

# Palestine



## Living Stones

**Project: 84537**  
**Non Tax Deductible**



# 1%

or less of the population of Palestine  
are Christians

# 50%+

of Palestinian communities are  
children and youth

# 43,000

Palestinian Christians live across  
the territories, and are sometimes  
referred to as 'living stones'

### Overview

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The Palestinian Bible Society (PBS) work to strengthen the faith of Christian women, and by doing so, to impact the future of their community. They seek to strengthen and support the Christian community through effective, Bible based programs, and be 'salt and light' in society, especially in times of crisis.

### The Need

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In the context of conflict, violence and suffering, the Palestinian Bible Society continues to recognise the needs of young girls and women in The West Bank and Gaza areas. They are a very important part of the community that is vulnerable, forgotten and greatly undermined by gender inequality.

Some women in the Ramallah district on the West Bank know little about the Bible, while others who are already leaders at churches feel that they are burnt out and there is nothing offered to them. There is a need for activities which gather these women together, both to celebrate at Christmas and Easter, to read and learn about the Bible together, and to be strengthened and encouraged.

Furthermore, children and youth are a vulnerable group who are traumatised by unrest, violence and war. Finally, families in the West Bank are crucial to support, as they are the centre of learning. When families are strong, societies and communities are strong too. There is a need to invest in families, in order to invest in the future of communities.

*Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.'* - **Luke 14:23, NIV**

## Goals

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In the conflict which began in early October 2023, the Palestinian Bible Society saw one office destroyed and the other office suffer a lot of damage. Staff were injured, but PBS continued working to provide assistance to their community in whatever way they can.

Adapting their plans for 2024 to the needs of the community, and their capacity, the Palestinian Bible Society aim to strengthen and encourage women, children and youth, and whole families in Bir Zeit and the larger Ramallah District through their Living Stones Centre and its ministries, so they may build a healthy stable community. This will be done through discipleship programs, which have been run for years and for all parts of the community through the Living Stones Centre. However, there is a risk that specific goals for the ministries run through the Centre may be impacted in 2024 by the instability caused by war, resulting in programs being delayed.

The goal is to strengthen the faith of all Christians, and help them to practice it on the ground, by engaging them with the word of God and uplifting their spirits.

## Impact

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This project's impact will be evident in transformed lives. Women reached will be able to read and comprehend the Bible independently, leading small studies in their homes and communities. They'll perceive their worth through God's eyes, recognising their pivotal role in building God's Kingdom.

Past participants in the Living Stones Centre programs now embody compassionate hearts, praying for others and praying as they raise their children, teaching them how to live well, through the Bible's teaching.

As well as working to meet the needs of a community reeling from violence, conflict and trauma, the aim for 2024 is for students to experience Christian love, women to be strengthened in their faith, and youth and children to foster stronger connections with God and each other.

## Testimony

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*"PBS is in daily contact with local and church leaders in the Gaza strip and has maintained an open line of communication with them and will continue doing so ... PBS is also functioning carefully in the West Bank areas ... PBS will continue its efforts to be a living testimony and stand with the body of Christ and the church during this tough time. We very much appreciate your prayers and support on all levels during this unprecedented time."* — Nashat, PBS General Secretary, November 2023

## Prayer Points

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- Pray for PBS staff wherever they are located; for protection as staff move on the roads and cross checkpoints. Pray for PBS families and children.
- Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and the Holy Land!
- Pray for wisdom for PBS leadership and different teams.
- Pray for an end to war and for help to be given to those needy, in all places.