



*You*

SHARED  
THE HOPE OF

*God's  
Word*



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2020

# A YEAR OF IMPACT



**First sign language Bible in the world was released!**



**700 languages have the full Bible as of July 2020**

**91 countries received support for critical Bible relief ministries during the COVID-19 pandemic**



**500,000 U.S. families received Bible-based trauma healing resources during the COVID-19 pandemic**

**1 million Scriptures placed in the hands and hearts of the Military**



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friend,

This year, we reflect on what we've lost. Businesses shuttered. Churches scattered. Friends and family fell ill to COVID-19.

Through these difficulties, however, we fix our eyes on Christ and draw strength from His promises. Jesus says, "The world will make you suffer. But be brave! I have defeated the world!" (John 16:33b GNT).

With this promise, even as we grieve, we also celebrate all the good God has done this year and all He continues to do through your prayers and generosity.

**Bible translation** has made the Scriptures available to more than 5.7 billion people worldwide. **First Bibles** are reaching communities that waited decades to read God's Word. Our **Armed Services Ministry** is deploying millions of Bibles to the brave men and women serving our nation and to Military families sacrificing for our freedoms. **Bible-based Trauma Healing** groups are guiding people through their pain with the restorative power of the Gospel. **The Faith and Liberty Initiative** is helping Americans seeking answers in troubled times to find truth in God's Word.

The stories contained in these pages are a testament to the source of our hope: Christ has overcome the world! Together, you and I can continue bringing that promise to people who live without it.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink.

**Robert L. Briggs**  
President and CEO  
American Bible Society



# Thank You from New Bible Recipients



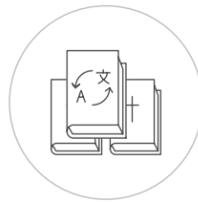
## 45 Bible Translations

Translation projects got closer to the finish line, thanks to American Bible Society partners.



## First Sign Language Bible

The complete American Sign Language Version of the Bible was released in November 2020.



## 700 Languages

As of July 2020, the full Bible is available in the heart languages of 5.7 billion people.

**“Not having the New Testament meant not having Jesus in my life,” says 18-year-old Samuel Oviedo Mora, who turned from drugs to God after learning about Jesus through the Bible.**



The Bible Society of Ghana is providing Christians in need with their own copies of Scripture, spreading God's Word and joyful smiles across the country. PHOTO BY: Andrea Rhodes, United Bible Societies

- HAVE SCRIPTURE ACCESS
- NEED SCRIPTURE ACCESS

There are 7 billion people alive today. As of this year, 5 billion people have access to Scripture in their heart language. We're almost there! But here's the challenge: those last 2 billion people speak 3,800 unique languages!



# Thank You from New Believers



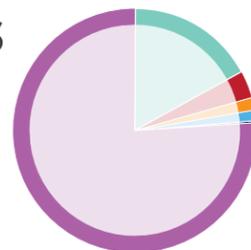
2020  
GOAL MET

## 1 Million Bibles for Latin America

Thanks to generous financial partners, 1 million Latin Americans received Bibles in 2020.

## 315 Million Scriptures Where Needed Most

Bible Societies from around the world partnered together to bring God's Word to the nations.



- CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA
- ASIA & OCEANIA
- AFRICA
- EUROPE
- NORTH AMERICA
- MIDDLE EAST



