



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

VISUAL STORY NETWORK ACCELERATES THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

▶ BY EQUIPPING OUR GENERATION TO
USE MEDIA, STORY AND INNOVATION

▶ TO MAKE DISCIPLES AND
ADVANCE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
IN LEAST-REACHED NATIONS.

“MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS...”

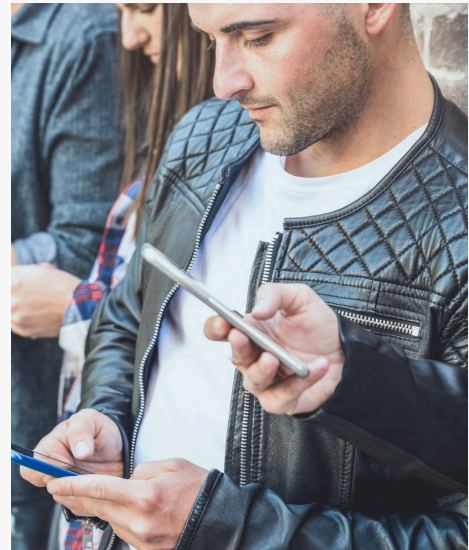
-Jesus, before his ascension into heaven



TOGETHER WE ARE EQUIPPING OUR GENERATION

to use media, story and innovation to make disciples and advance religious freedom in least-reached nations! In this broken world, billions of people do not know the friendship and purpose Jesus offers. They live in isolation, fear and depression...often under the burden of oppressive ideologies.

Hurting people rarely resist the person of Jesus. When given the chance, they are drawn to the One that names, knows, sees and loves them. It has been 2000 years since Jesus called us to make followers of all nations. Along with a growing number of others, **we believe it is possible to give everyone the chance to follow Jesus by 2033.**



OUR STRATEGY

1

TRAIN LEADERS

Since 2007, we have trained 17,557 people to multiply their impact through the use of media, storytelling and technology.

17,557
TRAINED LEADERS

2

BUILD GLOBAL NETWORKS

Since 2007, we have created six networks among like-minded ministries that have resulted in 828 projects.

828
PROJECTS

3

PRODUCE MEDIA & EQUIPPING RESOURCES

Since 2007, VSN has co-produced 246 short films and 54 'best-practices' media training resources being used by organizations and leaders worldwide.

246
SHORT FILMS

54
MEDIA TRAINING
RESOURCES

1 TRAIN LEADERS

to multiply their impact through the use of media, story and technology. In a media-saturated world, it is vital that leaders leverage the power of innovation.



IN 2023:

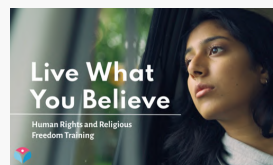
- ▶ We equipped 1,036 leaders like Zakir to use media, story and innovation for outreach and church planting.*
- ▶ 1,477 people completed “Live What You Believe” religious freedom training. The majority of these people were in places like Pakistan and Nigeria.
- ▶ We hosted our third Women’s Media Training Fellowship. 30 women from the Middle East learned to create their own media.



CANDACE MACKIE
MINISTRY DIRECTOR, TWR MOTION

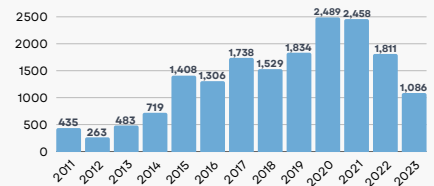
“Visual Story Network’s training completely transformed my idea of using media in missions. It was a huge catalyst for the work we’re doing now among unreached people.”

OUR TRAINING PLATFORMS

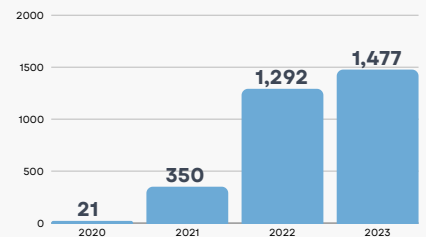


OUR TRAINEES

MEDIA TRAINEES



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TRAINEES



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH CANDACE’S STORY](#)

* The decrease in media trainees since 2022 corresponds to the growth in religious freedom training.

