

Spring 2025

Listening *World*

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united kingdom

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From the Chief Executive Officer,
Dr Russell Farnworth.



From April, **TWR-UK** will be moving channels on Freeview from 733 to 277, at the same time we will also be moving from **Sky** to the **Radioplayer App**. Change can be disruptive but it also presents an opportunity for something new, especially as we look to reach more people with the good news of Jesus online.

Throughout life's changes I have taken comfort in the fact that we serve a God who is faithful and consistent, the good news of the Gospel remains the same. "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."
- John 3 v 16.

In this edition of *Listening World* we will be laying out the broadcasting changes coming to **TWR-UK**. We also hope your faith will be stirred as we share about the work TWR is doing, to present the Gospel to people in China and North Korea.

On behalf of **TWR-UK** may I express our thanks for your ongoing support and prayers. We wouldn't be able to achieve what we do without you standing alongside us.

Yours in Christ,

Russell Farnworth.

TWR's bank account for the UK is:

CAF BANK Limited, PO Box 289,
West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA.
Sort code 40-52-40, A/c number 00006887.

Thank you for your ongoing support which makes it possible for us to continue reaching out and touching hearts with the Gospel.

Our commitment to you: read TWR-UK's Supporter Charter at www.twr.org.uk/charter.

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Web: www.twr.org.uk



190 countries



300 languages



One Hope

Broadcasting in the UK:



Freeview channel 277
Freely channel 566



www.twr.org.uk



Use the Radioplayer App on Amazon Fire Stick, Sky Q, Sky Glass, Sky Stream, your smartphone or tablet

Use the TWR-UK app on your smartphone or tablet

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Secret Christians In North Korea

Brother Chun (not his real name) was born in North Korea. Everything there is tightly controlled, from the curated narratives shared over regulated media channels, down to the vocational and educational opportunities afforded to individuals. Even the practice of religion is restricted.

Open Doors lists North Korea as the country in which Christians face the most extreme persecution in the world. Believers discovered by the authorities either receive life sentences to work in harsh labour camps or they are killed on the spot. Family members may also be rounded up to face the same penalty.

Nevertheless even under such circumstances there are an estimated 400,000 Christians in North Korea today, around 1.5% of its 26 million population. Due to the danger, believers do not openly share their faith and gatherings are risky. Children in Christian families are introduced to the faith only when they can keep it a secret. In Chun's case, his mother told him about the Bible only when he was old enough to grasp the weight of that information.

Even as a young man, Chun did not feel at ease. He knew his father was originally from South Korea. He yearned to escape and gain his freedom to return to his father's hometown. Many years passed and Chun could no longer bear to wait. He tried to enter South Korea by himself, but his plan failed and he was instead detained in a neighbouring country.

Some nations have agreements to repatriate North Korean refugees to face the bitter consequences of their desertion. However by God's grace that was not Chun's fate, he was instead released on parole and transferred to a **United Nations (U.N.)** refugee camp. It was in the camp that Chun began the long application process of seeking permission to be resettled in South Korea.

TWR partners with charitable organisations to help provide remote follow-up ministry to North Korean refugees. These individuals often experience deep loneliness and isolation and we believe their hearts may be open to hear the Gospel.

Follow-up workers from **TWR Korea** connect with each of these North Korean refugees throughout the week, engaging on various levels:

- A 60-minute call to listen to their struggles. This is an opportunity to counsel, pray and share Bible verses to encourage and comfort them.
- Exchanging WhatsApp messages during the week.
- Sharing biblical audio programmes presented in the Korean language.
- Inviting them to join an online Bible-study and worship session on Sundays.



During his time at the **U.N.** refugee camp, Chun attended one of these weekly online worship services conducted by **TWR Korea**. That was how we first met him and later provided ongoing support during his transition to life in South Korea.

When Chun's application was finally approved, he began the challenging transition to a new life in South Korea. Many refugees experience isolation, anxiety and culture shock from living in such a different environment. While the South Korean government does have policies to assist with the transition, some refugees still struggle to adapt.

Thank God that Chun made the transition well! He is currently serving as a deacon at a church for North Korean refugees. He takes care of the church and is always filled with thanksgiving.

TWR Broadcasts into North Korea

To encourage believers in North Korea, TWR broadcasts 16 programmes a week on shortwave radio, which serves as a spiritual lifeline for believers in the North Korean underground church.

THE PEOPLE OF
NORTH KOREA

POPULATION:
26 million

PERCENTAGE OF CHRISTIANS:
1.48%

MAJOR LANGUAGE:
Korean

LARGEST RELIGION:
Non-religious

Interesting fact: Only acceptable religion is Cheondogyo, the cult of the deceased leader.

