



Christian
Freedom
INTERNATIONAL

Annual Report 2024

“Remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.” Hebrews 13:3

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

“But God” is a powerful theme in the Bible. When situations are impossible and hope may seem lost, “but God” intervenes.

In 2024, Christians faced increasing persecution worldwide. But God is working – including through Christians like you – to bring hope and help.

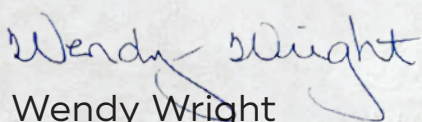
Thanks to your faithful support – your prayers, your giving, your compassion – persecuted Christians were rescued, sheltered, disciplined, given food, aid, Bibles, and equipped for the future. With your support, we are bringing hope and relief to more persecuted Christians in more places.

Jesus prayed that His disciples would be one (John 17:20-21). Each time we care, spiritually and physically, for persecuted Christians as our brothers and sisters in Christ, we are working together as one body, and His prayer is being answered.

Below you’ll see the fruit of your giving and how your support is making a profound difference for Christians who suffer for their faith. “But God” is still true today.

Thank you for stepping in and being an answer to prayer!

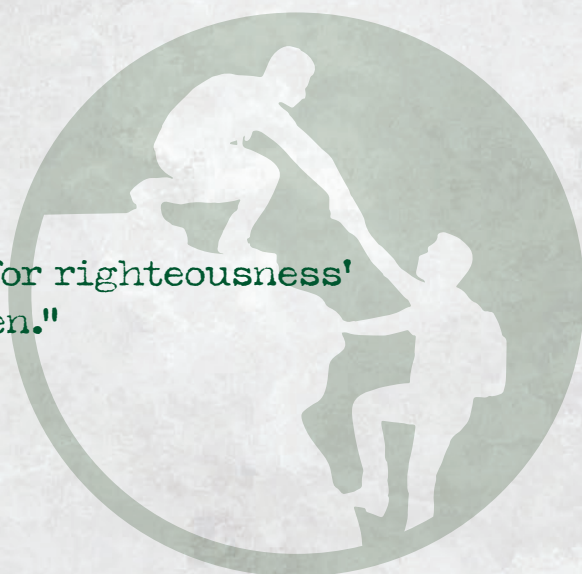
For Christ,



Wendy Wright
CFI President

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

— Matthew 5:10



Mission & Vision

Unshackling the Persecuted Church to Survive and Thrive

- † Bringing Humanitarian Relief
- † Advocating for Christian Freedom
- † Safeguarding the Persecuted
- † Equipping for Christian Ministry
- † Sparking Growth and Growing the Local Church

EGYPT

AFGHANISTAN

PAKISTAN

BANGLADESH

CHINA

NORTH KOREA

NIGERIA

BURMA

THAILAND

SRI LANKA

Christians Served in 2024

Food	8,586
Education Support	171
Life Skills	155
Sponsored Children, Pastors, & Families	209
Shelters & Expenses	245
Clothes & Blankets	974 items
Bibles	1029
Bible Training & Bible Classes	627
Baptized	29
Equipment for Churches & Pastors	37 items
Christmas & Holiday Gifts	1,564
Children Received Jesus from Safety Training	9,746 children
Children Joined a Church from Safety Training	6,284 children

Afghanistan

Afghanistan is one of the most dangerous places in the world for Christians. Even those who flee are always at risk of severe persecution for believing in Jesus. CFI provided monthly support and discipleship for Afghan Christians who were hiding in and outside of Afghanistan. Amazingly, they invited Muslim Afghans to our team's Bible studies and several gave their lives to Christ.

CFI provided ways for Afghan Christians to avoid being forced back to Afghanistan. Our team also organized a Christmas gathering. This was the first time most of them had celebrated Christmas with a group and the first time their children received Christmas gifts.

"We are in a situation where we cannot go out and work easily. God is still sustaining us. It's only through your financial support that we are surviving. We are thankful for this ongoing support from our Christian brothers and sisters." – Mariam

Number of families served: **31**

Number of people served: **111**



Bangladesh

Political turmoil in Bangladesh led to Islamists gaining power. Pastors received death threats. New believers were falsely accused and arrested. Churches were attacked by both Muslims and Buddhists.

