

# Remember

Those in Bonds – Hebrews 13:3

*Serving the families of those persecuted for their faith...  
...Connecting the Body of Christ worldwide.*



## Focus: Laos

Communist Laos is unabashedly anti-Christian. In fact, the government has named Christianity to be "the number one enemy of the state." Any Christian meeting is deemed to be an anti-government activity, and many Christians have been arrested out of church services.

As each new morning dawns in Laos, Pa Tood, a 46-year-old Laotian church leader, remains unaware of night or day, deep inside the remote Savannakhet prison in southern Laos. Pa Tood's refusal to recant his Christian faith, as demanded by Laotian communist leaders, has led to this prison term – more than a year of languishing in horrible conditions. This is not his first time in jail, he has been imprisoned twice before on similar charges yet he remained firm. Christians in Laos say the courts do not have sufficient proof to make charges against prisoners. In fact, evidence is often fabricated so that believers can be detained in bonds for long periods.

*...continued*

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Pa Tood declined his village headman's offer to bail him out. "If I wanted to give up my faith, I wouldn't be here. I don't need your bail," he replied. For such comments, Pa Tood was confined to stocks 24 hours a day, causing his legs to swell from the strain. He receives water every day, but is often deprived of food for extended periods of time.



*Parents are not the only ones to suffer from the persecution. Children sometimes bear the brunt.*

He has been separated from his family for three years and only has sporadic and unreliable contact. He has five children and a wife to provide for. Because of his poor health and the inhumane acts of the prison guards he may never be able to work competently again.

His story is but one example of the faithfulness of Christians in Laos – and the needs of those that have lost their breadwinners to persecution.

## Focus: Prayer

- Pray for Pa Tood, his family, and so many others in similar conditions.
- Pray for Laos and the success of the Bible smuggling operations, that they be conducted with wisdom and safety.



*Christians dispersing Bibles to the underground church.*

- Pray for the underground church, that they would have the power to remain strong as a unified body.

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