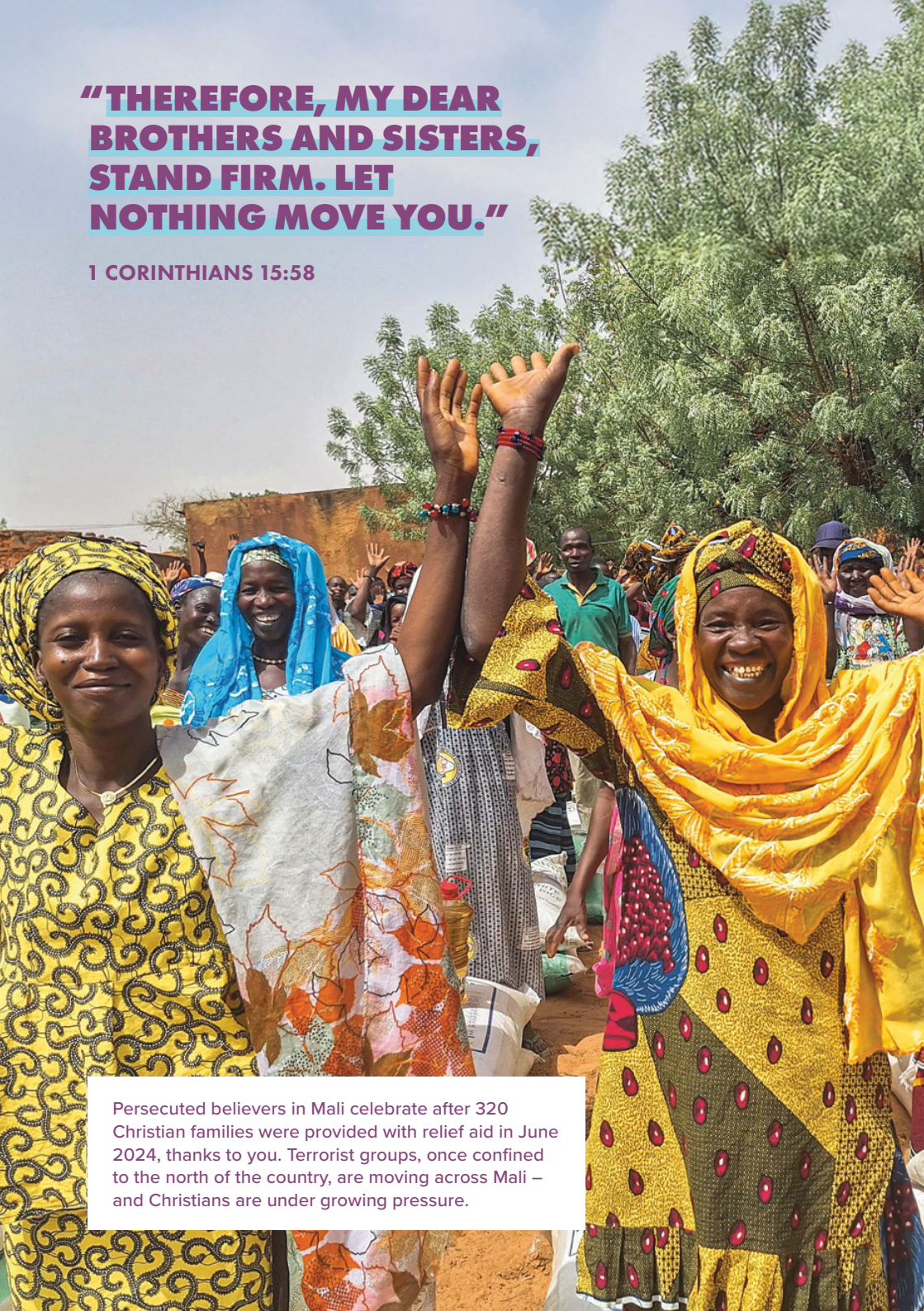
Open Doors

SUPPORTING COURAGEOUS FAITH

2024: A YEAR IN REVIEW



"THEREFORE, MY DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, STAND FIRM. LET NOTHING MOVE YOU."

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

Persecuted believers in Mali celebrate after 320 Christian families were provided with relief aid in June 2024, thanks to you. Terrorist groups, once confined to the north of the country, are moving across Mali – and Christians are under growing pressure.

About Open Doors

Seventy years ago, a young Dutch missionary discovered something extraordinary behind the Iron Curtain.

In Communist Poland, Andrew van der Bijl expected to find a defeated church. Instead, he found believers whose faith burned brighter under persecution—but who desperately needed to know they weren't alone.