Despite the increased risks, Christian converts continued to live out their faith and help others with support from CFI. We also provided shelters, medical aid, and legal support for Christians who were attacked because of their faith in Christ.

"The year 2024 was a year of struggle for us. I was on the run and hiding in many places, we faced many challenges. We are very grateful to CFI for your invaluable prayers and support. Our ministries won't survive without the contribution of CFI," a Christian leader said.

Baptisms. 24 people were baptized.

Emergency Relief and Medical Aid. Over 100 people received emergency relief, medical aid, food, and essentials such as clothing, including one young Christian who was shot during political chaos. Many Christians live hand-to-mouth and could not work due to the hostile situation.

Caring for Others. CFI helped persecuted Christians to care for elderly believers who were abandoned by their families and people who are disabled and blind. On White Cane Day, 380 blind families, or over 2,000 people total, received a month's supply of rice and

lentils, white canes, audio Bibles, and mosquito nets.

Shelters. CFI's safe houses sheltered pastors and their families who were threatened, attacked, and falsely accused. They received medical attention and tuition for their children.

"They are not out of danger and without CFI's help, they would not be alive," said a Christian leader.

Pastor Sponsorships. 25 pastors and their families received monthly support that gave relief from unbearable conditions.

Child Sponsorships. 15 children were educated with support for tuition, food, and medicine. 5 individuals, who aged out of sponsorships, were assisted in gaining college admission.

Blankets. CFI gave blankets to 500 Christians for the winter, which benefited about 2,000 people. Without these blankets, elderly Christians would not survive the winter.

Bibles. CFI distributed 489 Bibles and 200 leaflets in 2024. Two Christians were provided Bible training (tuition and books) and mentored to become CFI leaders.

Legal Aid: CFI assisted with eight cases involving Christian converts who were accused because of their faith. CFI provided for legal fees, shelters, and transportation. False criminal accusations are a common tool to force Christians to return to Islam.



Burma / Thailand

Victory Bible Academy.

Our full-service Bible and vocational school for persecuted Christians trained 40 young adults who escaped from Burma, a country whose military attacks Christian communities.

Students were taught Bible and ministry skills. They were challenged to live out Biblical principles such as loving your enemies. They learned practical trades to earn a living and to bless their neighbors, such as gardening, food preparation, computers, building homes, repairs and maintenance, electrical, t-shirt production, developing businesses for handcrafted items, and more.

We supplied students with housing, meals, school supplies, clothes, and talented teachers. They shared the Gospel with Buddhists and animists, encouraged persecuted Christians, conducted children's programs, and translation for refugees. They prepared food to give to people in need, repaired and cleaned homes, and helped with farming.

Youth group meetings were held at Victory every Friday evening for migrants. Students led mission trips into Burma where *"there was no electricity, no WiFi, no toilets, and food insecurity. Traveling was difficult due to landmines and military checkpoints. Our students learned that God is the ultimate Provider and a powerful God,"* a team leader said.

People ministered to weekly by students: **473**

People ministered to on mission trips: **872**

Baptized: **5**

Bibles: **300**

Students report their training included:

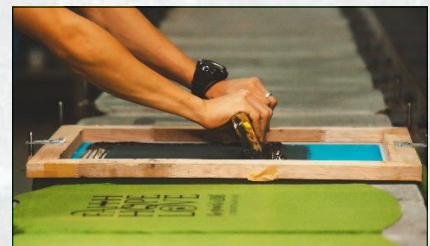
- Each week we assisted the elderly and injured by doing yard work, gardening, home repairs, child care, prayer, and encouragement.
- Provided snacks for each visit using vegetables from the school garden and baked goods made by students
- Visited, encouraged, and assisted young widows and orphaned children who lost family due to the coup in Myanmar (Burma)
- Teaching and encouraging Christians, and helping daily workers on farms, cleaning homes, and sharing food.
- Most of the people face stress about family matters, air strikes and not enough food. Our assistance gave them an opportunity to recharge and recoup.
- Most of them had been forced from their homes due to the war.
- Many of the communities were starving and needed us to bring food.

- We were blessed to share the gospel.

