News 25 November 2026 | English article

5 Christians Killed and 12 Children Abducted in Borno Attack as 90 Children Now Held Captive

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"All about 2027 general elections"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Five Christians were killed and 12 children abducted when gunmen invaded the Rumirgo community in Askira-Uba Local Government Area of Borno State on Tuesday 17 November 2026. The attack ran from about 5:05pm until 8:00pm, and at least 27 homes were burned or destroyed, according to EYN News, reported by TruthNigeria on 19 November. Two more residents were injured in the raid.

The five people killed were named as Destiny Micah, Ijasini Bitrus, Bitrus Tsodi, Nini Yohanna and Yusuf Ahmadu. They were neighbours, church members, parents and children of a small farming community that had done nothing to invite what came that evening. By the time the gunmen left, five families were grieving, two people were hurt, and 12 children were gone.

Twelve children. That is the number that will stay with the families of Rumirgo long after the burned houses are rebuilt. A child taken in the evening does not come back by morning, and every hour since has been a question with no answer. The parents do not know where thier children are, who holds them, or what will be asked for them.

The Rumirgo abductions bring to 90 the number of children believed to be held captive from Askira-Uba. Seventy-eight schoolchildren taken from Mussa, 42 of them on 15 May 2026, and from Lassa, 36 on 29 June 2026, are still not free. Months have passed since those school raids, and the families are still waiting.

That is the weight of this story. Ninety children from one local government area, held somewhere, while their parents wait for news that does not come. The number is not a statistic to the people living it. It is 90 empty beds, 90 names called at roll call that get no answer, 90 families who wake up every morning and check their phones.

There are details in the reporting that remain unclear, and they matter. According to EYN News, the gunmen returned at around 1am and demanded a ransom of ?3 Million, about $2,200, from a woman in the community. It is not clear whether that demand was connected to the abducted children, and it should not be presented as though it was.

A separate report, based on Vanguard, says 11 people - 10 women and one man - were abducted in Pubaku village, in Rumirgo Ward, on the same day. The sources do not make clear whether this was the same attack as the Rumirgo raid or a separate one. The two accounts should not be merged into a single count, and the uncertainty is part of the story.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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