They needed Bibles. They needed connection. They needed someone willing to risk everything to stand with them.

Brother Andrew answered that call, and his response changed everything.

With a blue VW Beetle and unshakeable faith that "all doors are open," he began smuggling Bibles across hostile borders. When he opened his Bible seeking God's direction, the words of Revelation 3:2 became his mission: *"Strengthen what remains and is about to die."*

What started as one man's obedience became Open Doors—a global network connecting persecuted believers with Christians who refuse to let them stand alone.

Today, as Open Doors marks the milestone of seven decades of faithfulness, that mission is stronger than ever.

In over 70 countries, we're witnessing the church not just surviving but thriving under pressure. From secret house churches reaching North Koreans to rebuilt communities in Iraq, from underground believers in Iran to courageous pastors in Nigeria—Christ is building His church even where it seems impossible.

And you're part of it. Through your prayers and support, millions of persecuted believers know they're connected to a worldwide family that will never abandon them.

This is what "strengthening what remains" looks like—and the story is far from over.

Rumana and Moryom celebrated Christmas with joy in 2024, thanks to your support.

The girls, who live in Bangladesh, face daily persecution. Death threats have even been directed at their families. But because of you, they keep following Jesus.

“It’s because of Jesus’ love that I have survived,” says Rumana.

A letter from Ryan Brown

YOU'RE BUILDING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.

When Kirti's husband was murdered by a mob in India for following Jesus, she could have given up. When Pastor Chen's house church was raided again in China, he could have stopped gathering believers.

But they didn't. And here's a huge part of why: **you**.

Not because you solved their problems from a distance. Because you became family.

THE GLOBAL CHURCH IS ALIVE AND GROWING.

In places where it costs the most to follow Jesus (like North Korea, Afghanistan, Iran, or Somalia) the church isn't just surviving. No, God's Spirit is still present and His Church is alive!

Over 380 million Christians face persecution worldwide, yet God is moving powerfully in these very places. In 2024, through your partnership, Open Doors connected with **9.5 million believers** across **70 countries**. That's 19% more than last year. Not because persecution decreased—it intensified. But because **you refused to let them face it alone**.

When Vietnamese believers write encouragement cards to their persecuted sisters in Nigeria, that's you making the connection. When families driven from their homes in Mozambique find trauma healing and hope, that's the global body of Christ caring for its own.

THIS IS WHAT FAITHFUL PRESENCE LOOKS LIKE.

For 70 years, Open Doors has understood something Brother Andrew knew: presence matters more than programs. We don't just send aid, we build relationships. We don't just respond to crises, we stay for as long as it takes.

This year, that meant millions of Bibles reaching hands that have waited years to hold God's Word. Biblical training strengthening faith. Trauma healing for believers in regions torn by violence. But most importantly, it meant **connection**.

THE STORY ISN'T OVER.

Persecution is intensifying. Nearly 5,000 believers died for their faith this year. Countries like China and India are pushing new frontiers of surveillance-powered persecution. But here's what persecutors don't understand: **the church grows strongest under pressure**. It always has.

You're not just supporting victims—you're partnering with the vanguard of God's kingdom.

Thank you for refusing to let our brothers and sisters face this alone. Thank you for proving that the church is strongest when we remember: we are family.