- We built a kitchen for migrant workers at a local school where two of Victory's graduates work.

- One family with grandparents and two grandchildren cried and said that we encouraged them. Their children left to work in Bangkok but don't earn enough to care for them. There is no food to eat, no place to work, and sometimes they only had leftovers that people in the village brought to them. But at least no one was trying to kill them.

- We pray every night that nothing can stop God's plan for our life. — Isaiah 14:27



Shop at Victory

Students learn to make T-shirts and hand-crafted products with a greater purpose. Each item contributes to their training to improve themselves and connect with others. They create items that appeal to customers and add handwritten notes. Their products are available on CFI's webstore. When you buy and share their items, you enrich the lives of persecuted Christians.



Victory students
learn culinary skills.

Egypt

Christians in Egypt face unrelenting discrimination, fear of violent attacks, and kidnappings of women to forcibly convert them to Islam. CFI provides care for Christian families along with basic needs.

“My family and I thank CFI for supporting us in our hard circumstances. You have given us constant support and sincere help, and you did not expect anything in return. You are the most generous and giving, and you deserve all our thanks.” – Mother of three young children.

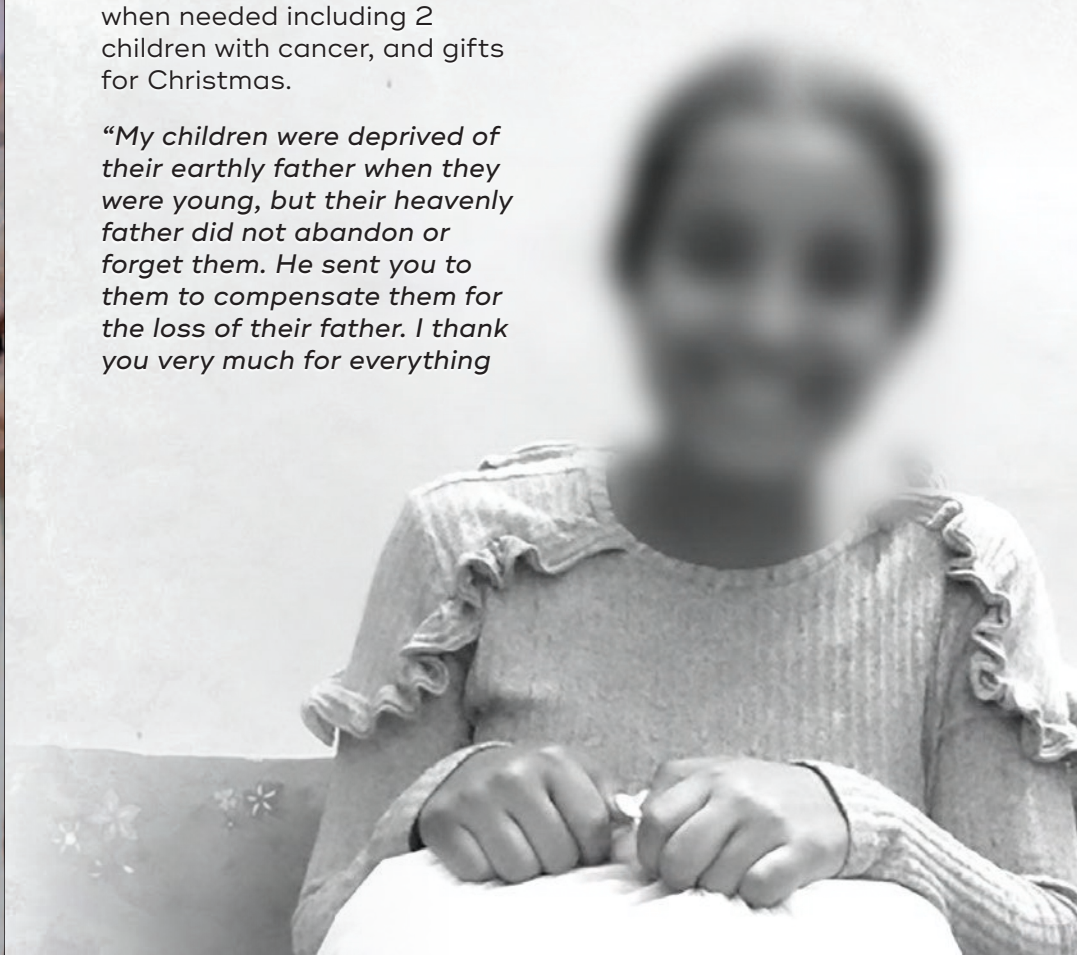
Child Sponsorships: 47 children were sponsored, which helped about 200 members of their families. They received monthly food packages, school supplies, medical aid when needed including 2 children with cancer, and gifts for Christmas.

