

PERSECUTION... noun

persecution; plural noun: **persecutions**

hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs.

EACH MONTH

322 CHRISTIANS ARE **KILLED** FOR THEIR FAITH



214 CHURCHES AND CHRISTIAN **PROPERTIES ARE DESTROYED**



772 FORMS OF **VIOLENCE** ARE COMMITTED AGAINST CHRISTIANS (SUCH AS BEATINGS, ABDUCTIONS, RAPES, ARRESTS AND FORCED MARRIAGES)



As a group - RECAP brother Shaw's story and talk about what really stuck out to you individually. Place yourself in his shoes and try to relate to what he might have gone through.

This is a tweet from a worship leader who recently worshipped with a secret church...

“Worshipping tonight with the underground church in one of the most closed nations on the earth is something I will never forget for the rest of my life. THE GOSPEL IS ALIVE AND THE SOUND CANNOT BE STOPPED.”

What does that say about the Gospel? Even in the face of horrendous persecution!

READ AND DISCUSS THESE VERSES ABOUT PERSECUTION...

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[Matthew 5:10](#)

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. [2 Corinthians 12:10](#)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? [Romans 8:35](#)

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. [Matthew 5:44](#)

If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. [John 15:18](#)

WE RAISED OVER \$2000 FOR BIBLES FOR OUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS & SISTERS IN BURMA

That means... \$2075 ÷ \$5 = 415 Bibles (415 Bibles = 415 house churches)

415 x 5 families per church (4 people/family) = 8300 people provided with the Word of God

One last thing to think about...

The man who pulled up on the rickshaw to ask Shaw if he wanted a ride was named Thomas Thurman. We don't know the scope of his over 40 year ministry in Shaw's country, but if Shaw was the only person he reached with the Gospel it would have been worth it!

Would you consider reaching just one with the LOVE of JESUS?