

Stand!

"Be always on the watch and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

(Luke 21 : 36) (NIV)

Walk by FAITH not by sight

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Dear Valued Supporter,

Around the world, Christians face an increasing array of violent persecutors in different forms. Jesus warned His followers that, "If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you also" (John 15:20). The rising trends of persecution in 2019 is a wake-up call to take our prayers and support for our persecuted family to a new and higher level.

In this issue, we carry updates from two of our recent projects - "Save The Children", launched and completed in 2018 and our ongoing project - "Restoring the Broken – Sri Lanka". Please pray for these saints in Christ as well as the thousands more, though unknown to us, are known to our loving God.

Thank you for your continuous support - by way of prayer, finances to fund relief work, or just bringing words of comfort and encouragement to our persecuted brethren.

STAND!

Standing for Persecuted Christians!

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Blessings!

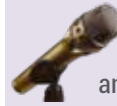
GIVE A LOVE OFFERING

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(For all donations please inform us via email to admin@gosheninternational.org or call 6456 0042 to facilitate our accountability to you. If you are giving towards a specific project, please indicate the name of the project in your e-mail to us. Please feel free to email or call us if you have any questions with respect to the projects that we are undertaking in support of the persecuted/afflicted church. Many blessings to you in the Name of the Lord!)

What we can do for Churches:



We are able to conduct talks and hold booths and activities to help raise awareness of the plight of persecuted Christians.



Contact us at 6456-0042
or email:

admin@gosheninternational.org
for more information.



Scan the QR code for a soft copy of the Stand!



BE READY 2020

Time flies and the year 2019 is drawing to a close soon. The holiday season is already upon us and many will be engaging in retrospection and re-evaluation of some of the choices, good or bad, they made in 2019.

Some will have regrets but most of us will nonchalantly dismiss unfulfilled resolutions or just make new ones.

Those who are battling with disappointments in life, sudden loss of a job, betrayal of spouse or friends or being a victim of broken promises will have to carry their struggles and burdens into the new year. May the Lord intervene in your situation as you look to Him for help. Do not fear for He will surely carry you through.

I pondered over the reason for unfulfilled resolutions or broken promises and I asked the Lord, "Is it because of the fallen nature of human beings that renders us unable to keep our promises, vows or plans? What about You, GOD?". I was quickly reminded of *Numbers 23:19 (NRSV), "God is not a human being, that he should lie, or a mortal, that he should change his mind."*

What a relief. Thank You Lord for You always say what You mean and mean what You say. You are the only faithful God we can all depend on because whatever You say You will do. What a blessing to worship such a GOD.

My next question to Him was, "Lord, what New Year resolution would You want us to make for 2020? What is on Your heart?"



"I am looking for the 5 wise virgins who will make it for My return." My heart was pounding and I sensed the Lord tugging at my heart as I turned to the passage in [Matthew 25:1-13](#) which tells the story of 10 virgins who were invited to participate in a wedding ceremony. Five foolish virgins took lamps but did not have sufficient oil and five wise virgins took lamps with extra oil in the vessels. As the bridegroom was delayed, all 10 of them slumbered and slept.

When the bridegroom finally arrived, only the 5 wise virgins were ready to welcome him. The other 5 foolish virgins were not ready for they had gone to buy oil for their lamps which were fast about to dim. Sadly, only the 5 wise virgins went in with the groom to the wedding banquet whilst the door was shut to the 5 foolish virgins.

Jesus ended this parable with ***"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour the Son of Man is coming."***

This parable is about being ready to enter the eternal joy of God's kingdom. The bridegroom is Jesus Christ and the virgins are believers in our present age.

The wise virgins represent truly born-again Christians who are looking with eagerness to the coming of Christ while the foolish virgins represent false believers without a true love for Christ.

Yes, the Lord is looking for His children who will walk in His holiness and embrace His commandments in [Luke 10:27](#) ***"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself."***

He wants us to be like seeds that fall on fertile ground and grow to be like trees planted by the riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water and whose leaves stay green and never stop producing fruit. Even when the storm comes, it shall not be shaken.



