The Truth Brings Great Joy, But Also, Often, Trials and Persecutions

Last week, we reported that Vision Beyond Borders had been privileged to work with a ministry that provides Bibles to believers in Ethiopia, in printing 8,900 Bibles for that ministry to distribute. As they continue to spread the gospel and His printed Word to the Oromo people in the region, the Lord is greatly blessing the Oromo people. The enemy is also at work, as you may have heard of the ethnic unrest in Ethiopia in the past few days. Christians have been persecuted for decades, sometimes by the government in power and sometimes by factions of Muslim sects, or other religious groups.

Nearly two dozen people were killed in civil unrest, including protests that were held against the government to demand that they put an end to the persecution by the violent factions - largely Islamic areas or communities.

Our contact in the region continues to report that the Bibles we were able to buy, are being distributed to churches and other locations. He hands out dozens, or hundreds, of Bibles to individuals at each location they stop at and have many glorious testimonies of the impact on believers' lives. One of the stories he shared with us is repeated below:

"Today, on our way from one location to another, one of the pastors called and said he couldn't wait. He wanted us to know what happened to a young man who received a Bible. The young man said that when he received his Bible, something happened inside. The pastor said this young man could never read — anything; he was under strong demonic influence his whole life. But during prayer and when the Bible touched his hands, he felt set free completely. He didn't tell anyone. He went home, opened the Bible, and began to read. He was shocked that he could understand what he was reading. He told his pastor immediately and it was a moment of rejoicing for both."

We pray that God blesses each of you, as well as those in the persecuted Christian church in Ethiopia and other regions of the world. As always, we thank the Lord for you, and for your continued faithfulness to provide the resources to meet these critical needs around the globe.

(Hebrews 4:12-13)

"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."

Upcoming Trips

Please prayerfully consider joining us as we still have room available for additional team members on the following trips:

Closed Central American Nation Bible Smuggling: October 25-30 November 1-6 December 6-11

Closed SE Asia Bible smuggling: November 1-15

Closed SE Asia Bible smuggling: November 29- December 13

Thailand/Burma Christmas to the orphanages/ children's ministry: December 5-18

Apply here to join us as we serve the persecuted church and help to heal the brokenhearted!

Praise Reports

- Praise that the media is finally starting to report some of the atrocities the Burmese Military has been committing against Christian minorities. We pray that Christians in these areas can rise up and be heard.
- One of our recent travelers said, "I really enjoyed bringing the Bibles and clothing and Flannel Graphs to the Pastors. I enjoyed hearing the Pastor's share their stories and update us on their churches. The thing that struck me the most was how they do so much with so little.

Also how simple they live and sacrifice worldly comforts to minister the Word to others. Like using their family rooms for their church meetings. My love for this ministry has grown and I plan on joining future Teams to Cuba." Praise God that we have so many willing hearts to travel to these un-reached areas and spread His word!

Prayer Requests

- Please continue to pray that God will provide us with more hands in the Casper warehouse as well as the Billings warehouse! Our refugee containers are getting close to being finished and we need volunteers to pack and sort clothing.
- Please Pray for our team traveling to Romania this week! Pray they will arrive safely, prepared to share the Gospel and go where Christ is leading them. Pray they will be a light in that area and that God gives them many opportunities to minister to the women in our safe house. Pray God opens their hearts to him and leads them to a life living for and loving Him!
- Please pray for Ethiopia as they are experiencing unrest as this
 weekend 20+ people have been killed in ethnic-based attacks. The
 nation is currently going through a positive government reform
 however, local terrorist groups from opposing parties came to instill
 fear and horror during a protest resulting in the weekend tragedies.
 The people are in an uproar from the attacks and are marching
 through the streets demanding justice and action from the
 government, in which 5 people have died during these
 demonstrations. Please pray for peace in their country and that many
 will be lead to Christ.

Current Needs

We would like to pave the parking lot between the two buildings VBB owns in Casper. This would cut down the mud in the winter and would facilitate packing containers better. We want to take good care of these facilities so that they will last for a long time. The cost of the parking lot will be \$31,000. and we have already have raised \$6000. Thank you for praying for and supporting this need.

The women in India are in need of vitamins. Any women's vitamins, calcium tablets, multi-vitamins and vitamin C are needed to take on our next India trip the end of October.

Donations can be made at <u>visionbeyondborders.org/give</u> or mailed to Vision Beyond Borders PO Box 2635, Casper, WY 82602.