



In North American culture, we find that much of the Bible's references to suffering are viewed through a

lens that interprets it as something very different than what so many other Christians in other parts of the world who endure. Physical attacks, imprisonment, torture, and in case you haven't been watching the news, martyrdom.

Persecution as defined in scripture encompasses a range of hostility aimed at the believer – social discrimination, ridicule and harassment causing psychological harm increasing to physical violence, torture and murder.

Many Christians grow stronger in their faith after persecution and reading and watching the testimonies of the heavily persecuted and the grace they have shown their

persecutors can lead one to question one's own faithfulness and commitment to following Christ. **What does it really mean to take up a cross? (Matthew 16:24) What does it mean if you don't?**

God has placed the responsibility on us, the body, to make known the Gospel, and to encourage and stand beside others who are living in or facing trials and tribulations on behalf of Christ.

Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body. (Hebrews 13:3)

No matter where the *Voice of the Martyrs* ministers, the first request of persecuted Christians is always the same: **"Pray for us." And if you move that prayer beyond one day a year, your faith will never be the same.**

- Darcey Jerrom

First Alliance 
 a christian & missionary alliance church
 phone: 403-252-7572
 www.faccalgary.com

WEEKEND SERVICES

Saturdays 6:30 pm
 Sundays 9:15 & 11:15 am
 The Exchange Sundays, 5:30 pm

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

For updates of those in hospital, please contact Anne Freeman afreeman@faccalgary.com/403-258-8290.

OCTOBER GIVING UPDATE

	Budget to Oct. 31/15	Received	Required
General	\$1,868,969	\$1,545,726	\$323,243
Capital/Debt	399,393	229,565	169,828
Missions	361,173	292,604	68,569

Questions about your donations? Please contact *Wale Aderoju* waderoju@faccalgary.com/403-258-8288.

GOD SIGHTINGS

WELCOME | NOVEMBER 7/8, 2015

Building lives that honour God ... all for Jesus

CONNECT

Get connected with a small group for regular Bible study, prayer and community – drop by the **Connect Desk** or contact Janelle Emery jemery@facalgary.com/403-258-8289.

Seniors & Friends' Luncheon: Thursday, November 19, 11:00 am-1:30 pm, Harvest Rooms. Cost: \$15 at the door; pre-register by [November 12](#) with Anne Freeman afreeman@facalgary.com/403-258-8290.

DISCOVERYLAND

This month, Preschool will be learning that *God has a plan* and Grade School (Gr.1-4) are learning *how to serve God by serving others!* "Like" [facebook.com/DiscoveryLandFAC](https://www.facebook.com/DiscoveryLandFAC) or follow us on Twitter [@discoverylnd](https://twitter.com/discoverylnd) for related resources and quick activities that support what your kids learn every weekend.

STUDENTS

For upcoming event details, stop by the Info Desk, contact Sara Vanderveen (Mon-Fri) svanderveen@facalgary.com/403-212-8849 or visit facalgary.com/students.

WAYS TO SERVE

Grade School Small Group Leaders:

Help provide a safe and fun place for kids in Grades 1, 3 & 4 deepen their understanding of God during services in DiscoveryLand. Contact Jen Jantzen 403-258-4358 /jjantzen@facalgary.com.

Class Facilitators

Join a team to help facilitate our discussion-based DVD curriculums and journey with others at FAC as they take steps to grow toward spiritual and relational wholeness. Contact Heather Brown 403-212-8854/ hbrown@facalgary.com.

Weekend Worship Teams

Are you a band musician (guitar/keys/drums) looking to use your musical talents at FAC? Consider auditioning for one of our weekend worship teams! Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings prior to your scheduled 3 weekend services. For more information, please email musicadmin@facalgary.com.

Welcome!

NEW OR VISITING?

Fill out a **Contact Card** in the seat back in front of you, or stop by the **Information Desk** – we'd love to answer any questions you have, and we have a coupon for you to enjoy a Café/Bistro drink as our guest! Visit us online: facalgary.com.

GUEST SPEAKER

Welcome to this weekend's guest speaker, **Sean Litton** of *International Justice Mission (IJM)*. Legal professionals are invited to a Q&A with Sean after the Saturday 6:30 pm service to learn more about how you can get involved with this social justice ministry (8:00-9:30 pm in Southbend Room); no cost.

NEED PRAYER?

After every service, our prayer team is available at the front of the Sanctuary. You can also ask for prayer through the **Contact Card** located in the seat back, call our prayer hotline **1-877-677-2948** or visit facalgary.com/prayer anytime.

Need to Know ...

TEEN CHALLENGE CHRISTMAS TREE

Let's encourage our Teen Challenge men this Christmas who are journeying through a 12-month addiction recovery program towards lives that honour God. Pick a gift request from their tree on Main Street, and drop off donated (unwrapped) items back under the tree no later than **November 29**.

PREPARING FOR BAPTISM

Baptism is publicly showing others you've chosen a new life of faith in Jesus Christ. Our next Baptism Weekend is **November 21/22**. To help you prepare, you're invited to an info session **Tuesday, November 17**, 7:00 pm in Meeting Place 1 – pick up a baptism packet at the Info Desk and register online under EVENTS.

STARS OF CHRISTMAS

Together, let's make our winter festival on **Sunday, December 6** something our neighbours and coworkers will remember! There's *lots* of ways to serve: directing traffic, greeting, decorating, preparing/serving food, helping with children's activities and more. **SIGN UP TO HELP:** stop by the **Serve Kiosk**, email: stars@facalgary.com or visit facalgary.com/events.

MOSAIC MINISTRIES

Prayer Summit for all Nations: Join us **THIS SUNDAY**, 1:30 pm in the Gym as we seek healing and renewal through the Holy Spirit (offered the 2nd Sunday each month). Everyone welcome! Childcare provided.
ESL Classes: Available every Sunday, 11:00 am -12:30 pm in the Prayer Centre. Improve your English while meeting new people! All language levels are welcome. No cost.

GLOBAL IMPACT

Cuba Bottle Drive: Leave a bag of your empty bottles behind your vehicle in the parking lot NEXT WEEKEND and the Sr. High Short Term Mission Team will swing by and pick them up during the services in support of their trip March 18-16, 2016.

OTHER

FAC Library Used Book Sale:

THIS WEEKEND & November 14/15 (Saturday 4:00-8:30 pm; Sunday 8:30 am-1:00 pm). Most items \$1 or less; proceeds go to purchasing new resources. We accept gently used Christian book donations!