TWR is ministering over the airwaves to North Korean listeners through Bible study programmes, in-depth and structured Bible instruction and seminary programming, as well as connecting with North Korean refugees through social media.

Shortwave radio broadcasts are a safe, secure way by which TWR shares biblical programmes with listeners in North Korea. They are not easily turned off or blocked; they cannot be traced; they leave no digital footprint and best of all - the transmitted content cannot be censored or edited.

Here are some of the unique ways TWR is ministering over the airwaves to North Korean listeners:

- Bible study programmes provide essential spiritual food. One programme even presents an entire Sunday church service over the airwaves.
- An in-depth, structured Bible instruction and seminary programme prepares mature believers to take on pastoral duties in the absence of a traditional church.
- Evangelistic programmes reach out to atheists and agnostics to share the Gospel in an environment where direct evangelism is not possible.

The diverse lineup of programmes was developed to address the spiritual needs of our North Korean brethren. Because believers are unable to gather or share their faith, TWR is using radio to stand in the gap and serve as an essential source of nourishment and encouragement for their souls.

Because of the extreme security, it is rare to receive messages from listeners in North Korea. TWR's Korean national partner is always greatly encouraged to receive these precious responses:

"I have no words to express our gratitude after receiving these precious and warm, loving supports from you. We pray that faith, hope and love will be with all the brothers and sisters around the world."

"We are filled with joy and it feels as if you are close by whenever we receive these precious supports and when we listen to your voice on the radio."

Listening Guide

Broadcasting in the UK: Freeview 277, Freely 566 or by using the Radioplayer App on Sky, Amazon Fire Stick, smartphone or tablet

Sunday on TWR

TWR BIBLE

Midnight to 6am

00.00 Max McLean reads the Bible - pure and simple!



TWR INSPIRE

6am to 12noon

Join Amy Oakley for inspirational Bible teaching to edify you in your faith and prepare you for the week ahead.

- 6.00 Treasured Truth Weekend
- 6.25 The Verdict
- 6.50 Search for Truth
- 7.05 Today with J. John
- 7.30 IFL Weekend with Chuck Swindoll
- 8.00 On Mission with Chris Wright
- 8.30 Moody Presents
- 9.00 All Souls Langham Place
- 9.30 Renewing Your Mind with R. C. Sproul
- 9.56 The Sermon
- 10.10 Every Last Word
- 10.35 Living a Legacy
- 11.00 Steve Brown Etc.

TWR LIFE

12noon to 6pm

Join Dave Piper for programmes with encouragement and challenge for the whole family!

- 12.00 The Bible Study Hour
- 12.26 Building Relationships
- 1.15 HomeWord Weekend
- 2.03 Team Jesus
- 2.10 Treasure Box
- 2.25 Commission
- 2.40 Paws & Tales
- 3.10 Good News for Everyone
- 3.40 First Person
- 4.05 Truth for Life Weekend
- 4.30 Everyday Evangelists
- 5.00 Bold Steps
- 5.30 Truth for Today

TWR FOCUS

6pm to Midnight

James Maidment-Fullard guides you through programmes that help you gain a Christian understanding of the world around you - including news and current affairs from our Manchester studios.

- 6.00 Word Alive from GNBA
- 6.28 Christianity Works with Berni Dymet
- 6.55 TWR Wavelength
- 7.00 Chaplains at Work
- 7.30 The Capernwray Programme
- 8.00 NewsDesk
- 10.00 The Supplement
- 11.00 The Political Exchange
- 11.30 NewsDesk Lite
- 11.45 Every Man Global

TWR **BIBLE**

Midnight to 6am

00.00 Max McLean reads the Bible -
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TWR **TALK**

6am to 12noon

Join Amy Oakley to start your day with inspirational programmes to encourage you in serving God wherever he has placed you.

- 6.00 Bold Steps with Mark Jobe
- 6.30 Focal Point with Mike Fabarez
- 6.55 Insight for Living with Chuck Swindoll
- 7.25 A Different Perspective with Berni Dymet
- 7.35 In Touch with Charles Stanley
- 8.00 Renewing Your Mind with R. C. Sproul
- 8.30 The Alternative
- 9.00 Know the Truth with Philip De Courcy
- 9.30 Turning Point with David Jeremiah
- 10.00 Today's News Review from our Manchester Studios
- 10.15 Thru the Bible with Dr. J. Vernon McGee
- 10.45 The Verdict with Pastor John Munro
- 11.10 Truth for Life with Alistair Begg
- 11.35 Back to the Bible with Dr. John Neufeld





Broadcasting in the UK:

on Freeview channel 277 and Freely channel 566

online at twr.org.uk

Use the Radioplayer App on Amazon Fire Stick, Sky Q, Sky Glass, Sky Stream, your smartphone or tablet

Use the TWR-UK app on your smartphone or tablet

Friday on TWR

TWR **WORD**

12noon to 6pm

James Maidment-Fullard hosts a selection of programmes committed to applying the eternal truths of Scripture to your everyday life.