“My children were deprived of their earthly father when they were young, but their heavenly father did not abandon or forget them. He sent you to them to compensate them for the loss of their father. I thank you very much for everything

you do for my children. May God bless you.” – Mother of two sponsored children.

Widows and Needy Families: 480 food packages containing basic needs for a month were given to Christian families in Garbage City.

“After the death of my husband, who was our sole breadwinner, we had no income, but God did not abandon us and sent you to take care of us. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your constant giving. My tongue is unable to express what I feel towards you, as I do not have the words to do justice to what you do for us. May God bless your great ministry.” – A disabled widow with two daughters.



Nigeria

Nigeria is the deadliest country in the world for Christians. Islamist militants raid and destroy villages, and mutilate and massacre Christians. The ongoing violence leaves massive numbers of people homeless, destitute, and traumatized.

“We are grateful for the love and intentionality shown toward victims of persecution in Nigeria.” – Christian Leader

Emergency Aid. Christmas massacres in 40 villages in 2023 left thousands of Christians homeless and desperate. CFI provided two shipments of food and aid for 2,400 survivors.

Child Sponsorships. 52 children whose families suffered from Islamist violence were provided tuition, books, medical support, and counseling – as well as love, prayers, and letters of encouragement from their sponsors.

Small Business. Twenty widows and breadwinners, victims of persecution and terrorism, were trained to run successful businesses that will help provide incomes for their families.

Treasure Center. 78 young adults traumatized by Islamist violence found healing and a future at the Treasure Center.

This Christian recovery center graduated their first class of 22 students in 2024. They were disciplined, counseled for healing, and trained in job skills and for a new life. CFI provided for reconstructing and furnishing the buildings, for students’ daily needs (food, hygiene, medicines), and apprenticeships for 8 graduates.

“I give thanks to God that I was brought here and for this moment that I am graduating. I was also baptized here. I am sincerely grateful.” – Treasure Center Student



Sri Lanka

Christian converts from Buddhist and Hindu backgrounds are harassed to force them to deny Christ. Buddhist monks and local officials stir up opposition and mobs against churches. CFI equips Christians and churches with practical ways to endure under pressure and grow.

Equipping Pastors in High-Risk Areas:

- Motorbike fuel for 31 pastors to visit and disciple new believers in hostile areas where they are the only Christians.
- Motorbike for a pastor.
- CCTV security cameras for 2 churches, for a Christian-run girls' home harassed by Hindus, and for a Christian camp that was vandalized by Buddhists.
- Boundary walls for a church that was harassed by Buddhists.

Education. CFI provided resources for pastors in hostile areas to run tutoring programs for embattled Christian youth to gain a higher education.

Food Security. 5 churches in high-risk areas were given resources to train church members to grow healthy food. This project provides food security for Christians, who also use the produce for outreaches to show love to their communities.

Preschool. A pastor who is harassed by local leaders had the vision to start a preschool at his church to help the community. CFI provided resources to construct a separate room to meet the authorities' approval.

Skills Training. CFI trained impoverished Christian women in a post-conflict zone to pursue careers in dressmaking by providing sewing training.





North Korea / China

North Korea ranks as the worst country in the world for Christians, where a person suspected of being a Christian can be sent to a labor camp, tortured, and executed. CFI provides shelters, Bibles, and supports rescue operations for people who are escaping.

CFI also supports daily radio broadcasts into North Korea of the Bible, news, stories of people who escaped, and messages of hope from U.S. Senators and Congressmen.

