



**Open Doors**

**Leave a  
legacy  
of hope**

**“The purpose of the church cannot be to survive, or even to thrive, but to serve.”**

**BROTHER ANDREW,  
FOUNDER OF OPEN DOORS**





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**Most people write a Will to make sure that, after they have died, their family is cared for. You and I have the privilege that our family includes millions of believers around the world.**

One in eight Christians faces persecution because of their faith, and the situation is getting worse – but you can help ensure that Open Doors is able to keep supporting your persecuted family for many years to come.

When Brother Andrew smuggled Bibles behind the Iron Curtain in 1955, he met Christians who thought they'd been forgotten. Ever since, Open Doors has been bringing relief, training, resources and hope to the persecuted church – even if today Bibles are just as likely to be smuggled digitally as in paper form.

I don't know exactly what support will be needed in decades to come – but I do know that it will remain, in the words of Brother Andrew, 'the task of every Christian to do what he or she can'. It's our duty and joy to serve those who follow Jesus no matter the cost. Open Doors' mission is to continue bringing hope however and wherever it is needed – and it can only happen thanks to the generosity of people like you.

*Henrietta*

**Henrietta Blyth,**  
CEO of Open Doors UK & Ireland

# How your gift will change the lives of your persecuted family

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- Investing in and educating future generations of the persecuted church
- Distributing Bibles and Christian resources
- Training pastors so they can disciple their churches
- Creating and developing long-term livelihood projects
- Sustaining the church with training and trauma care
- Supporting believers facing persecution and hardship so the church can continue to flourish and defy opposition
- Mobilising the church in the UK and Ireland to pray and speak out

You can find out more at [opendoorsuk.org/about](https://opendoorsuk.org/about)



# Why I'm leaving a legacy to Open Doors: Valerie's story

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**I was a child when I became a Christian – the Lord caught me in the net! My parents threw me out – they used to call me names and all sorts. But when I came to know Jesus and what He'd done for me, I felt a great joy.**

It hasn't always been easy for me – but Christians around the world face much worse. I think about Leah Sharibu in Nigeria, who was kidnapped for her faith – she's standing firm and refused to renounce Jesus. People have been imprisoned for no reason. Children have had to watch their fathers be massacred.

Open Doors is working with them to help them grow, and to stand with them. But the people have said, "Don't pray that we don't get persecuted," haven't they? They've said, "Pray that we carry on growing as we are."

How on earth can we ignore these people? We can't be there. We can't visit them. The only thing we can do is to help financially and pray.

Sadly, we know things are going to get worse. The persecuted church will still be there – and they need all the help we can give them. That's why I've left a legacy to Open Doors. They're doing real good work. It's not really my money, it's God's money. It gives me wonderful peace of mind to know that Open Doors will use that money wisely and prayerfully.



Jina and Apo are being supported for the long-term, thanks to Open Doors supporters.

## Your legacy gives hope for future generations

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**Centres of Hope in the Middle East are among the many ongoing projects sustained with Open Doors supporters' donations, legacies and prayers.**

Christians in the Middle East have experienced years of conflict and persecution, and continue to face severe difficulties. Emergency food and aid are crucial, but the countries also need long-term support. That's why Open Doors partners are supporting believers through Centres of Hope across Syria and Iraq – standing with persecuted Christians for many years, helping returning Iraqis and Syrians to rebuild their lives and livelihoods, and investing in the next generation of believers.

“No one is helping us but the church,” says Jina in Syria. Her

husband Rober was abducted because of his faith, and now she parents their son Apo alone. “If it weren’t for your help, we would suffer a great deal. It means so much to me to know that someone cares about us and is still remembering us. Thank you so much.”

**“It means so much to me to know that someone cares about us and is still remembering us.”**

**JINA, SYRIA**

**CENTRES OF HOPE OFFER VITAL, LONG-TERM SUPPORT**

Centres of Hope offer families like Jina and Apo short-term support and, crucially, give hope for the long-term. At Centres of Hope – in churches, new sites or repurposed buildings – Open Doors partners provide fellowship and community, education for vulnerable children, and livelihood projects to help families secure future financial independence.

“I want to raise my son righteously, so that he knows what is in the Bible,” says Jina.