In life, we will definitely face many temptations. Our minds are constantly bombarded with worldly values that clutters, confuses and distorts the truths of God and that leads us astray. We need to always align ourselves with the Word of GOD and the only way to do that is to commune with Him daily.

Build an imitate relationship with God and His Word will be as a lamp to guide your feet and a light for your path.

As the light glows brightly in you, you will be able to see your path.

If God is speaking to you today, will you spend some time to ask GOD to unveil the areas in your life you need to surrender and re-soil ourselves in good ground?

It calls for 100% obedience to break off sinful habits, re-work our priorities, and accord quality time to worship Him and mediate on His Word.

May you be blessed with this column "From our hearts" to you. 🙏

LET THE PRAYER OF THIS SONG "THE POTTER'S HAND" BE ON OUR LIPS IF YOU WILLING.



YOU GENTLY CALL ME INTO YOUR
PRESENCE

GUIDING ME BY YOUR HOLY SPIRIT
TEACH ME DEAR LORD,
TO LIVE ALL OF MY LIFE
THROUGH YOUR EYES

I'M CAPTURED BY YOUR HOLY CALLING
SET ME APART, I KNOW YOU'RE DRAWING
ME TO YOURSELF
LEAD ME LORD, I PRAY

TAKE ME AND MOLD ME,
USE ME, FILL ME
CALL ME, GUIDE ME,
LEAD ME, WALK BESIDE ME
I GIVE MY LIFE TO THE POTTER'S HAND



FAITH WITHOUT A DOUBT

25 prayers answered in 5 days.

That's how amazing our God is.

When you pray, do you believe that if you ask anything according to His will, He hears us (1 John 5:14)? Do you believe without a doubt that whatever you ask in prayer you have received it and it will be yours (Mark 11:23-24)?

Ben was volunteering at a 5-day Vacation Bible School (VBS) for 4 to 15-year old kids. The children, mostly non-Christians, were divided into 5 classes and each child was asked to present one prayer request to God during the 5-days of training.



At the end of 5 days, a graduation ceremony was held to give out certificates of participation to the children. Due to a lack of space and premises, the graduation ceremony had to be held in the next available place.

When asked to share a testimony of how they benefitted from the 5-day school, all the children who presented a prayer request to God testified that ALL their prayers were answered within the same week of the Vacation Bible School.

Can you imagine that?

All 25 prayers of these non-believers were answered within the short 5-day duration of the VBS.

The children's non-believing parents and the villagers were so amazed and convinced that the Christian God is real and powerful. Eventually all the villagers and the village Head received salvation in the Lord. The villagers were so grateful that they gave the Church a plot of land for building the House of God.

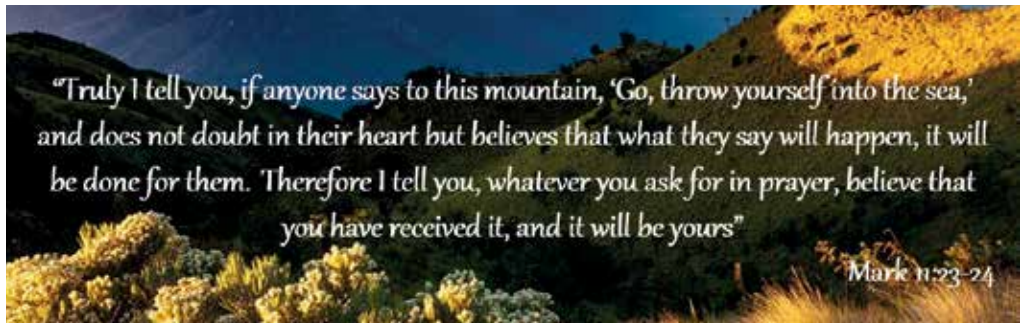
Ben is just an ordinary man with an extraordinary faith in the Lord. He simply obeyed the call of God. He was an engineer when God called him into full-time ministry.

