



CHINA



CHINA: News You Won't See On TV



Religion: Non-Religious 49.58%, Chinese 28.50%, Christian 7.25%
Ideology: Communism
Head of State: President Hu Jintao
Population: 1,331,460,000 (2009, World Bank)

China's human rights record is one of the worst in the world. Each year, it detains hundreds of people in labour camps without a court hearing. It is estimated that more Christians are in prison or under detention in China than in any other country.

House churches (unregistered churches), which make up approximately 90 percent of China's Christians, endure severe persecution. Church leaders are arrested, beaten and receive heavy fines, churches are forcibly closed and buildings destroyed.

Through persecution, the Holy Spirit has inspired fervent prayer and evangelism and Chinese Christians stand by their commitment to preach the Gospel, no matter the cost. God has used what was intended to destroy the church to grow it in strength and numbers. The staggering growth of the Chinese Church in recent times has no parallel in history.

The Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TPSM) is the only state-authorized Protestant Church in China. TPSM congregations are permitted to legally print and distribute Christian materials as well as register and build new church buildings. However, Chinese authorities place limitations on what they can teach as well as outreach and discipleship. *Sources: Voice of the Martyrs USA and Operation World (7th Edition, 2010).*

Will you join us and LIFT UP your prayers for our persecuted brothers and sisters in China?

Please pray for spiritual and physical strength for the many Christians in prison for their faith in Christ.

Pray for boldness for Christians in sharing the Gospel, despite the dangers they face.

Pray for significant and lasting advances in religious freedom in China.

Thirteen Three: A Youth Initiative of Voice of the Martyrs Australia. Go to www.thirteenthree.org.au for more resources for your youth group.