Persecution Issues:

**How to prepare people to suffer well (Read:2 Timothy 3:12).**

Why:

* It is possible to suffer without getting the benefits of God.
* If we prepare them well, they can go through without being discouraged or

angry... knowing the plan of God.

Main answers to train and prepare people well:

1. Take a pledge upon baptism that "when the suffering comes
2. Prepare movements with "slogans"
3. Specific training: Role playing persecution scenarios
4. Have people, especially CPMers prepare a "last letter".
5. Help people not live in fear of possible persecution
6. How and when to stay and face persecution or leave/run away...
7. How not to do stupid things not to provoke others.

**Going through persecution with people:**

1. During:
   1. Pray, Pray, PRAY
   2. Serve family, help them find (or you be) who will be the person to try to intervene, be an advocate.
2. Debriefing with people afterward:
3. Listen to story
4. List of usual issues in any stressful incident (normalizes feelings of anger, hurt, etc.)
5. List of benefits of things that can now help you benefit .... or benefit others because of your persecution (help them move to the future).
6. Material Help During or After persecution: How? When? How long?
7. No "rules": Be guided by the Holy Spirit for each situation
8. Pray, Pray, PRAY
9. Train them to use the Bible to find these answers and others
10. Be careful not to make it too much of a program

(Programs can be abused).

1. Direct financial help is mainly/only for acute, temporary situation.
2. Long term: Have to find organic answers (orphanage vs. adoption of children)