In answer to God's call, Ben moved to another country where he had neither friends nor connections. However, by

divine appointment, he met pastors and ministry workers whom he connected with and got involved with social work and evangelism to guerilla rebels. As a result of his work in this country from 2001 to 2006, hundreds of rebels turned to Christ and 16 churches were planted.

Due to a lack of in-depth knowledge and understanding of the cultural issues, folklores, local beliefs of these unreached people groups or tribes, many missionaries have been persecuted because the locals feel disrespected by Christians in general. Ben now trains and equips missionaries and pastors with skills on how to share the gospel to unreached people groups in ways that minimize misunderstanding of the meaning of the Christian faith. As a result of tapping upon his knowledge of local nuances to share the gospel in culturally-sensitive ways, there has been a marked increase in the effectiveness of their ministry.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you" ~ Matthew 7:7. 🙏



Give a Gift of Love This Christmas



As the Christmas season approaches, many people will be busy shopping for gifts, organising dinner parties and get-togethers and planning holidays abroad.

Whilst we celebrate the coming of the Saviour, many Christians in other parts of the world are killed for their faith in Christ, or are being detained without trial, or imprisoned. Churches in various parts of our world are being attacked or burned. Many of our brothers and sisters who live in places with high levels of persecution have grieved over the loss of a family member or friend.

So while we are busy doing the things we normally do during Christmas, let us take out some time to remember our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters by giving them a gift of Love this Christmas.

Bless someone with the following Christmas Packs :

- Pack A** Buy &/or print Bibles and Christian Literature (\$100)

- Pack B** Buy provisions/groceries for persecuted families (\$300) *(eg. a bag of rice, canned food, mineral water, clothing, etc)*

- Pack C** Pay for expenses for missions into persecuted areas *(eg. air ticket, accommodation)* (\$500)

- Pack D** Medical/psychological treatment + medicines (\$1,000) for affected persecuted families

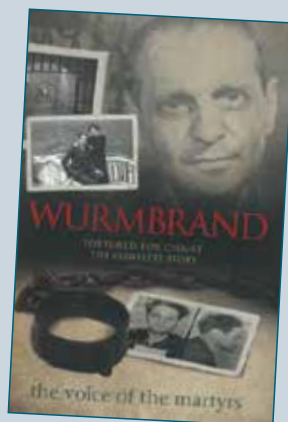
To buy a Christmas pack, you may forward your payment to us via :-

1. Bank Transfer to OCBC Bank Code: 7339
Account: 508-308962-001
2. Pay Now: UEN No. 198204059M
3. By Cheque issued in favor of **GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED** and mail to My Mail Box (Business) No. 880228, Singapore 919191

(Please indicate the specific Christmas pack and the quantity at the back of your cheque or inform us via e-mail at : admin@gosheninternational.org or call 6456 0042 to facilitate our accountability to you. May blessings to you in the Name of the Lord!)

WURMBRAND : TORTURED FOR CHRIST – THE COMPLETE STORY

Book Review Rating: Highly Recommended ★★★★★



THIS NEWLY RELEASED BIOGRAPHY explores the inspiring lives of Pastor Richard and Sabina Wurmbbrand – for the first time publishing their complete story in one volume by combining the following three books: The Pastor's Wife, In God's Underground and Tortured for Christ.

During his 14 years of imprisonment, Pastor Wurmbbrand was tortured, beaten and locked away in a solitary confinement cell. His wife Sabina spent three years at a labour camp, nearly freezing to death as she and other prisoners worked strenuously on the famous Danube Canal. Yet, despite their treacherous hardships, the ministering couple had an unshakeable faith in Christ. Neither of them gave up hope, nor did they stop talking about Jesus.

Your own faith will be inspired as you go deep inside the darkest prison cells to see how the light of Christ continues to shine from the hearts of those wholeheartedly committed to Him. 🙏

For those who are interested to purchase this book, you may send us an email at admin@gosheninternational.org.