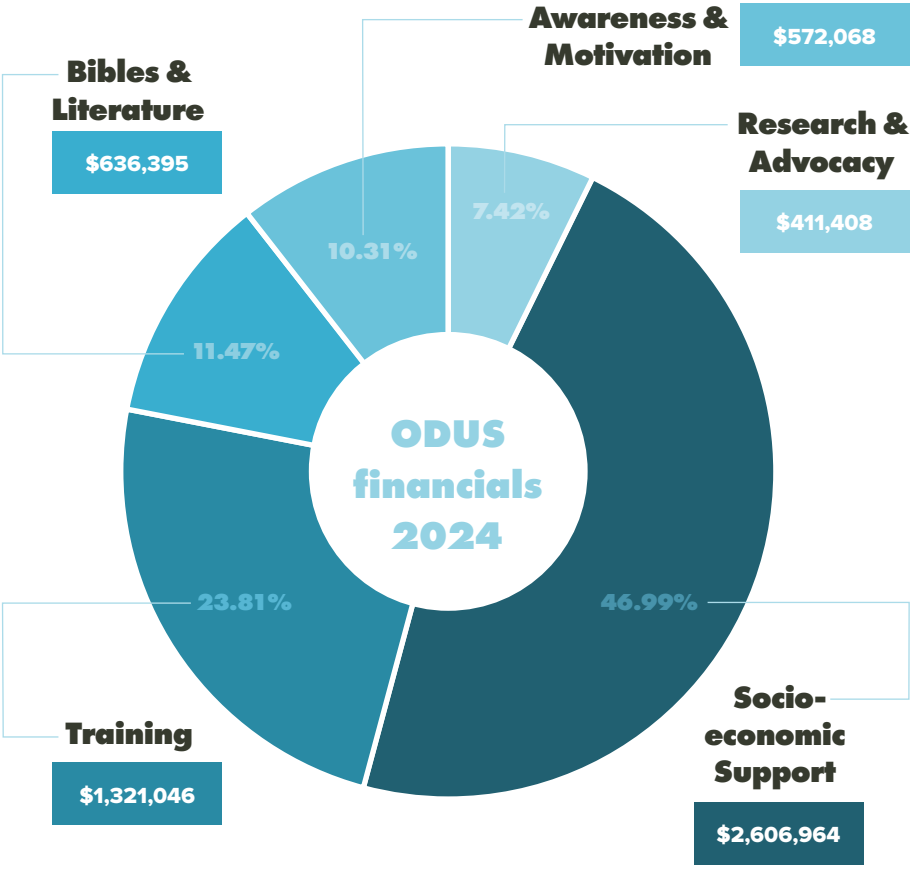
Yours in Christ,
Ryan Brown CEO, Open Doors US

Open Doors US financials

YOUR OPEN DOORS US IMPACT

Open Doors US raises funds to support the persecuted church. This year, thanks to you, we were able to send $1,740,485 more than in 2023! Here's the difference your gifts made:

TOTAL: $5,547,881



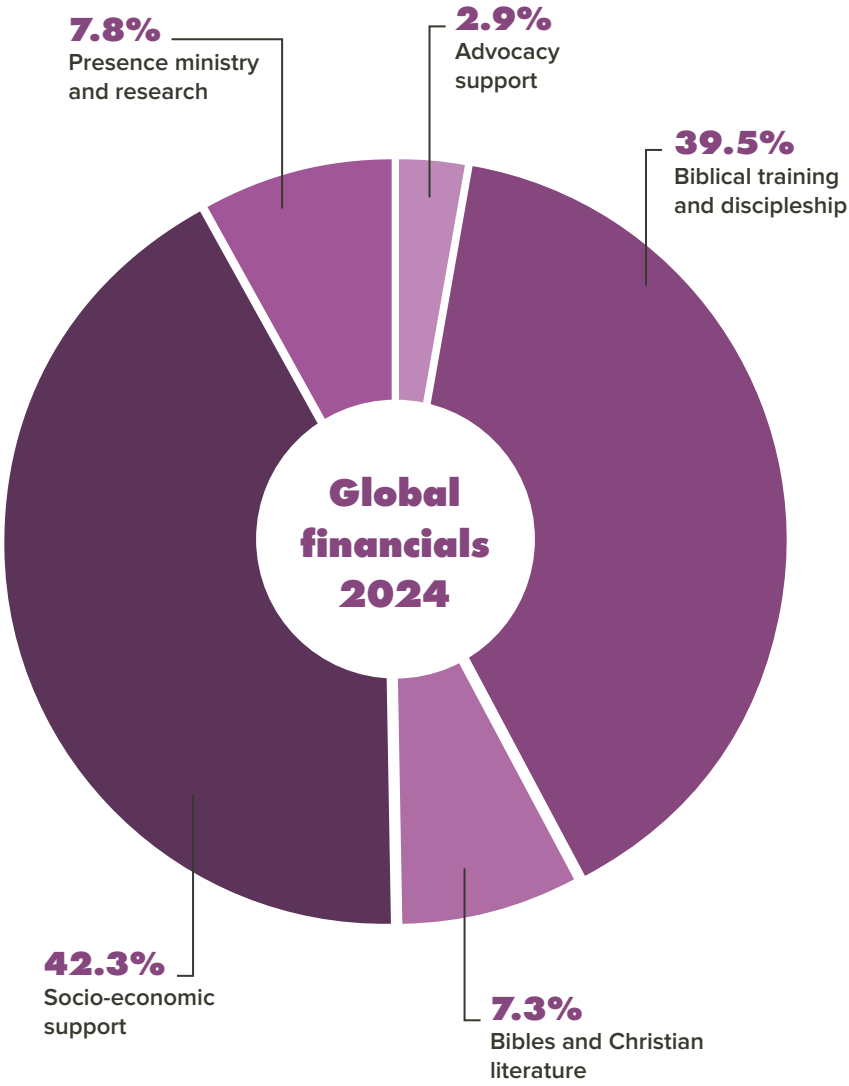
PROFIT & LOSS

Total Revenue	**$9,110,326**
Program Services	**$5,547,881**
Supporting Services	**$3,715,306**
Net Revenue	**($152,861)**

Global financials

YOUR GLOBAL IMPACT

Your gifts, and the gifts of people around the world, were invested wisely and carefully to support the persecuted church. Here's how Open Doors' global income was spent on ministry...



