to share God's Word with her neighbours.

Some of the women have been attending her Bible study for years, while others are new to the group. Though they all have their own struggles, they help bear each other's burdens and achieve a sense of happiness.

Many of the people who attend her Bible study come feeling sad, but they are uplifted when Amina take time to pray and share the Word of God with them.

As several of the women are illiterate, they studied Psalm 130 by listening to an audio Bible through a device that looked like a small radio.

***I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his Word I hope. O Israel, hope in the Lord for with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.***

"Listening to the Word of God gave me hope," said a group member, Veronica. "Most of the old ladies did not have a chance to go to school. Listening to the Word in that 'box' like this helps us a lot."

Another group member named Katerine said that when besetting troubles cause her to worry, reading Scripture changes her perspective of life. "Listening to the Word of God is really good for me," she said. "It is giving me more life. When you listen to the Word of God, you have a joyful future." To expand on her meaning, she said the truths from the Bible are like seeds that have to be planted before they can grow.

Another woman, Christine, who is probably in her 70s who used to bust rocks into gravel at the quarry said, "I am now listening to the Word of God, and I can really testify that it is changing my life."

What Amina had learned about God and his Word has changed her life as well.



## Hearing the Voice of Truth

*Amina was raised in a non-Christian home and later married a non-Christian man who died. She had three children with him.*

After his death, Amina supported herself and her children by working in her family's fields, until one day she cut her leg badly in a bicycle accident.

The wound, on her right lower leg, became severely infected and wouldn't heal. The infection spread to other parts of her body, eventually leaving her unable to walk or do daily chores.



Amina's leg became badly infected after a bicycle incident.

When medicine failed to give relief, Amina contacted a traditional spirit medium. But that didn't help either.

"I couldn't even move," she said. "It was too painful, as if I had coals in my body." Amina expected and prepared to die.

"I was really, really sad," she said. "Sometimes when people came to see me, they gave me some money. I used some of the money and saved the rest for my burial."

Then one night, while she was sleeping, she heard a voice telling her to go look for Christians and ask them to pray for her. She didn't understand the message. "I know about praying," she explained, "but I don't know what it means to 'pray for you?'"

Amina was familiar with the tradition of kneeling and praying regularly. She used to pray every day - in the morning, afternoon and evening.

Still puzzled, Amina went back to sleep but early the next morning, she heard the voice again, telling her to stand up and find people to pray for her. This time, she obeyed. "When I stood up," she said, "I prepared myself and looked everywhere. Where should I go?"


Limping into the street, she started asking people if they knew anyone who could pray for her. Eventually someone pointed her in the direction of a church building. The church's pastor then asked her if she just wanted prayer, or if she wanted to know Jesus Christ.

Believing that the true God had spoken to her, she told the pastor that she wanted to know Jesus Christ. Upon hearing his explanation of the gospel, she placed her faith in Christ that day. Since then, she did not apply any medication on her leg because God touched her. She is very thankful and happy to know such a wonderful God.

While Amina's health had improved dramatically, she could barely walk because her leg muscle was destroyed.

When she told her non-believing family about her new faith in Christ, they tried to force her to renounce Christ by threatening to withdraw all financial support. When Amina refused to give up her faith in Christ, her family withdrew their financial support and expelled her from her home.

"It was really difficult for me when they rejected me," she said.



On the outskirts of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso's capital, women – especially widows – and children earn their living by laboring in rock quarries using only hammers and chisels to make gravel.

## Leaning on God

*Separated from her community, Amina moved to the overcrowded neighbourhoods on Ouagadougou's outskirts, where she struggled to survive. There was no toilet nearby and her limited ability to walk made life burdensome.*

“One day I stayed in the house and cried the whole day and the whole night,” she said.

As her finances dwindled, she sensed God speaking to her again, saying, “Trust me, I will help you.”

Amina shared her many challenges with a local pastor. The pastor then connected her with front-line workers who helped her to build a tiny but secure home with toilet facilities. They also provided her with a special motorized tricycle that she can ride on her other functioning leg, as well as some corrugated sheet metal to build a shelter for it with.

Significantly for Amina, the shade beneath the small sheet-metal portico provided a place where women can meet regularly to hear God's Word through the audio player. “They stay here and listen to the Word of God,” she said of the gathering. “That really changes lives. It is making my life better, and it gives me the feeling of the Lord being near.”

She even shares the gospel with her persecutors. “I don't have any fear about telling others that Jesus is the Saviour and the solution to everything,” she said. “He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. He is the only way to God.”

