



**China:** Last fall, some 850 Chinese Christian leaders from China mainland held a mission conference in Hong Kong. They announced a goal of sending 20,000 missionaries from China by year 2030. The number was based on their estimate of 20,000 missionaries have served in China since the days of Robert Morrison. In a sense, this is repayment of a gospel debt. Top sending countries in 2010 were: USA (127,000); Brazil (34,000); France and Spain (21,000); South Korea and Italy (20,000); United Kingdom (14,000); and India (10,000). In 1990, South Koreans had a goal of sending 10,000 in 10 years and met it in 2000. Now they are aiming to send 100,000 by 2030.

*Christianity Today, christianitytoday.com, Jan/Feb 2016*

**Audio Bible:** At the end of 2015, 954 Bible recordings have been released on languages (including sign languages) spoken by over 6 billion people of the world (over 85% world population). With technology advancement, the agency of this ministry expects to hit the 1,000 mark by May this year. And get to at least 2,000 in this generation for 97% of world population.

*<Faith Comes by Hearing, faithcomesbyhearing.com, 2/4/16>*

**Middle East:** According to UN, one of every 122 people is either internally displaced or seeking asylum. Among them, the children are most vulnerable. Some studies showed that 85% of them in refugee camps suffered from post traumatic stress with 25% of these having thoughts of suicide. An agency is setting up tent schools in the camps along with local Christian groups to restore their educational process and hope in the future through the gospel.

*<Tent Schools International, tentschoolsint.org, 2/2/16>*

**Syria:** The war has caused 250,000 death, millions refugees and severe damage all over the nation. But since the war started, families have scattered. They rely on Christian groups; come to them in need, in tears, in sadness, and find release and peace as people pray for them. Their hearts are softened to listen to the gospel, whereas in the past, they are not approachable nor interested, especially for the women. Now there are ladies' meetings of 50-70 women, often bring their children, and refugees themselves ministering to others.

*<Operation Mobilization, www.omusa.org, 2/2/16>*

**Mexico:** Last January in Tuxpan de Bolaos village, Jalisco, some 50 persons, including children, all Baptist and members of Huichol indigenous group, were expelled due to their faith from their homes under threat of lynching, after governmental failure to take action to stop it. In December 6 2015, the village assembly adopted a resolution to expel the people if they do not convert to "traditional" Roman Catholicism.

The state and federal officials were informed of the threat promptly. Similar governmental inactions have occurred repeatedly on freedom of religion cases.

*<Voice of the Martyrs, www.persecution.com, 2/1/16>*

**USA:** An Iranian couple visited a church. A member knowing Arabic talked to them and asked if they understood what they heard. The answer of "very little" prompted him to offer a Bible study with them twice a week. They already know the stories like Abraham, Isaac and Moses. The two families went from creation to Christ with the Discovery Bible study program. With the biblical foundation laid, God spoke to this Iranian couple with Isaiah chapter 53. The husband said, "This is the story of Jesus." The wife replied, "Yes, but it was written 700 years before Jesus." That was the day they decided to follow Jesus and were baptized in a month. One of the confronting questions of the program is, "Who are you going to tell?" In some 6-8 months about a dozen people came to Christ and 10 Bible studies started. The program is used by an agency effectively all over the world and throughout Middle East refugee camps.

*<Pioneers, www.pioneers.org, 1/28/16>*

**Zimbabwe:** Bulawayo is the second largest city in the nation with some 700,000 people and a rising water shortage due to decreasing rainfall and defective dams. Government and some agencies have tried and fail to find water in the region. An agency spent months without success. But they did not quit and their persistence sparks the interest of the locals giving them greater opportunities to share with the locals the gospel. Their hope in Christ and how it affected them and their work. After months of work and prayer, God bless them with success. They will have a rare water source in the area benefiting about 2,000 people.

*<Global Aid Network, www.gain.org, 1/29/16>*

**Myanmar:** In spite of severe official restriction and steep terrain, a local ministry leader reported that God is moving fast in the nation. Among the minority group besides Karens, they are reaching the Kayans, Asho Chins and even some Burmese-speaking dominant Buddhist villages in the central parts of the nation. A dozen house churches have been planted, one with 87 members of different nationalities.

*<Christian Aid Mission, www.christianaid.org 1/27/16>*

**Thailand:** An agency has been very successful in reaching children in this Buddhist dominant nation and through them sharing the gospel to their parents with audio recordings in their native tongue.

*<WorldServe Ministries, www.worldserveusa.org, 1/19/16>*