Your global impact

More than 380 million Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith. That's one in seven Christians in the world. Your faithful support and prayers make a difference.

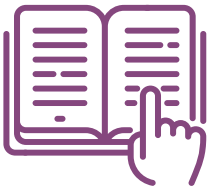
Thank you for standing with believers counting the highest cost for following Jesus.

9.5M+ PEOPLE

were supported around the world, a 19% increase compared to 2023

1 IN 3 IMPACTED

received training to help them withstand persecution



57% GROWTH

in biblical training, due to an increase in online training

ALMOST DOUBLE

the number of women were supported in 2024 compared to 2023

2.5M BIBLES

and Christian literature were provided, an increase of 36%

1.6M+ YOUNG PEOPLE

were supported in 2024, 42% more than the previous year

Your impact in 2024

5,766,757

people received biblical training and discipleship

535,680

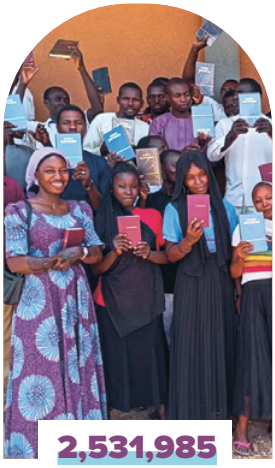
people were helped with socio-economic support

542,813

people received advocacy support

176,405

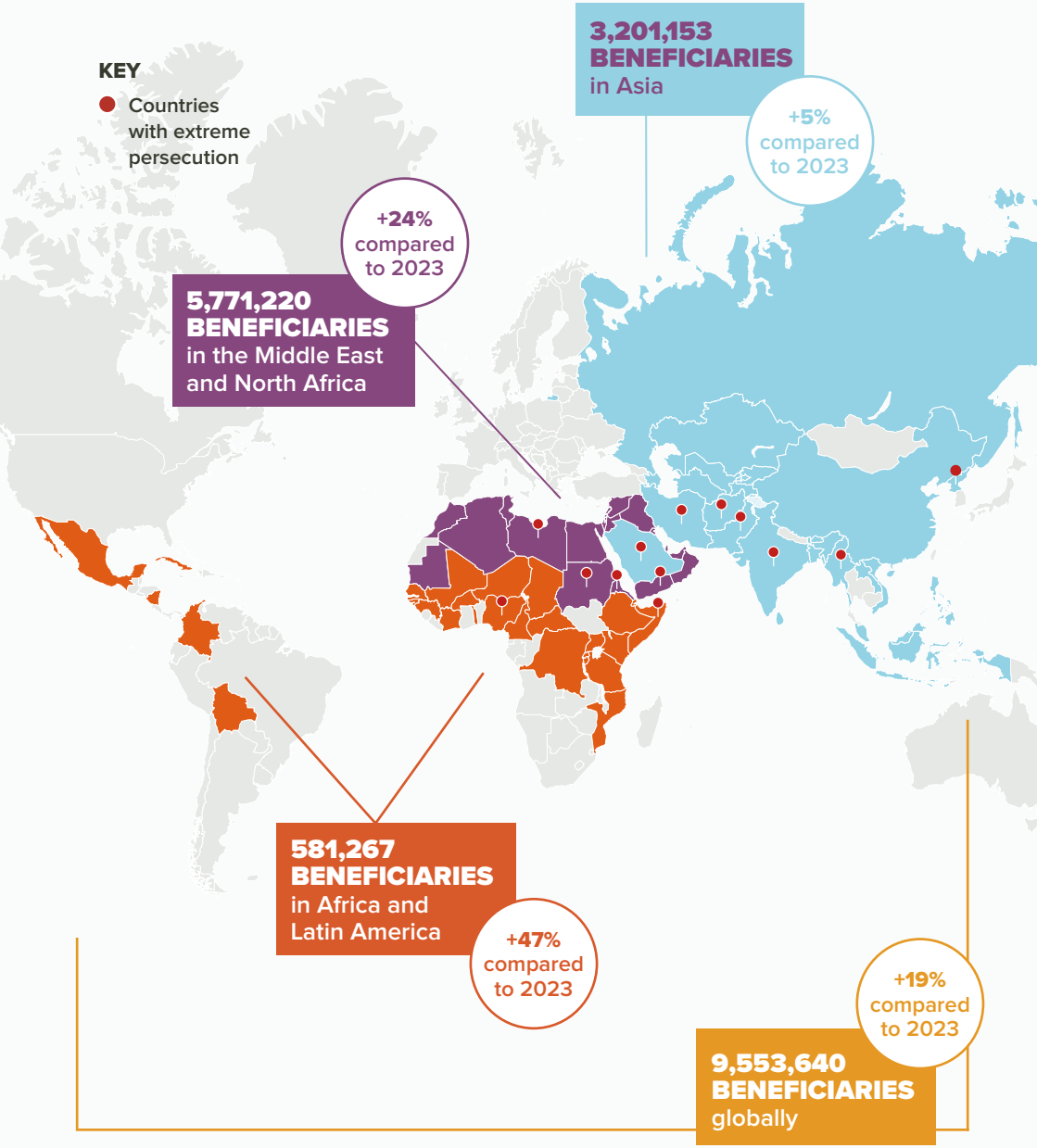
people were supported through presence ministry and research



