

# China:

## Bible Study Resources for Poor Preachers & Seminary Students

### Overview

This project seeks to make study Bibles and Scripture resources available to preachers, Bible school students and Bible teachers in China who experience poverty and financial hardship.

Without this project, many ministers and church leaders would be unable to access reference books or Bible study tools that significantly assist them in their studies and preaching preparation.

### The Need

There are huge ongoing challenges to the Churches in China, including a shortage of church leaders and preachers, poverty and the prevalence of heretical teachings.

The lack of trained preachers and leaders is one of the biggest challenges facing Churches in China today. At present, the national average ratio of ordained pastor to believer is 1:6700. The need for more well-equipped pastors and leaders is urgent.

Many Christians live in the rural areas (at least 60% of the churches in China are found in the rural region), and many Bible college students come from poor farming families.

Every student who enters Bible School is a highly treasured resource.

Most students are young, ranging from 18 to 30 years of age. When these students graduate many return to their home communities to serve; however, they often do so without a salary because their farming communities are too poor to pay them.

Many students in Bible Training Schools are barely able to cover course fees, and many current preachers are scarcely able to support themselves and their families due to highly unstable incomes.

Excitingly, the number of believers in China continues to grow each year, although the number of trained leaders and preachers is not keeping pace. The need for more trained preachers and leaders is urgent.



## Project Goals

This project intends to make available Scripture resources to poor lay preachers, seminary students and teachers at Bible Training Centres. The aim is to help support and alleviate the financial pressure on them by providing them with Bible resources and literature.

What they benefit from in learning and in

teaching will extend beyond them, as they help many others in the understanding and right application of God's word.

In 2022, the goal is to provide 3,500 sets of Bibles and Bible study resources to students, Bible school teachers and preachers who find it difficult to afford Bible literature and resources.

## Impact

If 3,500 Scripture resource sets are distributed in 2022, this project could ultimately impact up to 560,000 people.

This is based on the hope that each of the 3,500 recipients (preachers, Bible school students or teachers) will impact

an average of 160 lives (and more will be impacted indirectly through these preachers, Bible school students or teachers).

## Testimonies

"The Bible tools we received are very important and useful to my studies and ministry. And I must add that they are also very hard to come by. These biblical tools are what we have been thirsting for; above material items. It is like a gift of coal in times of bitter snowy winter. They have helped to increase my knowledge of the Bible by leaps and bounds. These are precious gems to Bible students like us, gave us so much motivation to study, provide great resource for preaching in the future."

- Zhang Qiu Sheng (M), 3rd year student from Heilongjiang Bible School.

## Prayer Needs

- Pray that more preachers and pastors in China could be raised up and be trained to shepherd the millions.
- Pray for preachers and pastors to grow in their knowledge of the Lord through diligent study of God's word and responsible use of the resources provided.
- Pray that they will persevere to preach and teach the Bible responsibly, even in challenging circumstances.
- Pray for more support for the preachers and pastors.