

PASTOR WORKER REPORT
FALL 2025

CHINA



A NEW WAVE OF PERSECUTION

“Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.” I Peter 2:13-17

As the Chinese government increases their pressure on the church and the leaders/pastors of these churches, our brothers and sisters are having a very hard time as they weigh the options that are in front of them. Do they stop preaching Christ so that the persecution is reduced, or do they risk all and keep building the kingdom? It is not as easy to answer as you might think. You may be thinking that there is only one choice which is to keep preaching Christ and Him crucified, just like Peter and John in Acts chapter two. For pastors in China living in an Eastern society, it is a conundrum. Will they be putting their families in danger by continuing? Will they be exposing their co-workers and other believers by defying the wishes of the authorities? Are these actions truly loving the brotherhood or only self-sacrificing?

After recent arrests of Chinese believers, a US-based spokesperson for a group of targeted Chinese churches said, **“There is a new wave of religious persecution emerging quickly across China.”** He called the latest arrests a “systematic roundup” to uproot this group of house churches and quoted the Chinese idiom “killing the chicken to scare the monkeys.” This is happening, he said, “to scare other Christians and house churches in China.”

The Western view of freedom in Christ is an individual freedom to do what we want. However, when we look at 1 Peter 2:13-17, we see that we need to be Christ-like in all things. This is where it gets very complicated. Our future is unknown, and we all must count the cost of being a disciple of Christ. As we work in China, it has been impressed upon us that our ways are not His ways. This is why we listen to and get to know the call of each of the pastors and co-workers that we are privileged to partner with in the Kingdom. We are looking for creative ideas on how to minister, equip, and encourage them to continue.

We ask that you **give us and our partners in China a day, an hour, or a minute each week to earnestly pray** that we would have the wisdom and boldness to run the race, keep the faith, and finish the tasks that God has called us to. Please set your calendar or watch to send you a reminder and lift up the Christians in China who are struggling with this balance between obedience to authorities and obedience to the call.

D, OTAN China Ministry Manager

JOIN A PRIVATE PRAYER REQUEST GROUP FOR THE LATEST UPDATES FROM CHINA



If you have a smart phone, you can be part of a private chat group set up by our China Ministry Manager. When you download the Signal app from Google Play or the Apple app store, you’ll receive brief updates, notifications, and prayer requests. To join the group, download Signal, then email Nancy to be added: n.huffine@otan.org.



AS PERSECUTION INCREASES, OUR CHINESE PASTORS ASK FOR PRAYER

Pastor T: Recently, I have been taken into the police station for questioning. They asked if I have had any contact with foreigners. They let me know that they are watching me and that I should be careful to obey the government. My wife and infant are safe and healthy, but I am nervous that they will be left alone.

Pastor C: I have been going outside of my city to the villages to work among the unreached people groups for many years. Now I am being watched closely. This is something new. It is very upsetting. It is hindering my ability to go out of the city to work with the people groups.

Pastor E: My grandfather had a stroke a few months ago, and he needs constant attention. This has limited my time to serve in my local church and to travel to work with other pastors. As far as I know, I am not being followed or watched. I'm thankful for that, but hearing from many of my pastor/worker friends about being questioned makes me nervous and suspicious of a lot of situations so, I am cautious in all I do. I know God is not the author of fear and that He is always with me.

Please pray for these and other pastors who love the Lord and want only to serve Him. Pray that they will have the strength to continue in this season of persecution. Pray for them and their families to remain safe. Pray for the authorities to have blind eyes when looking for them and watching what they do.

Using the Signal app, you can join a private prayer request group for our Chinese pastors and China ministry. **See the gold box on the front page of this newsletter for information.**



Partner By Praying

We're so grateful for our praying partners. Want to learn to more effectively pray for missionaries? Visit otan.org/pray.



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Give securely online at otan.org. Help us reach China when you select "China Ministry" from the ministry menu.



Partner By Going

Is God calling you into the mission field? We'd love to talk to you about it! Connect with us at otan.org/serve.

CONTACT OUTREACH TO ASIA NATIONALS

The pastors and church workers we partner with are grateful for your prayers and financial support. God is using your investment to further the gospel and strengthen the body of Christ around the world. If you have questions or want to know more about our outreach in China, we'd love to connect with you.



P.O. Box 2440
Winchester, VA 22604



info@otaninfo.org



www.otan.org