

Open Doors®

**OPEN DOORS NEW ZEALAND
ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT
2026**



To our Supporters, and Prayer Partners,

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude—to God, and to the many supporters, churches, and partners like you who continue to stand with the persecuted Church through prayer, generosity, and action.

The past year ended with strong momentum across Open Doors New Zealand. We praise God and want to acknowledge you, our supporters, for your investment in this ministry.

From the beginning of the year, the Board and Executive were intentional about placing our trust in God. Time spent in prayer and reflection helped ground us as we worked through the second year of our strategy.

I would like to praise the work of our team in New Zealand for their outstanding effort throughout the year, and especially for finishing the year so strongly. Financial and operational results exceeded expectations, and this is a direct reflection of the faithfulness of our supporters and hard work of our staff. Your partnership over the last 12 months made a difference.

The World Watch List campaign was a major highlight of the year. It reached a wider audience than ever before through increased media engagement and closer collaboration with Open Doors International. Advocacy efforts and engagement with government leaders also strengthened our public voice and influence on behalf of the persecuted Church.

We were humbled by the response to campaigns focused on believers in Sub-Saharan Africa, including emergency appeals and advocacy efforts. The International Day of Prayer was a particular highlight, with more than 1,000 churches across Australia and New Zealand praying alongside the persecuted Church. The way churches and individuals responded—both quickly and generously—was deeply moving.

Throughout the year, momentum also continued through Open Doors Sundays, church partnerships, and Major Giver relationships. Many supporters leaned in, not only with financial support but with prayer, interest, and a desire to understand the challenging realities facing our persecuted family in different parts of the globe.

This last year also marked our 70th anniversary—a significant milestone. As we celebrated, we gave thanks for God's faithfulness over seven decades and for the countless supporters who have made this ministry possible. Events and activities connected to the anniversary, including the development of the Cost of Discipleship experience, and our inaugural Brother Andrew Lecture, helped us remember our history while looking ahead with hope.

As we close this year, I once more offer my thanks. Your partnership enables Open Doors to stand with those who follow Jesus at great cost. We trust God for the road ahead and remain committed to serving the persecuted Church together with you, our brothers and sisters in Christ.



Phil Pogson FAICD

Board Chair

Open Doors New Zealand and Australia

Kia ora,

Thank you for your generous support and faithful prayers for the ministry of Open Doors in New Zealand and around the world. During 2025, I had the privilege of connecting with many of you in churches and at events across the country. It has been a great encouragement to witness your deep commitment to Jesus and your heartfelt concern for our persecuted Christian family.

Each year, it is important to pause and reflect on what we have achieved together. In 2025, the global environment continued to grow more hostile towards followers of Jesus. Our World Watch List once again rigorously researched and presented the reality of persecution faced by Christians worldwide. While it is confronting to consider both the scale and severity of this persecution, it is essential that we do. Every statistic represents a person created in God's image, seeking to live faithfully for Christ in their own context.

With your support, Open Doors continued to work through local teams and trusted partners to strengthen the most persecuted. Ongoing global economic hardship further intensified the challenges faced by many believers who were already pushed to the margins. Yet even in the face of growing pressure, your prayers and generosity made a tangible difference.

In November, I spent time listening to Leila*, a Christian from the Middle East who serves as part of our local team. Hearing firsthand about the immense challenges faced by persecuted believers was difficult, yet Leila's testimony was marked by hope in Christ. That hope was powerfully evident following a devastating attack on a church in Damascus in June 2025, where a suicide bomber killed 25 people and injured many others. Leila supported the affected congregation and was deeply moved by the forgiveness and boldness displayed by the believers. The Great Commission has not stopped—the Gospel continues to be preached in that church, throughout Syria, and across the Middle East.

Your prayers and financial support reminded persecuted believers that they are not alone. Where you could not go, your support went—bringing strength, hope, and encouragement to endure.