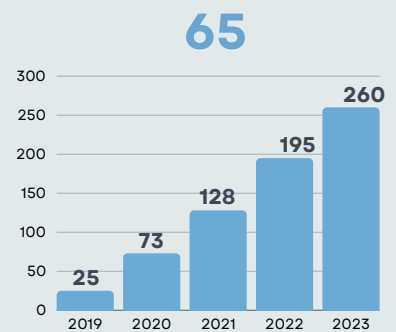
2 BUILD GLOBAL NETWORKS

Unleash the power of global networks because the toughest places are only going to be reached as God’s people work together.

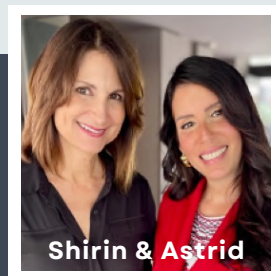
IN 2023:

- ▶ **The networks expanded to 11,405 participants in 102 nations.**
- ▶ **65 new teams** began to use the **Digital Disciple Making strategy**. At year’s end, it is now used by **260 teams around the world focused on unreached people groups**. This strategy uses social media to identify “seekers” and connect them with those who will follow-up and disciple them.

NEW DIGITAL DISCIPLE MAKING TEAMS



ONE LEADER’S STORY



Astrid Hajjar is our Director of International Relations and Partnerships for Empower Women Media. Astrid is of Lebanese/Venezuelan descent living outside Boston with her husband. Together they have raised three successful kids. Astrid trained as a lawyer before transitioning to a successful career in development for St. Jude Children’s Hospital for twenty years. She speaks fluent Spanish, French, English and Arabic.

She got involved when she heard about Shirin’s work in the Middle East. Astrid said, *“I couldn’t believe I was invited to get involved right away. I lost my native country Lebanon due to religious conflict. My father later lost his refrigerator manufacturing company due to socialization in Venezuela. I fully believe in Shirin’s vision of religious freedom and women’s empowerment.”*

NETWORKS



MIDDLE EAST WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP NETWORK



digital disciple making network

3 PRODUCE MEDIA & EQUIPPING RESOURCES

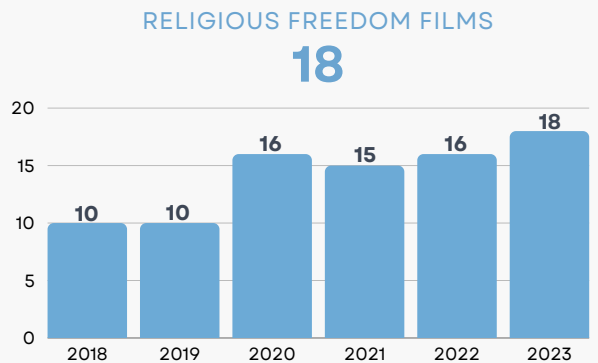
We produce media and equipping resources to reach people in their digital world with the right message at the right time. This will help them become Christ-followers who lead others to Jesus and become agents of change in their countries.

IN 2023:

We launched a new curriculum, *Friendship With Jesus*. It teaches practices built upon the foundation of the patterns (disciplines) commonly accepted in the Church, but they take them a step further.



We hosted our sixth religious freedom film competition and received 18 films from female filmmakers from countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan.



Samuel giving audio Bible to a sheik.

Joseph, a church planter among Fulani in Northern Nigeria, had been visiting a village for several years with no fruit. In May 2019 an elderly village leader, Isu, became ill and was hospitalized in the capital city. Joseph organized a group of believers who surrounded Isu and cared for him for 3 weeks until he improved. **A few months later on his death bed, Isu stood up and announced to his many sons, "I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior and you should do likewise."** He then sat down, crossed his legs and died. The family summoned Joseph and told him what had happened. **As a result, 126 people in the extended family became Christians. Surrounding villages began to invite Joseph and now eight villages have churches.**

Joseph is part of a church planting team led by Samuel Yahaya. Through our partnership with Create International (YWAM) we provided audio Bibles to Samuel, Joseph and the church planting team members.



THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we are so grateful for your involvement. Thank you for equipping our generation to use media, story and innovation to make disciples and advance religious freedom in least-reached nations!

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