

PROJECT NO: 71245

TAX | NON-TAX

China



Equipping Christian Leaders

Overview

This project is providing study Bibles and Scripture resources to preachers, Bible school students, and Bible teachers in China who experience poverty and financial hardship. Without this project, many ministers and church leaders would be unable to access reference books or Bible study tools that significantly assist them in their studies and preaching preparation.

The Need

There are huge ongoing challenges to the church in China, including a shortage of church leaders, poverty and the prevalence of heretical teachings. The lack of trained preachers and leaders is one of the biggest challenges facing churches in China today. The number of believers in China continues to grow each year, yet the number of trained leaders is not keeping pace. On average, one ordained pastor in China has 6,700 believers under their care.

Many Christians live in the rural areas (at least 60% of the church in China are found in the rural region), and many Bible college students come from poor farming families. Every student who enters the Bible School is a highly treasured resource. Most students are young, ranging from 18 to 30 years of age. When these students graduate, many will return to their home communities to serve; however, they often do so without a salary because their farming communities are too poor to pay them.

Many students in Bible Training Schools are barely able to cover course fees or access Bible study tools. Sadly, many current preachers are barely able to support themselves and their families due to highly unstable incomes.

The need for more trained preachers and leaders is urgent.



1:6700

ratio of ordained pastors to believers

60%

of churches are in rural regions

18-30

average age of student preachers/leaders

Goals

This goal of this project is to provide Study Bibles and Bible resources to students, Bible School teachers and preachers. In doing so, this project will assist them in their study, equipping them to correctly handle the word of God and shepherd the growing number of Chinese believers.

In 2023, the goal is to provide 4,000 sets of Bibles and Bible study resources to students, Bible school teachers and preachers who find it difficult to afford Bible literature and resources.

In rural areas, there have been more reports of heresy and false teaching,

and sharing study resources and Scriptures will help in the truthful teaching of God’s word.

Impact

The project aims to impact 640,000 people — but it has the potential to reach up to two million. This is based on the hope that each of the 4,000 Bibles and Bible study resources shared (with preachers, Bible school students or teachers) will impact an average of 800 lives (and more will be impacted indirectly through these preachers, Bible school students or teachers).

Testimonies

“We often feel inadequate when we minister to believers, lest we lead the congregation astray... [because] people like me (from the countryside) do not have much formal education and enough theological training... It’s difficult for us to access these books. We do not have the money to buy them. These books are indeed valuable and helpful...There are limited channels for us to acquire reliable Biblical resources. Now I have trustworthy reference books and resources to minister to believers.”

Jishun, who graduated from a training centre and began serving in a rural church in central Yunnan, 2022

Prayer Needs

- Pray that more preachers and pastors in China could be raised up and be trained to shepherd the millions.
- Pray for preachers and pastors to grow in their knowledge of the Lord through diligent study of God’s word and responsible use of the resources provided.
- Pray that they will persevere to preach and teach the Word responsibly even in challenging circumstances.