2,531,985

people received Bibles and Christian literature

Your help reaching around the world



Pastor Barnabas' story featured in our *Arise Africa* campaign, highlighting the plight of displaced Christians in sub-Saharan Africa

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

PASTOR BARNABAS' STORY

In a makeshift camp in northern Nigeria, weathered tents stretch as far as the eye can see. Food is scarce, disease is rife and there's no running water.

And yet, this is "home" for Pastor Barnabas, his wife and five children.

The family has survived here, in appalling conditions, since violent persecution drove them from their home five years ago. But Pastor Barnabas is not forgotten– thanks to you.

Your gifts and prayers delivered vital support to Pastor Barnabas and many others in 2024. More than 4,700 families received packages of food, including maize, rice, beans and oil, which will last three months.

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you." – Isaiah 60:1

Pastor Barnabas is due for surgery to remove shrapnel from his arm, thanks to your gifts. Meanwhile, his wife has joined our livelihood training, where she'll learn skills to generate an income.

"I am happy and grateful. You didn't just leave us," said Pastor Barnabas. "My children are now back to school because of the support I received. And for my hand operation... thank you."

YOUR IMPACT

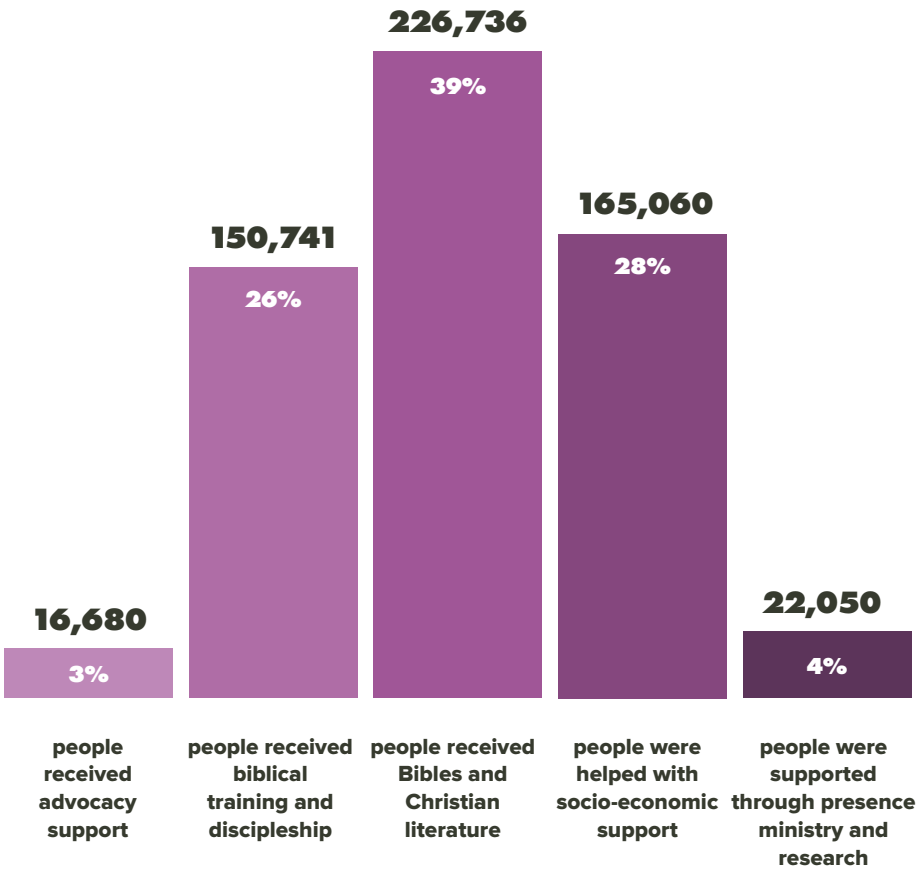
in Africa and Latin America

Africa: home to the largest number of Christians in the world – and the most violent persecution on the planet.

