



GLITTER & GRACE

A GRACE IN THE WILDERNESS MINISTRY

"With a little glitter and a lot of grace, we're spreading God's love all over the place."

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Because you are a Christian...

As you celebrate your freedom on the 4th of July, take time to remember what true freedom really is. Below is a story from the **Voice of Martyrs** that describes life without freedom. Remember to pray for the persecuted.

"Aelen" woke up one night to the sounds of someone burning her house down. Thankfully, she was able to grab her baby son and escape. Unfortunately, it was one of many hardships she'd been forced to face since deciding to leave her tribe's traditional religion and follow Jesus instead.

Many in her village, including her family, perceived the change in her religious beliefs as an offence to their culture. Many Laotians believe Christianity is an American religion. When someone in the community becomes a Christian, the community worries that the spirits they worship will be offended, and that the community might also suffer ill-effects as a result.

Though she escaped the attempted arson of her home, Aelen's problems weren't yet over. A little while later, she visited her sister in another city for a while. When she came home, she found that her father and brother had moved into her home and were claiming it as their own.

Aelen went to the local authorities to complain. She then found out that the village headman had even issued her father a new property deed for her home. Further lobbying for justice at the local level and even provincial level hasn't helped. It looks like Aelen will be forced to leave the village. When she asked her father how he could do such a thing to her, he told her, "Because you are a Christian."



It's not just young people who suffer like this.

An older gentleman, "Keowynn" and his wife and daughter were also recently evicted from their home, in this case by their own son. Keowynn is a key Christian leader in his area and he leads a church that he planted many years ago after he moved to an un-reached region as a missionary.

In spite of Keowynn's faithful example, his oldest son despises his parents' faith. He also drinks and uses drugs. Much like the prodigal son in the Gospel of Luke, his son demanded his inheritance from his father and said that the house should be his portion. The conflict between the oldest son and the family has been ongoing for at least three years, and on March 15, 2017, the son finally forced his father, mother and sister from the home.



Keowynn and his family are now living under a roof they erected in a rice field. It's a tough life, but they don't want to abandon the other believers in their community. They are afraid if they leave, the other believers will become too discouraged and renounce their faith.

Please pray for both Aelen and Keowynn and their families. Other Christians in Laos are assisting them, but it's difficult to lose home and family. Pray that they and other believers in Laos will stand firm in Christ, no matter what they encounter.



You can visit www.Persecution.com to learn more about persecution across the world. You can also sign up for monthly newsletters and find out how you can help the persecuted families across the world.

In more than 40 nations around the world today Christians are being persecuted for their faith. In some of these nations it is illegal to own a Bible, to share your faith Christ, change your faith or teach your children about Jesus. Those who boldly follow Christ—in spite of government edict or radical opposition—can face harassment, arrest, torture and even death. Yet Christians continue to meet for worship and to witness for Christ, and the church in restricted nations is growing.

How will help these families?

Will you commit to pray for the persecuted?

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:10





HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

How will you celebrate the 4th of July?

Here are a few local events to consider:

Rock Springs Baptist Church has a great 4th of July Fireworks show! Get there early for good parking!

City of Easley Celebration looks like it will be a lot of fun! Hope to see you there!

THE CITY OF EASLEY'S
4th of July Celebration
 BROUGHT TO YOU BY HENDRICK HONDA
WHEN: TUESDAY, JULY 4TH
TIME: 3PM - 11PM
MARKET SQUARE

Food! *Games!*

Carnival Rides 3pm - 9pm
 EPD's Blue Light BBQ open @ 3pm
 Illusionist Show 5:30pm
 4th of July Concert!
SPLIT SHOT 8PM - 11PM
FIREWORKS @ 9:30PM
 *New & Improved Show!

LIVE MUSIC! **FIREWORKS!** **CARNIVAL RIDES!**

Join us for

Food, Music, and Fun!

Food Vendors

featuring the Jake Bartley Band

Music 7pm

Fireworks 10pm

4th JULY

HISTORIC PICKENS

The City of Pickens will be having their fireworks show downtown at 10pm

www.historicpickens.com



2017 INDEPENDENCE DAY IN SIX MILE

SATURDAY, JULY 1ST

5:00PM - 9:00PM

PONDEROSA PARK

(SHUTTLE BUS FROM SIX MILE ELEMENTARY IF NEEDED FOR PARKING)



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5:00PM - 8:30PM - KID'S INFLATABLES

5:30PM - CHILDREN'S BICYCLE PARADE

6:00PM - 8:30PM - FIRETRUCK WATER FOUNTAIN

6:00PM - 8:00PM - HOT DOG PLATES

6:00PM - 3 LEGGED RACE

7:00PM - POTATO SACK RACE

8:00PM - FOOD EATING CONTEST

9:00PM (OR DARK) - **FIREWORKS**

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

POPCORN, COTTON CANDY & LEMONADE

THIS IS A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

**BRING YOUR OWN BLANKETS & CHAIRS

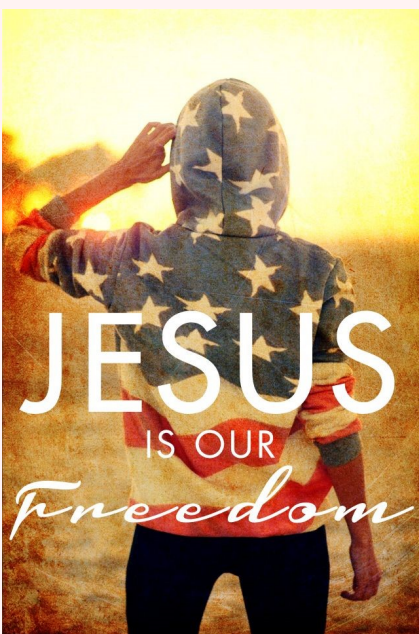


Six Mile will also be having a weekend of fun celebrating the 4th!

Downtown Greenville also has an amazing fireworks show!

If you are on the lake this weekend, I recommend the fireworks at Gap Hill Landing on Lake Keowee.

Wherever you celebrate, please be careful and enjoy the time you have with you family and friends! God Bless America!



*May God Bless you and show
you His Grace every day!*