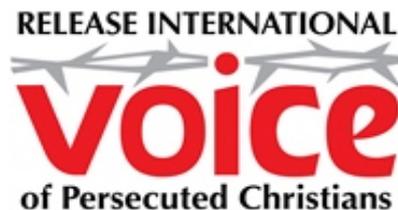


RELEASE WOMEN EMAIL - June 2019



[View this email in your browser](#)



Release Women Monthly Email - June 2019

Hello Friend

Heroes of the faith

Who is your 'hero (or heroine!) of the faith'? Is it a well-known biblical character? Maybe young David the shepherd boy, who triumphed over the mighty Goliath; or Miriam, whose quick thinking meant that her baby brother Moses was nursed by his own mother; or Stephen, 'a man full of God's grace and power' (Acts 6:8 NIV), whose powerful words so enraged the Jewish authorities that he was stoned to death, leading to a time of great persecution. Or maybe you have a modern-day

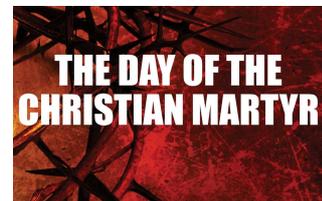
hero? Helen Berhane perhaps, a gospel singer from Eritrea who was imprisoned in a shipping container for over two years because she refused to give up her faith; or Ramesh (pictured), who was killed in his church in a bomb attack on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka.





Some of these ‘heroes’, like Ramesh, lost their lives because of their faith in Christ – they were martyred for Him. According to church tradition, tomorrow, June 29, marks the martyrdom of the Apostle Paul. We’re taking the opportunity of this occasion to remember and be inspired by Christian martyrs of modern times, by commemorating this day as the Day of the Christian Martyr. If you are anywhere near Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, tomorrow, we would be delighted if you can join us for a Service of Thanksgiving in Dewsbury Minster (pictured) from 12 noon to 2.30pm. Tickets cost £5, including a light buffet lunch, and are available on the door. Alternatively, you can order a Resource Pack and hold an event to remember Christian martyrs at any time of the year; see further details on our [website](#).

The Day of the Christian Martyr is about more than just remembering Christian martyrs, important though that is. It’s about understanding persecution and being informed about where and why it takes place in the world today. It’s about supporting families of modern-day Christian martyrs, and other persecuted Christians, in prayerful, practical and pastoral ways.



There are two ways in which Release Women would like to encourage you in this. First, the summer edition of our newsletter, *Embrace*, is now available. You can read it on the website [here](#) or you can contact the office to receive your own copy, [three times a year](#). You can read the story of Ramesh, and his wife Chrisanthini, and use the prayer points to pray for the family of this modern-day martyr. Secondly, we invite you to join us for our [National Conference in October](#), to learn more about persecution and to

meet Peter and Hadassah, Release partners from South East Asia and modern-day heroes of the faith! Download a [flyer](#) for more details.

‘Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.’ (Hebrews 12:1-2 NIV)

Blessings,

Release Women Team