95% of believers killed for their faith in 2024 were killed in sub-Saharan Africa. The region was home to 75% of the world's destroyed, damaged, looted or closed churches.

Meanwhile, in Latin America, violent persecution has increased, and instability in places like Mexico and Venezuela means the future looks uncertain.

Your support reached thousands of believers under extreme pressure.



15,000
believers supported in Sudan, thanks to new “safe zones” for aid distribution

$11M+
spent on socio-economic development work in these regions in 2024

330,000
persecuted Christians were helped in Nigeria, 2.5x more than 2023

HOW YOU HELPED IN 2024

Your generous support for the Arise Africa campaign meant almost 50% more persecuted Christians in Africa received help in 2024.

Nigerians account for more than half of all beneficiaries, reflecting the size of the persecuted church in this nation. Christians who are uprooted and displaced in their own country have been supported with emergency aid and trauma care. Many say without this support, they would be begging–or women would have to sell their bodies–to survive.

In Sudan, amid insecurity and ongoing civil war, we found new ways to reach the persecuted church, and work there increased significantly. Thanks to you, more people have also been helped in Burkina Faso, Chad and Tanzania.

In Latin America, we focused on supporting Christians in Bolivia, Mexico and Nicaragua.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

PASTOR SORÉ’S STORY

Pastor Soré* had no choice but to flee his village in Burkina Faso when extremists attacked. Thanks to you, this faithful pastor and his small community of believers are now thriving.

“We bought land with your support, and have [made] the decision to settle here,” said Pastor Soré. “We are grateful to the Lord. Our plan now is to acquire more space and build a house.

“Four new converts have been added to our family, and I would like a field for agriculture. All this I put to the Lord who has always provided. I pray God would help me open a church in the neighborhood.”

*name changed for security reasons

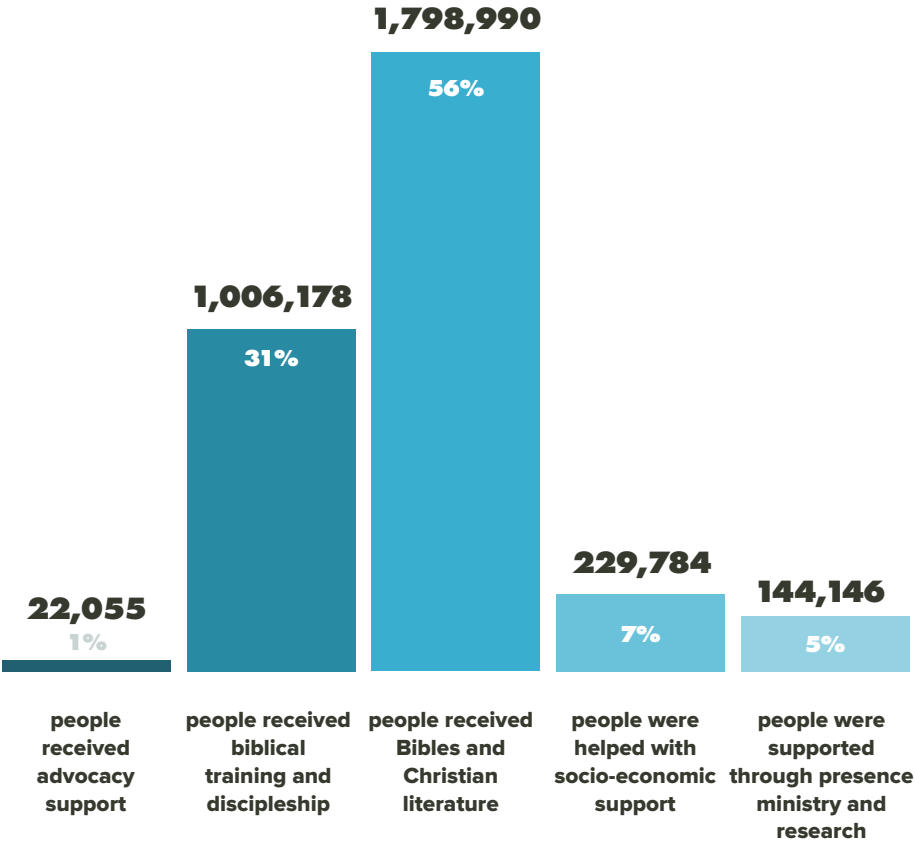
YOUR IMPACT

in Asia

In North Korea, believers face torture and death. In China, Christians are monitored with surveillance technology. In Laos, at least eight house churches have been forced to close.