Shelters: Admission to CFI's shelters is managed with a high degree of confidentiality. North Korean escapees often suffer from starvation, causing conflicts among the residents as they struggle to eat. Shelters had to be relocated several times to maintain secrecy. Most defectors listen to audio Bibles that are provided by CFI and smuggled into China. Women who were trafficked and sold into forced marriages in China escape to our shelters.

A young woman in her 20s came to a CFI shelter in the spring of 2024. Two years before, when she crossed the river to escape North Korea, her mother was swept away by the current. She never saw her again. When she landed in China, she was trafficked.

Many escapees arrive at CFI's shelters gravely ill. Tuberculosis is a common ailment, and those who ate grass for food have harmful insects in their body. They never received care in North Korea, so they often do not know how sick they are.

"Thank you so much, CFI family. Though we are on the other side of the earth, and you may not even know where North Korea is, but you have paved the way for refugees to find life. The life I am talking about is two: Eternal life as well as physical life. You are not supporting us because you are in abundance, but to give hope to the people who have fled North Korea. For many years you have been so faithful to us. Several hundreds of North Korean refugees

experienced your touch and I am sure that God will reward you for the lives you have changed.” – CFI’s Partner

Elderly Escapees. CFI helps defectors who struggle with life in South Korea. Twice a month, 70-80 North Korean defectors gather at the basement office of our partner. They come for several reasons.

These seniors live as outsiders and are not accepted in South Korean society. When they gather, they are given food that is donated by markets, cook North Korean dishes, and meet with other escapees – a highlight for those missing their families and hometowns that they can never return to. And they participate in praise, worship, and listen to the gospel.

A small-screen TV was the only way to see song lyrics and the word of God. In 2024, CFI purchased better equipment. A modest projector was the initial plan, but when the company heard the cause, they provided us with a huge screen at a minimal cost.

For Christmas, CFI contributed a water purifier. Previously, it was common for visitors and staff to get sick from the tap water.

“Every soul is precious in the sight of our God. Please remember that your

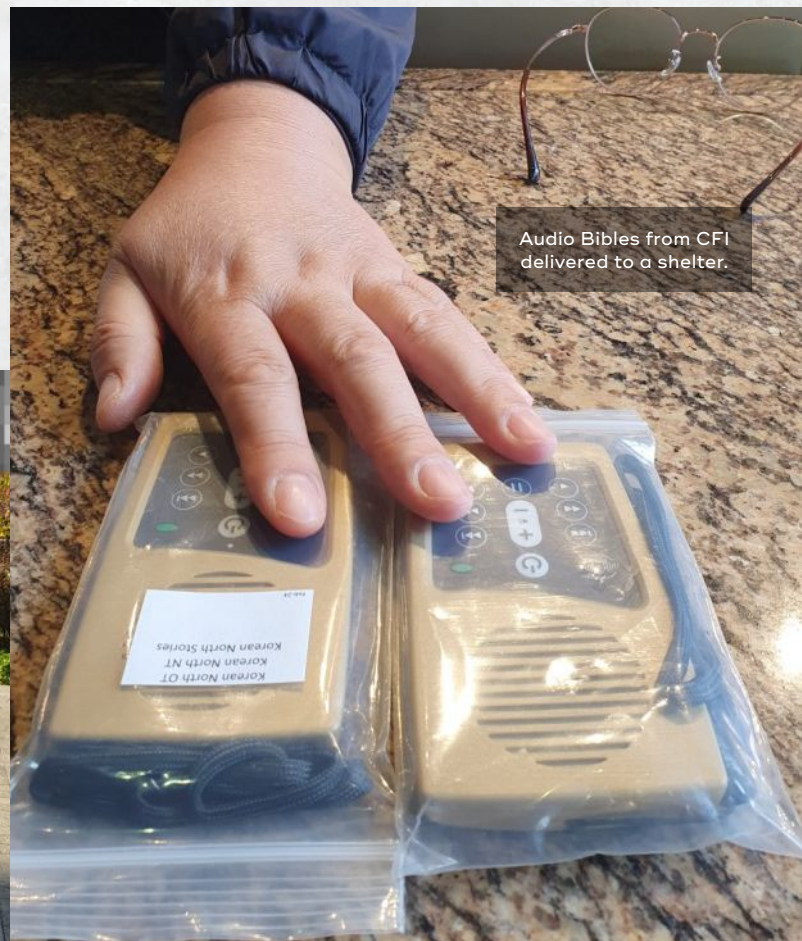
contributions have brought so much love to the defectors. Many did not know what love is. When the North Korean defectors were going through the darkest moment, and when [CFI’s partner] went through the toughest times, the hands offered by CFI and your continuous love made us not to give up. If there is a chance in the future, I want to offer you to visit us. But even if we don’t meet face to face while on earth, please remember that you have provided not only the physical shelter in China, but also the spiritual shelter for those who were living in the dark. We love you and bless you.” – Christian Leader