- 12.00 News from our Manchester Studios
- 12.30 Focal Point with Mike Fabarez
- 12.55 Insight for Living with Chuck Swindoll
- 1.25 A Different Perspective with Berni Dymet
- 1.35 In Touch with Charles Stanley
- 2.00 Renewing Your Mind with R. C. Sproul
- 2.30 The Alternative
- 3.00 Know the Truth with Philip De Courcy
- 3.30 Turning Point with David Jeremiah
- 4.00 Discover the Word hosted by Mart De Haan
- 4.15 Thru the Bible with Dr. J. Vernon McGee
- 4.45 The Verdict with Pastor John Munro
- 5.10 Truth for Life with Alistair Begg
- 5.35 Back to the Bible with Dr. John Neufeld

TWR **CHOICE**

6pm to Midnight

Dave Piper presents TWR favourites to help you in your daily walk with God.

- 6.00 Bold Steps with Mark Jobe
- 6.30 Focal Point with Mike Fabarez
- 6.55 Insight for Living with Chuck Swindoll
- 7.25 A Different Perspective with Berni Dymet
- 7.35 In Touch with Charles Stanley
- 8.00 Renewing Your Mind with R. C. Sproul
- 8.30 The Alternative
- 9.00 Know the Truth with Philip De Courcy
- 9.30 Turning Point with David Jeremiah
- 10.00 The Front Page from our Manchester Studios
- 10.15 Thru the Bible with Dr. J. Vernon McGee
- 10.45 The Verdict with Pastor John Munro
- 11.10 Truth for Life with Alistair Begg
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TWR **LIFE**

12noon to 6pm

Join Dave Piper for programmes with encouragement and challenge for the whole family!

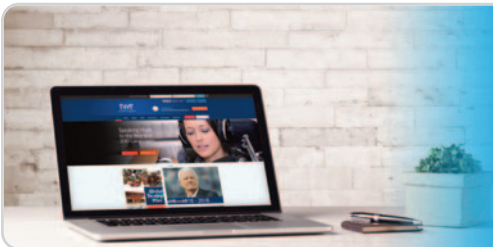
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For weekly updates on the TWR-UK schedule as well as news from TWR around the world, subscribe to our e-bulletin.

Simply input your details on our website or email to twr@twr.org.uk with your details.

In Your Listening Guide

On Mission with Chris Wright

On Mission with Chris Wright features conversations with Christian leaders around the majority world. Chris Wright is a noted theologian and author of *The Mission of God*. In each episode of this series Chris will help listeners discover how much wisdom the Church in the West has to gain from their sisters and brothers in villages and towns around the world.

**Tune in on Saturday 8pm and Sunday 8am
or listen at www.twr.org.uk/ondemand**



Chaplains at Work

Chaplains at Work explores what it takes to be a chaplain, and how Christians can bring a sense of Christ's presence into the workplace. As well as showcasing the individual work and mission of chaplains themselves, the series also explores the history and vision of the **Railway Mission** and **Mission to Seafarers**. The **Free Churches Group** also helps us get to grips with how churches and denominations can best equip and support those called to chaplaincy.

**Tune in on Saturday 7am and Sunday 7pm
or listen at www.twr.org.uk/ondemand**



Good News for Everyone

Evangelism is a calling for every Christian, but how easily can we put that into practice? **Good News for Everyone**, formally known as **GideonsUK**, work to place the Word of God into the hands of as many people as possible. We'll be hearing stories of mission work from around the world, testimonies of God's life-transforming power, and we'll hear a range of different sermons from the **Good News for Everyone** Connexions Conference. So join us, to grow in your faith and be encouraged.

**Tune in on Saturday 3.10pm and Sunday 3.10pm
or listen at www.twr.org.uk/ondemand**





God's At Work In China

Religious restrictions present barriers to accessing the Gospel in China, however God is working steadfastly and faithfully through the prayers of supporters like you. From theological courses to training fellowships, Christian ministry continues to flourish in China. We hope you're encouraged by the recent endeavours and achievements within the China ministry's **SOTA (Seminary on the Air)** community.