But it's Myanmar which stands out in 2024. When a country is in political and economic turmoil, Christians suffer deeply. Since the outbreak of civil war, persecution of Christians has become persistent and more extreme.

You stood with millions of Christians tightly squeezed by persecution.



MORE THAN 40%
of Open Doors' global funding is spent in Asia ($30m+)

90% MORE
persecuted Christians helped in the Persian Gulf in 2024

$10M
was spent on biblical training and discipleship in Asia

HOW YOU HELPED IN 2024

Your support boosted the provision of Bibles, Christian literature and online training in Asia.

In hard-to-reach places like Afghanistan, digital ministry is growing. 2024 saw more downloads of digital Scripture and almost twice as many phone calls with people interested in Jesus.

Security issues remain a challenge. But twice as many Christians were supported in China, compared to 2023, and we continue to reach believers in North Korea. Even amid armed conflict in Myanmar, we helped Christians stand strong.

We saw churches in Laos run social action projects in their communities, repairing village buildings and repaving roads. Women in Vietnam shared the gospel in parks and markets. And in the Philippines, an isolated group of indigenous believers heard about Open Doors and approached us for help to deal with persecution.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

LAXMAN'S STORY

Laxman* was leading a prayer service in India when police burst in and beat him. He was jailed, tortured and mocked. Hindu extremists destroyed the church and the believers scattered.

But Laxman has your support–and he will not be held back.

With his church under surveillance, Laxman has started meeting believers in secret. Amazingly, he now runs six small house churches, each with up to 70 members.

"I am strengthened to serve God in every possible way, and I will continue to praise the Lord in all circumstances, wherever I am," says Laxman today. "What can stop me from fulfilling the purposes of God?"

*name changed for security reasons

Re-enactment image

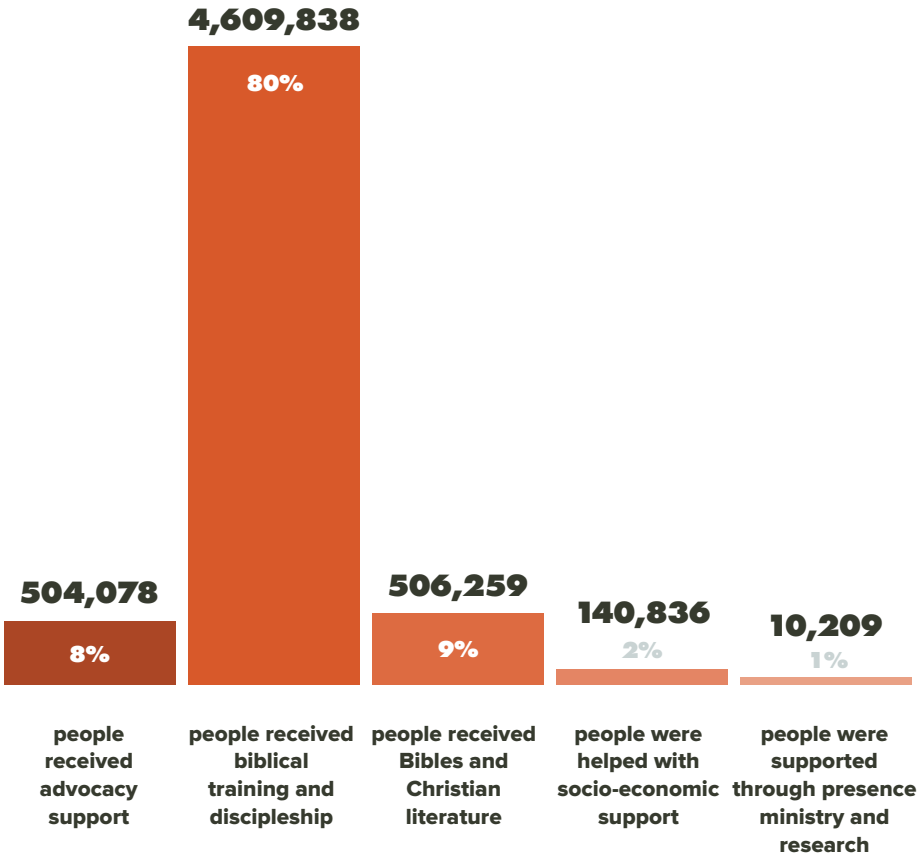
YOUR IMPACT

in the Middle East and North Africa

Instability and conflict have sparked a rise in radical Islam across this region. In Syria, Iraq, Libya, Jordan and Yemen, more power in the hands of Islamic militants is putting Christians at great risk.