Project :

SAVE THE CHILDREN (COMPLETED)

The story of the late JJ and his three children who were being persecuted, harassed and intimidated repeatedly over a prolonged period of time because of their new-found faith in Christ was first featured in our September/October issue of Stand!.

JJ gave up his own life in exchange for the release of his then 7-year old son from the hands of their persecutors. Since then, all three children have been staying with friends while waiting to be reunited with their relatives in the United Kingdom ("UK").

We have successfully raised funds to help pay for some of the legal costs and expenses incurred due to the multiple court hearings required for validating JJ's last Will & Testament. The costs also helped to legally establish succession/inheritance of the house owned by JJ and DNA tests to prove identity.



As at 26 August 2019, we are pleased to update that the approvals for validation of the Will and proof of identity have been concluded and his family are now applying for visas to UK. We believe that God will open up a way for the children's visas to be successfully processed and that they will be able to fly to UK soon.

Thank you for all your gifts of love and prayers for the children. Without you, all this would not have been possible.

We encourage you to continue praying for the safety of the children and for journey mercies to UK. 🌍

RESTORING THE BROKEN – SRI LANKA



**PRAY FOR
SRI LANKA**

ASHA, a mother of two sons, was devastated by the deaths of her youngest son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren in the Easter Sunday bombings in Sri Lanka this year. She described her family as being “full of love and laughter” and is struggling to comprehend what happened. Her whole family has been affected psychologically. ‘Everything is different now,’ she said.



Asha, Kamal and Priya represent only a small fraction of those who suffered loss and whose lives and living conditions took a turn for the worse because of the tragic attack on Easter Sunday this year.

Many others are still grieving the loss of loved ones and are struggling to cope with the dramatic change in their circumstances. There are extensive needs for short and long-term medical care, trauma-counselling and daily living expenses for the survivors (including orphans) and their immediate family members.


KAMAL lost his wife and both his two daughters sustained injuries to their legs. He himself received treatment to remove 39 bomb fragments from his body. We are told his family will need continuing medical help, trauma counselling and livelihood support.

Thank you for all those who have given generously and sacrificially to our brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka.

PRIYA lost her eldest son, the breadwinner who took care of the family. He had worked outside Sri Lanka for several years and had only just returned home. The whole family has been in a state of shock. Priya will need continuing support to cover her living expenses.

At a time of violent attack and crisis, your gifts have impressed upon precious believers that the Lord is their Provider in time of need and that Christians have not forgotten them either.

*(*Names have been changed)*

At this moment in time, we are still short of S\$8,386.00 in meeting our target for this project. If you wish to play a small part in restoring and re-building Christian families in Sri Lanka who are victims of the Easter tragedy, you may forward your gifts to us through either one of the following modes of giving: 

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(Please indicate the name of the Project at the back of your cheque or inform us via e-mail at : admin@gosheninternational.org or call 6456 0042 to facilitate our accountability to you. In the event that the target fund is reached, any excess will be channeled to the general fund for persecuted Christians. Many blessings to you in the Name of the Lord!)

Goshen International Ministries' Purposes

We aim to actively engage with our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ in Asia and beyond : praying with them, standing with them, helping them and learning lessons of true discipleship with them.

Goshen Events in November/December 2019

Date / Day / Time	Venue	Event
Thursday 7.30pm - 10pm (14 th Nov & 5 th Dec)	170 Upper Bukit Timah Road 11 th Floor Rhema Hall, Bukit Timah Shopping Centre Singapore 588179	GOSHEN PRAYER MEETING for Persecuted Christians.

In the event of any changes after distribution of this issue, kindly look out for updates on Goshen's Facebook page

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STAND! is published bi-monthly and distributed free of charge by:

Goshen International Ministries Ltd
MCI (P) 014/08/2019
Reg No. 198204059M

All mails to be directed to:
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