I am often reminded of Acts 4, where Peter and John, facing persecution, prayed not for comfort but for boldness: "Enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness." That prayer is still being answered today.

In 2025, Open Doors' teams and partners served 6,162,769 persecuted believers—over six million instances of lives impacted because of you. We thank God for your faithfulness. We are one Body, strengthening one another, and together we continue to proclaim Jesus with boldness—here in New Zealand and where persecution is severe.

Thank you.

In Christ,



Adam Holland

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam Holland".

Chief Executive Officer
Open Doors New Zealand and Australia

*Name changed for security purposes

YOUR IMPACT



Your Impact

In 2025, your generosity impacted 6,162,769 persecuted Christians by providing Bibles, training, trauma care, ministry visits, and socio-economic development.

You have helped...

- 3,782,086 Christians and Church Leaders with biblical training
- 1,220,087 Christians with the distribution of Bibles and other Christian resources
- 803,896 Christians impacted by violence and disaster with emergency relief
- 356,700 Christians supported through advocacy

There's still more to celebrate, thanks to you.

PRESENCE SUPPORT

doubled compared to 2024



ALMOST 2/3

of acts of support strengthened believers to be salt and light



61% OF ACTS OF SUPPORT

in 2025 were for biblical training

\$8* OUT OF EVERY \$10*

spent on socio-economic relief projects and biblical training

\$73.5M*

spent on supporting the persecuted Church in 2025

1.2M* BIBLES

and Christian literature distributed

*This global figure is in US dollars

Three Things the Numbers Don't Tell You

The power of presence. Being with persecuted Christians—meeting them in person to pray and encourage them—is our most powerful ministry. We've gone to great lengths to connect with remote, hard-to-reach believers.

Relationships are key. In 2025, we heavily invested in building relationships with new partners so that in coming years, we can reach the most persecuted Christians.

Collaborative, local ministry is strongest. We produced stronger, more sustainable impact when we worked with local churches of all denominations to provide holistic support.

Taking Your Support Further

Every act of support you've provided—from Bibles to discipleship training, crisis relief to advocacy—has made a difference. With your help, believers risking everything for Jesus have never felt more cared for. Thank you. The past year has been one of foundation-building for Open Doors, as we renew our commitment to the most persecuted believers.

This is why you may have noticed a downturn in the number of Christians supported in 2025 vs 2024. In our steadfast commitment to strengthening the world's most persecuted believers, our local partners are in the process of refining how we work in the field. The figures reflect this strategic pivot.

For example, in 2025 many countries in Southeast Asia entered the first year of a new cycle of ministry. Your support took us into new areas, listening to believers and connecting with new churches. This requires time and effort and consequently led to a reduction in activity in countries such as Pakistan, Brunei, and Vietnam. Myanmar, on the other hand, experienced natural disasters that led to a halt in normal activities and a refocus on crisis relief.

The last year has been a crucial exercise in remaining finely tuned to the needs of Christians who suffer most for their faith. In the adjusting and redesigning, one thing hasn't changed: your support is still as powerful as ever.

Thank you for standing with persecuted believers.

"THE KING WILL REPLY, 'TRULY I TELL YOU, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.'
MATTHEW 25:40

You've Made a Difference

New Zealand believers like you continue to exemplify what it means to love practically and authentically. **Thank you!**



90

Churches partnered with the persecuted Church.



26,400

Kiwis prayed with the persecuted Church on the International Day of Prayer.



2,458

Kiwis supported the persecuted Church through donations.



70+

countries where **you continue to strengthen** the persecuted Church.

"BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER."

JOHN 13:35

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

THE REACH OF YOUR GENEROSITY IS BOTH DEEP AND BROAD. THESE 2025 STORIES REPRESENT COUNTLESS EXAMPLES OF WHAT YOU'VE MADE POSSIBLE.





SHEEP BREEDING PROJECT IN MEXICO

“What scared me most was that they would kill us,” says 12-year-old Alicia*. “Burn us alive, one by one.”