The Israel-Palestine conflict puts added pressure on the church. Even in countries like Egypt and Turkey, online hate campaigns against Christians are growing. In North Africa, surveillance of believers is now disturbingly common.

Your support ensured millions of persecuted believers were never alone.



24%
more persecuted Christians supported in the Middle East and North Africa

1/3
of Open Doors' global budget was directed to Christians in this region

44%
of global expenditure on biblical training and discipleship is in this region

HOW YOU HELPED IN 2024

Your support enabled a 50% increase in biblical training and discipleship in the Middle East and North Africa in 2024. More support was provided in Egypt, home to the largest number of Middle East Christians, and the Arabian Peninsula through Open Doors' online presence.

We connected with more local churches, to help them become Centers of Hope. Often these churches are small, with up to 15 members. Your support provided livelihood support, scholarships and practical training, so Christians can positively engage with their workplaces and neighborhoods.

You helped provide visits, phone calls, online prayers, legal support and counseling to persecuted believers across the region. We have also invested in supporting children and their parents who face discrimination in the classroom, so they can take action with the authorities.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

SIMIN'S STORY

Simin* was mocked and shamed for following Jesus. Rejected by the people she loved. Made to feel worthless because of her faith.

But today, thanks to your support, this Iranian woman is a powerful witness for Christ.

"My heart dances with joy when I hear that brothers and sisters around the world are praying for me," says Simin, who now lives outside Iran and has an online ministry with other Iranian women.

"Your prayers give me new power to stay faithful in my path and move forward. I'm blessed and thankful to see God working in the midst of persecution, challenges and difficulties."

*name changed for security reasons

representative image

“IF ONE PART SUFFERS, EVERY PART SUFFERS WITH IT… YOU ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND EACH ONE OF YOU IS A PART OF IT.”

1 CORINTHIANS 12:26-27

“I chose the path of Christ,” says Khada, in Afghanistan. But this secret faith comes at a price. Your support has strengthened Khada during 2024, and she keeps following Jesus. Thank you.

representative image

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

KHADA'S STORY

It has never been more dangerous to follow Jesus in Afghanistan. But thanks to you, Khada is holding onto faith.*

Khada paid the highest price for faith in Jesus.

She'd given her life to Jesus alongside her beloved husband Ehsan, and the couple were baptized together. But one day, Ehsan didn't come home. He'd been tortured and killed.

When our partners met Khada, she was broken and vulnerable. As a widow, she had no agency to find work. As a secret believer, she was in extreme danger.

But your support in 2024 has strengthened this courageous woman. Because of you, Khada continues to walk with Jesus–and she is bringing hope in a dark place.

"We are so grateful for your encouragement."

"Under the Taliban, there is no forgiveness, and these harsh conditions have profound effects on people. Many have lost their joy," says Khada, in an update sent to Open Doors partners.

"Yet those who have found faith in Christ hold onto hope. We believe one day things will change, and God will deliver us from this oppression.

"I shared the gospel with my family and they chose to follow Jesus. Now they have a good life; they embraced Christ and are experiencing true happiness. They feel a sense of freedom and love from God that they never felt before.

"Those who have found Christ hold onto hope."

"Spiritually we are very strong. We see God at work and the Holy Spirit is our guide and protector. The Taliban government enforces severe punishments on Christian gatherings, including death or stoning. So we remain cautious and have ways of avoiding attention. It is wise for us to meet discreetly."

Your gifts and prayers in 2024 have provided Bibles, discipleship training and run vital livelihood projects for people like Khada, in Afghanistan and around the world.

Khada added, "We are so grateful for your encouragement and support in helping us. Thank you for always thinking of us and inspiring us to remain servants of Christ. May the grace and blessing of Jesus Christ be upon you."

*name changed to protect her identity

THANK YOU FOR FAITHFULLY SUPPORTING YOUR PERSECUTED FAMILY.

"Strengthen what remains and is about to die."

REVELATION 3:2

Open Doors

opendoorsus.org

info@opendoorsus.org

1-800-896-5285

Open Doors US, PO Box 685, Bridgeville, PA 15017-0685