People in shelters: 39 females (including a 4-year-old and a 6-year-old)

North Korean refugees at gatherings: 70-80



Two North Korean refugees who stayed in a CFI shelter in 2024.



Audio Bibles from CFI delivered to a shelter.

Pakistan

Christians in Pakistan face legal, societal, and institutional discrimination that can quickly lead to violence, imprisonment, and death. CFI provides essential resources, livelihood skills, Bible teachings, and encouragement from Christians through sponsorships.

Christians in Debt Bondage.

CFI supported Christians in brickyards by providing food, teaching classes, and Bible studies, giving 90 audio Bibles, and celebrating Christmas and birthdays for over 225 through sponsorships in one brickyard and 1,720 laborers in other brickyards.

Ministry Center. Christian women from slums learn

sewing, basic computer, and makeup/hair/nails to become financially independent and provide income for their families. Trainings and Bible studies are open to anyone, and several Muslim women have joined. We pray that they accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

"I am humbly thankful from the bottom of my heart for all my brothers and sisters in Christ who shared their kind donations and offered precious prayers." – CFI Partner

Muslim Background

Evangelist. In August 2024, a Pakistani Muslim-background believer who evangelizes was attacked by extremists. He and his family had to flee to

another city. CFI provided for his family's travel, food, and winter clothing. His pastor said, *"On behalf of him and his family, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued prayers and support during this challenging time."*

Pakistani Refugees in Bangkok.

CFI supported 31 Christian refugee families, helping 135 people, in Bangkok each month with essential food items through sponsorships, and medical assistance for disabled and elderly members.

"I was devastated to see that my child's condition was only getting worse by the day. I'm very grateful to CFI for helping my child get better again." – Mother



Restricted Countries

Refugee Camp. CFI provided Christmas gifts for believers in a highly volatile refugee camp, including 150 Bibles to give to others. The camp is infiltrated by violent Muslim gangs that distributed posters calling for the killing of Christian leaders.

Child Safety. CFI partnered in two countries that rank high for persecution to protect children from human trafficking, sexual abuse, and drugs. At-risk children are invited to rural churches for training and to hear the gospel. This strengthens and grows local churches by reaching children and bringing them into the church family.

“Through this program, I learned to avoid drugs. But the most important thing I learned is about Jesus Christ – who He is and knowing He can help me avoid sins and drugs. I believe Jesus is the Son of God and he came to the world to save my life. Now I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I gave my life to Him and I will follow him for the rest of my life.” – A 10-year-old child

9,746 children prayed to receive Jesus.

6,284 children joined local churches for discipleship.



Sponsorships

Christians in countries like Nigeria, Egypt, Bangladesh, and Pakistan know the reality of persecution and poverty. CFI's unique sponsorships encourage and empower persecuted Christians through personal relationships with sponsors. Sponsorships are organized by caring leaders and address the most pressing needs for each community.

25 Pastors for **103** people total

31 Families for **135** people total

153 Children



CFI Leadership

INDIGENOUS STAFF

Over 60 dedicated Christians work with Christian Freedom International to deliver aid, train and disciple believers, provide shelter and aid, and lift up the name of Jesus Christ under dangerous circumstances. We do not disclose their names for their safety.

U.S. STAFF

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President / CEO

Lisa Poths
Vice-President / CFO

Carol Hoopes
Accounts Manager / Chief Data Officer

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Financial Accountability

Total Contributions: **\$1,137,482**

Ministry Expenses: **\$1,037,818**

Programs: 82%

Administration: 13%

Fundraising: 5%



These financial accountability organizations give Christian Freedom International their highest rating:



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