When Alicia’s father refused to take part in local indigenous worship practices, it sparked fury throughout his village in Oaxaca, Mexico. Villagers cut off the family’s electricity and water, seized their land, and banned the children from going to school.

When everything seemed hopeless, you stepped in, enabling Open Doors’ local partners to visit Alicia’s community. Your gifts helped her family start a small sheep-breeding project, giving them dignity, purpose, and a livelihood. You also provided persecution training to 12 other Christian families in the same village, strengthening their faith.

“God sent his children to comfort us and give us strength,” says Alicia. “They gave us words of encouragement. That was what we needed.”

Alicia started a diary, recording the names of people who hurt her family so she could pray for them. Then, one day, the village leaders who had threatened them for so long agreed to talk. The family’s electricity and water were reconnected. Rights were restored. Now Alicia’s family remain in the village, living as salt and light.

“We saw your support as an answer from God,” says Alicia. “God is telling me ‘Don’t be afraid, I’m here.’”

Your generosity equips Open Doors to help persecuted believers live as salt and light in their hostile communities.





YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK IN IRAN

Somayeh* glanced at the table in panic as her husband entered the kitchen. It was too late. He'd seen her Bible.

"My husband took the baby from my arms, then he began beating me with his belt," Somayeh recalls. "All I could think about was stopping myself from screaming, hoping the baby wouldn't sense what was happening."

Somayeh was a devout Muslim until she was invited to a secret church by a friend. "The presence of God was overwhelming," she says. "When I walked out of that church, I felt like a bird released from a cage."

Despite the enormous risk, Somayeh gave her life to Christ. She started an underground house church which quickly grew to 50 people. In a Muslim country like Iran, running a church is extremely dangerous.

"I received a call from the intelligence service," Somayeh says. "I was terrified, not only of the authorities, but also my husband. I had to flee."

Somayeh escaped Iran with her daughter and was supported in her new country through Open Doors' leadership training. She was also encouraged by visits from local partners. Your support strengthened her immensely. Now, she's ministering to secret believers again.

She says, "I am truly grateful from the bottom of my heart to you, who make all this possible. Thank you."

When you help one believer, you help many more. Thanks to you, Somayeh is reaching others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.





MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

When a powerful earthquake hit Myanmar late March 2025, it was a massive blow to a country already reeling from ongoing civil war. The earthquake went down in history as the country's strongest since 1912. Over 3,800 people lost their lives and more than 5,000 were injured.

For Christians in the country, it was an additional burden on top of their daily struggle to follow Jesus. That's why, in the days and weeks following the earthquake, Open Doors' partners and local volunteers visited affected regions, providing relief to distressed families.

Thanks to your gifts and prayers they spent time with earthquake survivors, listening to their distress, visiting their damaged homes, and praying with them. They distributed solar lamps, groceries, and temporary toilets made of bamboo and wood. They helped rebuild homes to keep families secure and off the streets.

By the first week of May 2025, over 800 families had received basics such as rice, oil, noodles, biscuits, instant coffee mix, dishwashing soap and detergents, medicines, safe housing, and support for home repairs.

"We are thankful that God provided for our needs," one believer shares. "God has not abandoned us in our difficult times."

Because of you, believers impacted by sudden violence, disaster, or tragedy receive crucial and timely assistance.



