

FEBRUARY 2024



Set Captives Free

For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall,
5 like heat in a dry place. You subdue the noise of the foreigners; as heat by the shade of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is put down.

Isaiah 27:4-5



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FREE AT LAST



In the December SCF newsletter we shared Valerie's harrowing story, here is a summary and part two of her story.

Valerie was in another country and had experienced intense abuse in her workplace, which led her to flee the situation. With the help of Melissa and Terry, leaders of SCF, we managed to get her out of that hostile environment to the embassy of her origin in November. She became a fugitive since then but we are so grateful and happy to inform you that Valerie is now finally home.

Her journey from the Middle Eastern country to her native Kenya was fraught with challenges. For more than six weeks she remained hidden and trapped, a delay in the issuance of her travel document creating an agonizing wait.

Frustration intensified when it was confirmed that the Kenyan embassy was inactive during the Christmas holidays, lengthening the wait even further.

Despite the obstacles and the time that has passed, Valerie's safety and her return to her home mark a happy ending to this difficult journey.

Valarie, upon being rescued, was in a precarious physical and emotional state due to the abuse she had suffered.

Although we were waiting for her travel document to return home, she was not ready emotionally, but we pressed in with prayers.

During this period of waiting God worked in amazing ways by connecting Valarie with a strong Christian family that took her in and kept her safe.



This group included a doctor who contributed significantly to her physical recovery, while her Bible studies, times of praise and prayer provided comprehensive emotional support.

This encounter with the Christian family allowed Valarie to experience a transformation in her perspective on her life and her family, showing her God's love for her.

Finally, two weeks ago, Valarie was able to return home and gratefully shared that she trusts God to help her and her family as well.

Sometimes it can be difficult to understand why God does not answer our prayers immediately or in the way we expect.



However, as Valarie went through this challenging process, we were able to see how God, in his wisdom and his perfect timing, connected obedient people to her calling.

Divine intervention manifested itself in rescuing Valarie from her abuse, allowing a family of hers to care for her and contribute to her healing in various ways.

This testimony reflects the unity and action of the family of God, working together to advance his Kingdom and be instruments of love and restoration.

MEET OUR PRISON VISITATION COORDINATOR

Lauren, one of our volunteers, has successfully taken on the coordination of prison visits over the past two months, demonstrating exceptional performance in her work. Her work highlights the commitment she has to successfully coordinate the prison visitations and filing the details of each visitation into our database. We appreciate Lauren on her outstanding work and big heart!

VISITS AND CAPTIVES BEING SET FREE

DECEMBER REPORT

- 50** women were visited in prison or detention centers
- 3** tickets were purchased for women to return home from prison
- 8** tickets were coordinated with other organizations for women to get out of prison after several meetings and discussions

JANUARY REPORT

- 42** women were visited
- 2** tickets were purchased for women to return home
- 5** women were given clothes, bags and travel money before they returned home

We had several meetings for aftercare planning, prison visitations and for purchasing tickets



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AFTERCARE UPDATES

- One Volunteer, Melita, went to Uganda and Ethiopia in December to connect with partners there.
- Upcoming trip to Ghana to make connections, volunteers: Evann, Melissa, Pauline (possibly) and Terry
- Ethiopia Trip in April and connecting with pastors, organizations, volunteers discussing dates for this trip
- We had many Meetings with potential partners in Ethiopia with Melita and Melissa
- We had many Meetings with potential partners in Ghana with Pauline and Melissa

CAPTIVE SET FREE: FROM PRISON IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO NEPAL

Another lady from Nepal who was in prison for over a year, struggled with asthma and other health problems.

She doesn't speak Arabic or English well. We have been lifting her up in prayer and I was worried about her health as I have seen prisoners die due to lack of proper health care in prison. She had been beaten by her boss and ran away from the abuse.

Then she was picked up by the police and sent to prison for over a year.



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AThis week she returns home! We were able to get her passport picture from the police and buy her ticket.

Praise God! She thanks everyone. Melissa was able to visit her and let her know she will get out of prison and go home!

She gives Jesus the credit for her life and her freedom from prison. We thank you for all the support and prayers for this work.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WORK



In recent weeks, Melissa, leader of SCF, has been meeting with the leaders of the work, and this is what she says:

"I am pleased to share that we have an exceptional group of women who actively collaborate in various areas. From arranging prison visits, to going to police stations, detention centres, ensuring newsletters are sent out, arranging aftercare for women and securing funds to cover air tickets."

They are an amazing group of women!



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As our work expands and intensifies, so does the need for additional volunteers. Currently, we are expanding our networks to recruit more committed people who can join this significant effort and expand our mission to the post-treatment area.

In the coming months, we plan to travel to Ghana and Ethiopia with the goal of establishing collaborations with local partners that strengthen our mission.

We ask that you keep this aspect of the work in your prayers, so that we can find the right volunteers and make fruitful connections on our future travels.

We appreciate your continued support and are confident that with the help of more committed volunteers and God we will be able to expand our impact and reach more people who need assistance and support. Together we can do the difference!

May God bless you ABUNDANTLY!!

Thank you for your
CONTINUOUS SUPPORT
and prayers.