



When Other Connections Go Silent, the Gospel Still Reaches Iran

Dear Ministry Friend,

There are moments in history when a nation seems to tremble all at once. Iran is living through such a moment now.

Fear, uncertainty, grief, and deep internal strain are weighing heavily on ordinary people across the country. Behind every headline are men and women, parents and children, young and old, trying to make sense of what is happening around them — and trying to find something, or Someone, they can still trust.

In moments like these, spiritual hunger often rises to the surface. When the ground beneath people's feet begins to give way, deeper questions press in — questions about suffering, truth, justice, and whether there is any light strong enough to withstand the darkness.

A Nation Cut Off

Most people in Iran are now cut off from the internet. The government has also shut down most telephone lines, which means we can no longer receive calls from within the country. In some cases, people can still reach us, but only through limited channels and at great expense.

This communications blackout is not merely technical. It deepens fear, isolates families, and silences voices, leaving many to suffer alone. Behind the blackout are real lives, real tears, real prayers — and a profound spiritual hunger.

But the Gospel is Still Getting Through

Even while internet and phone access are severely restricted, many people in Iran can still watch satellite television. Unlike internet platforms, these broadcasts do not rely on local connectivity, allowing GCMM's Farsi-language programs to continue reaching homes in a time of deep isolation. Authorities have reportedly conducted door-to-door confiscations of satellite dishes in some areas because satellite channels remain one of the few ways people can receive outside information. Even so, these broadcasts continue to enter homes across the country.



For many inside Iran, Christian media is not supplementary — it is a lifeline. Where local fellowship is dangerous and believers are cut off from recognized churches, satellite ministry becomes one of the few ways people can hear biblical teaching, receive encouragement, and encounter the Good News of Jesus Christ in their own language.

Many who watch are not Christians. They are men and women from Muslim backgrounds searching quietly, often in secret. In the privacy of their homes, they are hearing about Jesus not as a distant figure, but as Saviour, Shepherd, and Lord. And believers who already know Christ are finding strength to endure.

One viewer, **Iman**, wrote:

“I was in a very low state that night. But when I turned on your channel and watched the program from beginning to end, I felt renewed. My heart felt lighter... Your efforts are not in vain.”

Another viewer, **Mozhgan**, shared:

“This program has been a great source of strength in these difficult days, reminding us that we are not alone... I believe that one day we will look back and see how powerful these moments of intercession have been.”

These testimonies offer a glimpse of what GCMM's ministry is doing — walking with people in their pain, speaking the truth of Christ into their circumstances, and reminding them that they are not abandoned.

A Human Voice from the January Protests

The events of January left many people deeply shaken. During protests and the harsh crackdown that followed, fear and uncertainty spread across the country.

One viewer, **Mahsa**, wrote:

“The situation here has been extremely frightening. People are deeply shaken. Many feel numb with shock and disbelief.” She described terrible scenes of violence and grief: “We have witnessed heart-breaking things, including victims whose bodies were left in the streets for days. Armed men were shooting from rooftops and showed no mercy to anyone — young or old... It felt like hell on earth.”

Mahsa added: “We have survived, but despair presses heavily on many hearts... Many young people are in prison, and some may be suffering in silence.”

Another woman, **Zahra**, wrote with quieter but equally profound sorrow:

“At times I feel troubled and very alone as life becomes increasingly hard... Yet I continue to believe in God and in Christ.”

These are not abstract observations. They are cries from people carrying trauma, exhaustion, and uncertainty day by day. And yet even here, faith persists. Prayer continues. The name of Christ is still being called upon.



The Cost of Following Jesus in Iran

This present turmoil is intensifying an already severe reality for Christians in Iran.

Following Jesus is increasingly costly, especially for converts from Islam. Though believed to be the largest Christian community in Iran, believers from Muslim backgrounds are not recognized by the state and are often targeted by authorities. Many cannot safely attend registered churches and instead gather quietly in homes — or live their faith in isolation.

The cost is steep. **In 2024** alone, at least **139 Christians** were arrested, and **96 believers** were sentenced to a combined **263 years in prison**, along with nearly **US\$800,000** in fines. These are not just statistics. They are men and women whose “offence” was worship, prayer, Bible study, fellowship, or quietly sharing their faith.

That is why ministry in Iran must be both courageous and careful — faithful to the Gospel, yet close to the language, pressures, and realities people are living through. They need to know that Christ meets them there.

Walking With People, One Home at a Time

What encourages us most is that the Church is not disappearing. Across Iran, people are still searching for truth, encountering Christ, and finding ways to hold fast to hope. Sometimes that light comes through a broadcast. Sometimes through a follow-up conversation. Sometimes through a testimony received against all odds.

One viewer, **Borzo***, wrote that after watching the programs and speaking with the follow-up team, he kept praying for his mother, who had never been ready to receive the Gospel. On the last day of her life, she asked him to read the prayer of salvation to her. The next day, she passed away. He wrote, “I believe with all my heart that God heard her prayer and accepted her repentance. Thank you for walking this path with me and my family.”

Another viewer, **Nasim**, wrote after her son was arrested, “I was crying and calling out to God, asking for a miracle... A few hours later, they released my son. It was truly a miracle for me.”

**For security, some names have been changed and some photos are representative.*

And **Azizeh** shared, “We fled Afghanistan and came to Iran, but now our future feels very uncertain... Yet even in the midst of hardship and pain, I believe the Lord’s purposes will always be fulfilled.”

These testimonies are different, but together they show that this ministry is doing more than broadcasting programs. By God’s grace, it is walking with people, helping them bring their fear, grief, and questions before the Lord, and pointing them to the Good News of Jesus in the very place where they suffer.

Please Pray. Please Stand with the Christians of Iran.

This is a moment of deep spiritual need.

Christians inside Iran need prayer, strength, and the hope of God’s Word. New believers need wisdom and protection. Families need courage. The underground church needs endurance. Those who are grieving, afraid, or cut off need to know they are not forgotten.

Please pray for believers following Jesus at great personal cost, for those gathering quietly in homes, for prisoners and those under threat, and for continued open doors for the Gospel through satellite broadcasting and follow-up ministry.

And if the Lord leads you, please help sustain this vital outreach into Iran. In a time of unrest, these broadcasts bring more than information. They bring biblical truth, prayer, comfort, and the hope of Christ into homes across the country.

Your support helps GCMM continue producing Farsi-language programs that meet people where they are — in their language, in their hardship, and in their search for hope. Even now, while so much is being silenced, the Gospel is still getting through.

Thank you for standing with the Christians of Iran, for praying for the underground church, and for helping carry the light of Jesus into homes where Christ is still being made known.

Carrying the Hope of the Resurrection to the World

To our GCMM families across Canada, warm upcoming Easter greetings in the name of our risen Lord, and thank you for being part of this ministry that continues to proclaim the message that Christ is risen. On **Resurrection Day**, we remember that the darkest hour was not the end of the story. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has opened the way for forgiveness, eternal life, and a restored relationship with Himself.

This is the message Great Commission Media Ministries is sharing into Iranian homes and around the world today: that sin, fear, suffering, and even death do not have the final word. Because Christ is risen, there is living hope for the weary, mercy for the broken, and the promise that all who trust in Him will one day dwell in the everlasting love of their Creator.

Warm regards,



Hannu Haukka
CEO/Founder

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