



Equipping Christian Preachers

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. This project equips ministers and church leaders in China with reference books or Bible study tools that significantly assist them in their studies and preparation for preaching.



The Need

China's churches face significant challenges, including a shortage of leaders, poverty, and the spread of heretical teachings. The growing number of believers contrasts sharply with the insufficient training for leaders.

On average, one ordained pastor in China oversees 6,700 believers. Rural areas are home to at least 60% of China's Christian churches, with Bible college students often coming from impoverished farming families. Graduates often return to serve in their communities without a salary as their farming communities lack resources to fund them. Many students in Bible Training School also struggle to cover course fees and lack access to study tools. The need for trained preachers and leaders is urgent.

1:6700

ratio of ordained pastors to believers

60%

of churches are in rural regions

"So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily,"

Acts 19:20, ESV

Goals

The 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 2024, the goal is to provide 8,000 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 biblically sound study resources will help in the faithful teaching of the truths of God's word.

Other plans for 2024 include a comprehensive review of the Bible study resources book list and visiting previously unsupported provinces to assess their level of need for Bible study tools.

Impact

The project aims to impact around 1,328,000 people.

This is based on the hope that each of the 8,000 Bibles and Bible study resources shared with direct beneficiaries (preachers, Bible school students or teachers) will have an indirect impact an average of 166 lives.

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 will 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 God's word responsibly, even in challenging circumstances.