She’s delighted that Apo is able to attend weekly Bible classes at the Centre of Hope. “He often asks me, ‘When will it be Friday?’, the day of children’s church. When I ask him why, he says ‘to know about Jesus’.”

Christians in the Middle East know they are still at risk, and many members of the Syrian and Iraqi church have fled persecution and conflict. But by standing with believers like Jina, and discipling children like Apo, you can help ensure the long-term survival of the church in the Middle East for many decades to come.

There are so, so many ways that your legacy can bring life and hope to your persecuted church family. Whether your gift is small or large, you can make a lasting difference to Christians like Jina – and the next generation of believers, like Apo – across the world.



# It's simple to leave a gift to Open Doors

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Once you have made the decision to include Open Doors in your Will, it is very easy to put in place. It's usually a good idea to use a solicitor, who can advise on adding a new instruction (a 'codicil') to an existing Will, or help if you are writing your first Will. At the back of this brochure, you'll find some useful wording that you can take to your solicitor.

You can leave a gift in different ways – all of which leave a lasting legacy of hope for the persecuted church:

**A residuary gift** is made from what's left of your estate after named gifts and provisions have been distributed and other expenses have been paid. You can leave all or a percentage of the residue to a charity. An advantage for your loved

ones is that it could help avoid large inheritance tax bills; an advantage for the persecuted church is that the value of your gift isn't affected by inflation.

**A pecuniary gift** is a named sum of your choice in your Will. It's possible to ensure this sum keeps its value (between your Will being written and coming into effect) by asking your solicitor to make it index-linked.

**A specific gift** is an item of value – like jewellery, antique furniture or even your house.

**A deed of variation** can be written if you are a beneficiary in a Will. If you receive an inheritance, making a gift to Open Doors by deed of variation is a way of remembering and honouring a loved one.



**"If one part  
suffers, every part  
suffers with it..."**

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:26**



# Wording for your solicitor

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Your solicitor will be able to advise on how best to write or rewrite your Will. Many supporters find it useful to take the following wording with them to a discussion with their solicitor.

## RESIDUARY GIFT

*I give [the whole / \_\_\_\_\_ per cent] of the residue of my estate to Open Doors with Brother Andrew (and its successors) of PO Box 6, Witney, OX29 6WG, registered charity number 1125684, absolutely for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.*

## PECUNIARY GIFT

*I give Open Doors with Brother Andrew (and its successors) of PO Box 6, Witney, OX29 6WG, registered charity number 1125684 the sum of*

- £ \_\_\_\_\_
- [The same amount in words]



*absolutely for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.*

## SPECIFIC GIFT

*I give Open Doors with Brother Andrew (and its successors) of PO Box 6, Witney, OX29 6WG, registered charity number 1125684, my*

- [description of object(s)/ property]

*absolutely for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.*



# Thank you

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**“Thank you to all my Christian mums and dads. I shall continue to bear witness to the goodness of my God through your support.”**

**JEOVANI, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

Jeovani (CENTRE) and his friends Steven and Dieu Fera (L-R) were only young children when they were severely injured in a church bombing. They all had to have one or both legs amputated. Thanks to the generosity and prayers of Open Doors supporters, Jeovani and his friends were able to get prostheses, and are still getting schooling and financial help. This support has given them a future.

Your legacy can make an enormous difference to the lives of persecuted Christians for many years to come.

Please do get in touch if you'd like any more information, or to talk to us about leaving a legacy of hope.

**[opendoorsuk.org/legacy](https://opendoorsuk.org/legacy)**

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**OpenDoors**

**[opendoorsuk.org](https://opendoorsuk.org)**



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## Farewill: Write your Will for free

You can write your Will by using our partner Farewill – it's quick, easy and free.

- At **farewill.com/opendoors-web**, you'll find everything you need to write your Will online in as little as 15 minutes, with a team of experts to check that your wishes are clear
- You can telephone Farewill on **0208 050 2686** – just mention that you are an Open Doors supporter and give them the voucher code **opendoors-telephone**.

*\*While the cost of your Will is met by Open Doors, there is no obligation to leave a legacy to Open Doors; this is done at your discretion.*