One of Amina's favourite Bible passages is Ezekiel 37, which describes the prophet's vision of God breathing new life into dry bones. She believes that her life was once dried up and cut off, but that the Lord has breathed new life into her – a testimony which she loves to share with others.

Amina's greatest hope is that the women who come to her open-air Bible study will grow in the Lord and that she will have the strength to continue her ministry. “May the Holy Spirit guide me all the time so I can stay firm in what I am doing,” she said. “We have to work without ceasing. If we sleep this time, it will not be good. It is time to work for God.”

*Article by The Voice of the Martyrs as adapted by Goshen.*

NEW PROJECT

# Relief for Victims of Anti-Christian **Acts of Violence** in Burkina Faso



**B**urkina Faso, a country in West Africa surrounded by Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana and the Ivory Coast, has a population of about 23 million, out of which only 26% are Christians.

For many years, the country's diverse religious groups lived in relative peace with each other. This changed in 2016 when villages in the northern part of the country started experiencing occasional attacks by radical groups.

These attacks, which claimed the lives of many civilians and governmental forces, increased and intensified over the years. Then from 2019 onwards, radical groups began targeting Christians.

Pastors were becoming victims of targeted killings. In some areas, Christian women were kidnapped and forced to be sex slaves for these thugs.

Among the more than 2 million people who have been displaced so far, about 30% of them are Christians.

Forced to flee from their homes, these families are not able to send their children to school. Uneducated children and youths are easy prey for exploitation.

The aim of this project is to provide educational opportunities for about 1,138 displaced evangelical Christian children in Burkina Faso by subsidizing the cost of the following items:

- School enrolment fees, school uniform and one meal per day for the whole school year; and
- School supplies like backpack, notebooks, books, pens and crayons.

These are mainly children who have no relatives who can help them, namely orphans who lost their parents to such attacks and are physically injured or emotionally traumatised, children of widows who have lost their husbands, and children of pastors.

If you feel led by the Lord to bring hope to these precious children and youths in Burkina Faso, please see the details below for the ways you can send your gift.





Church built by displaced Christians.



Preparing for the distribution of educational packs.



Camp for displaced people.

Gifts towards the Persecuted Church can be made payable to:  
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OCBC Bank Code : 7339  
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Pay Now : UEN No. 198204059M

For a direct deposit into our bank account, please email us at  
**admin@gosheninternational.org** or WhatsApp **9788 0457**  
to facilitate our accountability to you.

(In your e-mail to us, please indicate your name and contact number and the specific project you wish to give to.

In the event the target fund is reached, any excess will be channelled to the general fund which goes towards assisting persecuted Christians.)

# Volunteer With Us



We would like to call upon brothers and sisters to help us at our events and activities as and when we need help. For example, on occasions we need volunteers to help us man our book tables at special events or things of that nature.

We are also looking for champions to help us do research, organise things, distribute Goshen's bi-monthly magazines to different churches and to share with others about what Goshen is about.

If you are able and willing to help us as and when we need help or if you feel called to serve as Goshen's champions, WhatsApp us at **9788 0457** or email us at **admin@gosheninternational.org** for more details. We would love to meet up with you and discuss further how you may be deployed to help us!



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**WE WANT TO HEAR  
FROM YOU**



If you have been persecuted - mistreated, victimised, oppressed, discriminated against or harassed - because of your faith in Christ, we would like to feature your story in our bi-monthly magazine so that we can encourage others in the same situation not to give up hope.

WhatsApp us at **9788 0457** or email us at **admin@gosheninternational.org** for more details.

Scan this QR code and complete the Google registration form if you wish to volunteer with us.



# GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

## OUR PURPOSE

**We aim to actively serve the Lord and our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ around the world by praying for them, standing with them, encouraging them, helping them in practical ways and learning lessons of true discipleship from them.**

Remember God's goodness, faithfulness and deliverance in seasons past, especially when we are going through trying times. Remember His promises to never leave or forsake us, to meet our needs, to help and deliver us from trouble, to bless us, to give us a future and a hope.

*Let us seize and hold tightly the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is reliable, trustworthy and faithful [to His word] (Heb 10:23).*

Let this God-given hope be an anchor for our souls – anchoring our thoughts and emotions, keeping them firm and secure (Heb 6:19a) even when we are in the middle of a 'storm' battling unrelenting challenges.

Let us also pray that our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ will cling onto this divine hope that will anchor their faith and help them to stand firm even in the face of persecutions and personal losses.

If you feel led by the Lord to financially support these persecuted believers, you may forward your gifts to GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED via:

**Bank Transfer, OCBC Bank Code: 7339, Account: 508-308962-001, or  
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