

Remember

Those in Bonds – Hebrews 13:3

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



Focus: Vietnam

In the central highlands of Communist Vietnam live a people known as the Montagnards—French for “mountaineers.” They live very simple lives, like many Vietnamese, but with one crucial difference: the Montagnards are predominately Christian.

One might think that a difference like that, in a country suffering from the ravages of war and abject poverty, would make little difference. And yet, it makes all the difference in the world. In addition to having to fight the poverty that surrounds them and attempt to eke an existence out of the land, they must also face the reality of religiously based genocide.

The Vietnamese government has long been known for its brutality and violence, and nowhere is that more clear than in their oppression of these Christians. They are routinely arrested, imprisoned, and tortured for their faith. While church leaders often face the majority of the

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Montagnard Christians live in constant fear for their lives.

Pictures Courtesy of the Montagnard Foundation. Used by Permission.

attack, no one is spared—men, women, and children face the common brutality.

In order to avoid the prying eyes of Communist authorities, many church groups meet between 2 a.m. and dawn, calling that “the sleeping time for police.” Being caught in a worship service provides the excuse for the police officers to require forced labor or exact arbitrary fines.

But in spite of the persecution, from imprisonment to beatings to forced labor, it has been estimated that Protestantism is the fastest growing religion in the Vietnamese highlands. What a testimony to the faithfulness of these persecuted believers!

Focus: Prayer

- Pray that the Montagnard believers would find ways to worship together without risking danger from the Communist government.
- Pray that God would provide for the physical needs of each believer, in spite of the poverty that surrounds them.
- Pray that the church would continue to grow, and that no false prophets would contaminate the message of the gospel.
- Pray that God would work powerfully in the hearts of Vietnamese leaders.



A Christian family standing beside their burned home, destroyed by the Vietnamese military.

Do you want to know how to pray for the persecuted church? Sign up for *The Weekly Reminder* to receive an e-mail every week to remind you to pray and give you specific requests.

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