**Persecution Scenarios**

1. Utilize “what if” statements and discuss practical aspects of responses and attitudes, including how you could be equipping others in the scenario, E.g.:
   1. It became illegal to meet with others or restrictions were imposed on when and where and with whom you could meet
   2. You would lose your job if you shared your faith
   3. You would be fined if you met as a church
   4. Someone threatened you, your spouse, your kids, your spiritual family if you “proselytized”
   5. You were betrayed by a trusted church member
   6. Your home would be seized if you continued to meet as a church
   7. You would be imprisoned if you shared your faith
   8. Restrictions were placed on who you could share with (children, Muslims, etc.)
   9. Various aspects of ministry were only allowed to be performed by people who were approved by the government (or church?) to do so (for example, preach, baptize, serve Lord’s Supper, lead worship)
   10. Christianity became despised to the extent that the government and/or society intentionally looked the other way for persecution, leaving Christians and churches vulnerable to violence
   11. Bibles were outlawed (and if your Bibles were taken, including access to electronic ones)
   12. You were tortured for information that would threaten believers (and how you would react if you or someone else cracked under such torture)
   13. Family members were killed because of their faith or yours
   14. You were forced (along with other believers in your area) to flee and be in hiding
2. Based on “what if” statements, discuss and note on whiteboard (or similar) after each as applicable:
   1. What actions can we take now to prepare us well.
   2. How can we motivate and prepare others well?