Team members in China recently received visits from the **Canadian SOTA** team to offer encouragement, prayer and support. Ministry Director Ruth shared, *"Thank God that they are all safe and are very positive. Even though the situation is difficult, they all stand firm. Some of them are thinking of further professional development in theological education so that they can serve the students better. We are happy to see how the national staff team has finally taken up the baton from our Canadian staff."*

The number of new enrolments in **SOTA** has also remained strong. As of the end of October, there were 413 new students. In addition, the average age of the new students has become younger than the previous year. There are younger-generation believers in their 20s and 30s signing up for **SOTA**. What a blessing to see that in addition to more brothers and sisters signing up to be equipped, God has moved more younger Christians to enrol in **SOTA**.

Positive momentum stirs students towards completing courses. Students completed 2,950 courses as of the end of October, which signifies more than a 20% increase over last year. God is growing His kingdom through **SOTA** and it is encouraging to see students standing firm in their commitment to serve God and build His Church!

Join Us in Praying for China

- Thank God for bringing more new students to **SOTA**! Pray that through **SOTA**, these students can be equipped to serve God more effectively and their respective churches can be blessed.
- Pray for the health and safety of the team. Pray that God will grant courage and wisdom to face challenges and to minister to **SOTA** students and churches.
- Pray that God will open doors for online fellowship activity to resume securely.
- Pray that God will use the mission track to mobilise and equip missionaries.
- Pray that God will protect them, give them wisdom, courage and strength to continue their studies, avoid government detection and serve the Church faithfully.

Prayer Matters

Speaking Hope

From April to June we invite you to join us in praying for **TWR's** ministry in different languages around the world and (at the weekends) in the UK.

PRAYER DIARY

MONDAYS

Pray for **SOTA (Seminary on the Air)** students in China. Pray that they will grow in wisdom, courage and strength as they are equipped to serve God more effectively.

TUESDAYS

Thank God for significant growth in those enrolling in **SOTA**. Pray for the protection of those taking part. Pray for open doors for online fellowship activity to resume securely. Pray that God will use the mission track to mobilise and equip missionaries.

WEDNESDAYS

Thank God for open doors to minister to people from North Korea. Pray for fruit in **TWR Korea's** ministry to refugees in **U.N.** camps. Pray for the protection of listeners inside North Korea, pray that their faith will be strengthened as they tune into programmes.

THURSDAYS

Pray for our **TWR-UK** listeners, pray that many will be blessed as the new programmes are aired. Pray that the transition onto new channels and broadcast services goes smoothly and thank God for the new listeners who will tune in as a result.

FRIDAYS

Continue to pray for all those who connect with us through **TWR360**. Pray they are encouraged as they listen to Bible-based programmes in their own heart languages.

WEEKENDS

Please pray for TWR's ongoing work in the UK.

Join us in praying for our listeners, especially those who aren't believers. Please pray that the Word will be powerful and effective in their lives.

Thank God for **TWR-UK** chief executive Russell Farnworth. Pray for God's enabling and wisdom in his daily tasks and decisions as he develops the ministry for the future.

Prayer is the backbone of TWR – and we are so grateful that **you** stand alongside us in intercession! God delights to change people's lives and we are amazed and humbled that He allows TWR to be a part of it all.

How can I listen to TWR-UK?

LISTENING on your TV

If you have a **Freeview TV**, and it is connected to the internet, use **Channel 277 - UK RADIO PORTAL**. The page may take some time to load, but when it has, you'll see a selection of radio channels listed. Just look out for TWR-UK - click on that and it will play shortly.

If you have a **Freely** enabled TV, it's the same but on **Channel 566**.

UK Radio Portal is also available on **Amazon Fire TV Sticks**.

On **Sky Q, Sky Glass** or **Sky Stream**, use the **Radioplayer App** and select TWR-UK.

LISTENING on a Smartphone or Tablet

Download the **TWR-UK app** from the app store - and then just click the play button.

You can also find us listed on the **TuneIn** or **Radioplayer** app.

LISTENING on Smart Speakers

Just ask your smart speaker to **"Ask TuneIn to Play Trans World Radio"** or **"Ask Radio Player to Play Trans World Radio"**.

LISTENING on your Laptop or PC

On **our website** - Just click the 'Listen' button at the top of our website **www.twr.org.uk**

On **Facebook**- visit our official Facebook page – TransWorldRadioUK - and listen live from there!

On **YouTube** - youtube.com/@TWRUK – click on the live stream.

LISTENING on an Internet Radio

Find TWR-UK by its name.