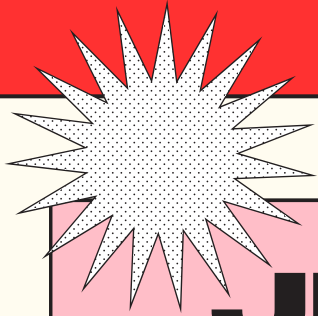
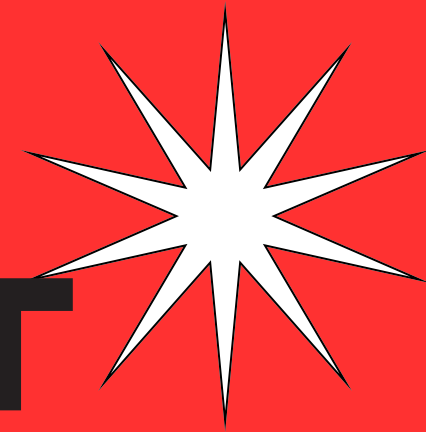


WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT REFUGEES?



JESUS WAS A REFUGEE

Matthew 2:13

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod.



How we treat refugees is how we treat Jesus

Matthew 25:34–40

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, *I was a stranger and you invited me in,* ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

...

⁴⁰ "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'



Treat foreigners as yourselves

Leviticus 19:33–34

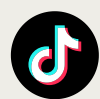
³³ "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. ³⁴ The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Matthew 22:36–39

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'



FACTS VS FICTION: REFUGEES



Fiction: All refugees come to Europe or the UK

Fiction: The UK takes more than its fair share of refugees

Fact: There are 117.3M forcibly displaced people worldwide. 49M are children. 71% are hosted in low and middle income countries. 66% are hosted in **neighbouring countries**

Facts: Compared to EU countries, the UK ranked 17th in terms of number of refugees received relative to population size

Fiction: Small boat arrivals are all economic migrants

Fiction: Asylum seekers in the UK live in luxury

Fact: Between April 2024 and March 2025, six in ten small boat arrivals were from just five nationalities: Afghan (15%), Syrian (11%), Eritrean (11%), Iranian (11%), and Sudanese (8%). All these countries have political persecution, active or recent war.

Fact: Asylum claims can take many months or even years to process. People seeking asylum are banned from working and are provided with £7 per day from the Government to cover the costs of their basic necessities incl travel

Fiction: Real refugees don't get on small boats

References:

GOV.UK. (2024). Safe and Legal (Humanitarian) routes to the UK.
Refugee Council (2025). Top Facts from the Latest Statistics on Refugees and People Seeking Asylum
UNHCR (2024). Figures at a glance
The Migration Observatory (2024). Migration to the UK: Asylum and Refugees

Facts: There are **no safe or legal routes** for anyone to seek refuge from: Iran, Yemen, Syria, Sudan, Gaza, Eritrea and other war torn countries