

News and Current Events :: Vietnam's Christians Petition Government

Vietnam's Christians Petition Government - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2004/10/8 16:26

[Image: https://www.sermonindex.net/images/forum/2004/may/featured_news.gif]

In an unprecedented move, representatives of Vietnam's house church fellowships traveled to Hanoi on Monday, September 27, to deliver a petition to the government.

The petition appealed to Vietnam's Communist Party leadership to re-think a controversial new law on religion which takes effect on November 15, and to allow greater freedom for religious worship in Vietnam.

Pastors and leaders from over 50 house church and indigenous mission organizations signed the petition on behalf of thousands of Protestant Christians throughout the country.

The evangelical house churches of Vietnam operate independently of the officially recognized Evangelical Church of Vietnam. Under the Communist government, churches must register and comply with strict regulations governing the activity and teachings of the church, training and appointment of ministers, and contact with Christians from other countries. Vietnam's house churches have opted not to register because of these conditions.

After a brief salutation to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the petition opens with the following words (translated from the original Vietnamese):

"We are people who have put our whole trust in the living God, worshipping him and exalting his ultimate sovereignty, faithfully carrying out his teachings in the Bible as do billions of Christian believers in all other human communities in the world.

"It is because of this true faith in God that millions of Vietnamese lives have been transformed to become better, and have contributed significantly to the social and spiritual life of our homeland and people.

"In obedience to the Bible and following the example of the early church, we evangelical believers have come together in various organizational forms: in small groups, in independent house churches, sometimes organized into an evangelical denomination.

"We meet together in many places: in our private homes, in chapels and in churches, to worship God and to help one another to live out God's Word, to become good citizens and believers."

Re: Vietnam's Christians Petition Government - posted by lwpray (), on: 2004/10/9 4:42

Perils to members of the Body demand concern, concentration, and consecration to a committed plan of prayer.

The man who can get believers to praying would, under God, usher in the greatest revival that the world has ever known.

Leonard Ravenhill