**"CARRY EACH OTHER'S BURDENS, AND IN THIS WAY YOU WILL FULFIL THE LAW OF CHRIST."
GALATIANS 6:2**

YOUR INVESTMENT

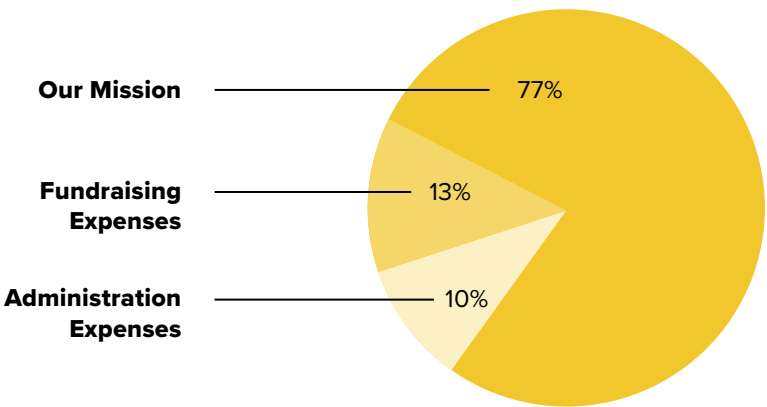


It is our highest priority to honour your generosity

by using every gift you give wisely, strategically, and for the best outcomes in the persecuted Church. Good stewardship drives our focus on activities that dependably grow our remittance to the field. We work hard to ensure your gift makes the greatest impact—across the world and in the lives of those who risk everything to follow Jesus.

For every \$1 invested in fundraising and administration, more than three times that amount is given to our ministry and mission.

Our mission is to serve the persecuted and strengthen the Church. This involves serving persecuted Christians overseas as well as strengthening local Church ministry in New Zealand. Thank you for partnering with us in this work.



How Your Donations Helped in 2025

In-field Advocacy and Research

Our field workers collect and analyse data on persecution, identify key sources, and make policy recommendations. This includes producing the annual World Watch List to help raise awareness and call for action from governments and international organisations.

Distributing Bibles and Christian Resources

Despite increased security control and restrictions, Open Doors provides contextualised Christian materials in minority languages. Last year, Open Doors distributed more than 2.5 million Bibles and books worldwide.

Supporting Victims of Violence and Disaster

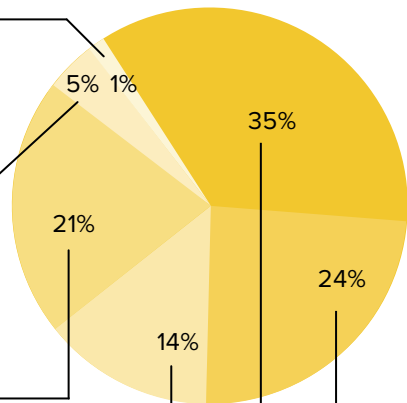
In 2025 Open Doors helped 535,000 persecuted Christians with emergency relief, community development, education, and medical care.

Training Christians and Church Leaders

In the last year, Open Doors trained 5.7 million persecuted Christians across the world. Trainings include leadership and discipleship courses, trauma care, and persecution survival seminars.

Where Most Needed

This enables Open Doors to respond quickly and effectively to the changing needs of persecuted Christians around the world. It ensures support reaches those facing the greatest challenges, wherever the need is most urgent.



Ministry Within New Zealand

In New Zealand, we mobilise prayer support for Christians suffering persecution and discrimination for their faith. We encourage the global Church to stand with them in prayer so they know they are not alone.



Engaging New Zealand Churches

“THROUGH PRAYER WE CAN REACH INTO THE FUTURE AND WITH LOVING HANDS TOUCH THOSE BEYOND OUR REACH.”

Brother Andrew, founder of Open Doors



“In our part of Aotearoa New Zealand we enjoy so many blessings including the ability to gather and worship together in freedom. Yet we can so easily forget that this is not the case for every Christian. For this reason, we really value our partnership with Open Doors. They help our congregation look outside ourselves. The World Watch list in particular is a great resource we use in our prayers.”

Rev. Mike Kirkby-Sing
Bethlehem Community Church
Tauranga, NZ

Open *Doors*®

Thank you.

Your extraordinary acts of support—through prayer and giving—have been powerful in strengthening our persecuted family. As Christ's love for us led Him silently to the cross, so too, that same love now works in and through you to sacrifice for others. Persecuted believers may never know who you are, but they feel the depth of your care every day. Thank you for always being there.

"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

1 John 4:11

