A LIFE-CHANGING CAB RIDE:   
Ravi’s story

Like millions across the globe, Ravi\* was spending the evening at home in Iran watching satellite TV. All of a sudden, he flicked across to SAT-7 PARS while channel surfing. The programme talked about the miracles and teachings of Jesus. Engrossed in the programme, he knew he had to learn more. The show hosts invited viewers to call the studio and displayed a phone number on the screen.

Ravi weighed his options. If he called the number, he could be interrogated or even put in prison. But an intense curiosity won him over and he grabbed a pen and paper to jot down the number.

At the worst possible moment, the power went out and the TV blinked off. Ravi was frustrated – how was he able to call the number now? With no other options, and so disheartened, he went to bed. But during the night, Ravi had an incredible dream about a man wearing a white robe. The man told Ravi, “I am Jesus Christ. Follow me.”

Ravi woke up instantly! He could not believe what he had seen. He had to find out more about this person named Jesus! He called his friend, Zolan\*, and asked if they could meet to talk about the dream. The friends decided to meet in a cab so they could talk privately, so as not to get caught and thrown into prison.

The next morning, sitting in the back seat of the cab, they quietly discussed Ravi’s dream. Ravi asked, “Zolan, what should I do? Jesus appeared to me. Where should I go?” But Zolan just replied with another question, “How should I know? Jesus appeared to you, not me. You have to find your own way.” Ravi was more confused than ever.

Unbeknownst to the friends, the cab driver was eavesdropping and chimed in on their conversation. He told Ravi, “Don’t worry; I know exactly where you can go to find answers. I will take you there.” The cab driver went on to explain that, much like Ravi, he had also had a dream of Jesus. He told the men that once he became a believer, he was a new person in Christ. They waited anxiously as he drove them to an undisclosed location. Ravi and Zolan looked at each other nervously. Was this man telling the truth? Or was he leading them to the authorities, and to a life of imprisonment? All they could do was wait…

The driver stopped in front of a building and led Ravi upstairs. There, in the room was a group of friendly-faced people. The cab driver had taken Ravi to a secret house church, one of thousands of small Christian groups meeting in the city! Believers at the house church gave Ravi a Bible and presented the Gospel to him, making him feel so welcome.

The search for truth had led Ravi to this pivotal moment, and he became a believer. Excited to learn as much as possible about his new-found faith, Ravi attended house church meetings and watched SAT-7 regularly.

It was no coincidence that Ravi turned the TV on to the SAT-7 PARS channel. It was no coincidence that the cab driver was a Christian. It was no coincidence that Ravi too became a Christian. God is working powerfully in places like Iran! How exciting! God had used SAT-7 as both the catalyst for Ravi’s spiritual search, and as a means for him to grow more mature in his faith as a believer.  
\*Names changed for security reasons