

## **“The Price We Pay” Skit**

Challenge your group to present this skit to your church to create awareness about persecuted Christians. They may present the skit as written, or you can shorten it by omitting some of the monologues.

You could add visuals to the monologues by having each of the persecuted Christians hold a sign that tells something they lost because of their faith. The signs are listed after each monologue.

### **The Price We Pay**

**Narrator:** In many countries, Christians are persecuted because of what they believe. Sometimes they lose their jobs and cannot provide for their families. They are forced to leave their homes. Sometimes they are beaten and imprisoned. Unlike us, they cannot worship Jesus openly and in peace. They pay a big price for their faith. Listen to some of their stories.

**Middle Eastern Christian 1:** I am from the Middle East. I became a Christian because of a Facebook page that a Middle Eastern Christian made. After I trusted Jesus, I started telling people about Him. More than 20 people became Christians and were baptized because of my witness. The government found out and arrested me. They sent me to prison for six months. While I was in prison, the authorities found out my wife had become a Christian. Her family forced her to return to their home, divorce me, and marry another man. I lost my family because of my faith in Jesus.  
(sign: freedom, wife)

**Southeast Asian Hmong 1:** I am a member of a Hmong church in Southeast Asia. One Sunday, we were sitting in church when some local officials showed up. They took all our phones, Bibles, and hymnals. They took over the service and told everyone that the pastor would be arrested if we met again. They threatened to tear down our church building. We lost our ability to worship together.  
(sign: Bibles, church building)

**Southeast Asian Christian:** My mother and I are Christians. We are very poor, so I had to take a job with the government so we would have food to eat. When I go to church, I hide during the service, because government officials often visit the Christian church services to find out who is attending church. If they see me in church, I could lose my job. Then, my mother and I would have no way to buy food.  
(sign: job)

**Middle Eastern Christian 2:** I left my country in the Middle East because of threats. I used to have a job and a house. But I had to leave everything behind, even my family. One of the leaders at the mosque was calling for Christians to be killed. When a missile landed in my kitchen, I knew I had to go to a safer place.  
(sign: home)

**Asian Christian:** I live in Asia with my family. When we first became Christians, we were the only believers in our village. The officials were not happy that we trusted Jesus. They wouldn't allow anyone in our village to visit us or talk to us. For Christmas, I decided to invite some Christians from another village to come to my house for a Christmas celebration. The officials were angry that I did not ask permission to have the celebration. But if I had asked permission, they would have refused.  
(sign: Christmas)

**Hmong Christian:** I live in Southeast Asia. My family and two other Hmong families were forced to move out of our village because we are Christians. The authorities do not like Christians. They often attack Christians and put them in prison. Some Christians have had their houses burned down. Many have lost their jobs. Sometimes, when a family decides to follow Jesus, their non-Christian neighbors and families persecute them.  
(sign: homes, jobs, freedom)

**Christian Refugee:** I am a Christian refugee. My family and I are taking care of 78 families who are Christians. We had to leave our homes because of a group that wants to hurt people who follow Jesus. We are all living in a refugee camp in another Southeast Asian country. Many of the families have lost husbands, wives, children, and homes. Some have been wounded. They need food, shelter, and medical care.  
(sign: families, homes)

**Southeast Asian Hmong 2:** Our family is Hmong. There are seven children in our family. Our mother got very sick. The people in our village blamed an evil spirit. But a Christian told us about Jesus. Our family trusted Jesus. We prayed for our mother, and God healed her. The officials in the village did not like that our family believed in Jesus. They beat our father and tied him up. They wanted him to stop being a Christian, but he refused. They took away our home, our farm, and all our belongings. They took our sewing machines, rice, pots and pans, and my father's motorcycle. They took our two pigs. Our family lost everything because we love Jesus.  
(sign: home, possessions)

**Narrator:** What can we do to support persecuted Christians around the world? Hebrews 13:3 says, "Keep on remembering those in prison. Do this as if you were together with them in prison. And remember those who are treated badly as if you yourselves were suffering."

We can pray for persecuted Christians and write letters of encouragement. We can give to organizations that minister to them, such as the International Mission Board through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Baptist Global Response. Both organizations minister to persecuted Christians. We can also make others aware of the problem, and we can minister to refugees who have fled their countries and come to North America because of persecution.

Let's pray for persecuted Christians.

(Invite someone to pray.)