



# Thank you St Paul's Howell Hill

for standing with  
Christians like Sitara

The pandemic continues to affect all of us significantly. For many of our worldwide church family, it is making the persecution they already face even worse. Thankfully, the prayers and gifts of Open Doors supporters, like all of you at St Paul's, are helping bring hope to those who are suffering for following Jesus.

**“There are around 300,000 Christians in Asia who've received Covid aid – thanks to people like you”**

People like Sitara (name changed) in India. She became a Christian as a teenager, when her mother was seriously

ill and they sought prayer in church. Initially, Sitara's mother improved – but, sadly, she later died of this illness.

Sitara's faith in God remained strong, but it was a very hard time – made even worse by her community, who hate Christians: “Her body was taken back to the village, but she was not allowed to be buried in the village graveyard,” remembers Sitara. “The villagers hurled insults at us, and called us traitors.”

**SITARA COULDN'T STOP GOING TO CHURCH**  
Her father was angry too, and forbade Sitara from connecting with the Christians who had helped her through her mother's illness.

“But I couldn't restrain myself from going to church,” Sitara says. “I had tasted God's love for me. I went secretly with my siblings.”

Sitara was only 15 when her father also died, and she was left to raise her two younger siblings alone. “None of the villagers helped us. They didn't have one kind word for us. Only God came to our rescue all the time, and He always does.”

## YOU ARE HELPING SITARA DURING COVID-19

During the pandemic, Sitara has found it hard to get income for food. Even worse, Christians are often deliberately neglected in official aid distribution. Open Doors local partners have been standing with this little family for the past two years – and have provided vital food and aid during Covid-19. There are around 300,000 Christians in Asia who've received Covid aid – thanks to people like you.

**Your prayers and support make an enormous difference in the lives of your brothers and sisters. Thank you so much!**

**We'd love for you to stay connected.**

**Click here to discover more ways you can make a difference for persecuted Christians.**