128

LANGUAGE GROUPS  
RECEIVED DIGITAL  
SCRIPTURE

## Scripture Goes Digital in 128 New Languages

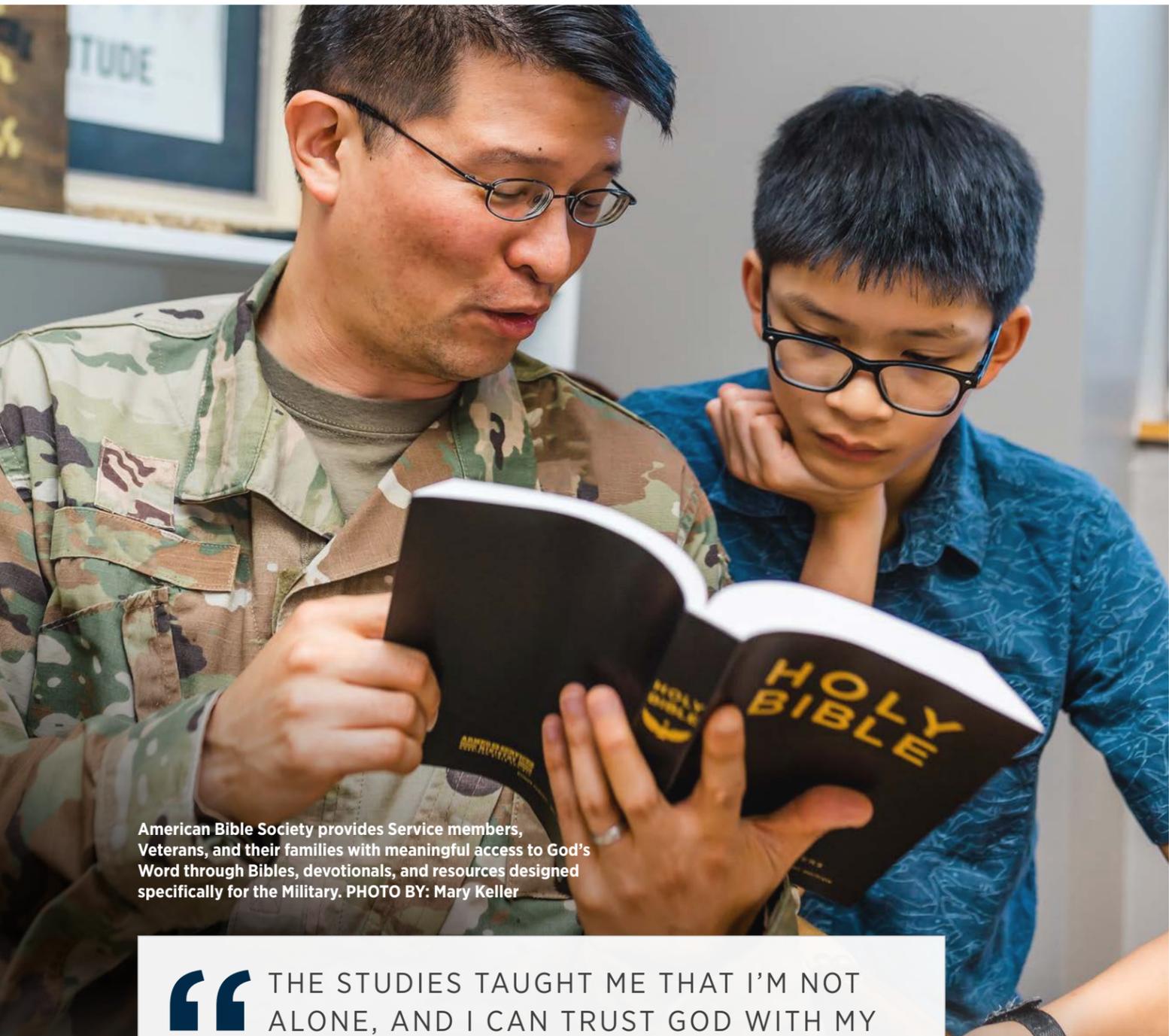
This year, we made 128 new translations of the Bible available through mobile apps, which allows millions of Bibleless people to download and read God's Word.



Digital Bible access allows people of all ages to encounter the truths of Scripture and learn about the love of God. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY: Mary Frank

## 1,238 PEOPLE GROUPS

NOW HAVE DIGITAL ACCESS TO SCRIPTURE IN THEIR HEART LANGUAGE THROUGH THE GLOBAL.BIBLE ONLINE PLATFORM.



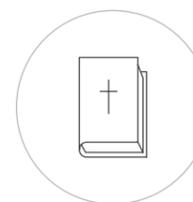
American Bible Society provides Service members, Veterans, and their families with meaningful access to God's Word through Bibles, devotionals, and resources designed specifically for the Military. PHOTO BY: Mary Keller

“ THE STUDIES TAUGHT ME THAT I'M NOT ALONE, AND I CAN TRUST GOD WITH MY FEARS AND DOUBTS. THIS HELPED ME SEE THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL.”

- NATHAN, UNITED STATES NATIONAL GUARD

# Thank You

## from U.S. Military Families and Veterans



### 1 Million Bibles

This year we put more than 1 million Bibles into the hands and hearts of U.S. Military, Veterans, and their families.



### 2,000 Chaplains

Chaplains are trusted spiritual guides for our Military and Vets. They serve on the frontlines of the spiritual battles our men and women in uniform must face. This year, our network of chaplains grew to more than 2,000 dedicated partners.



### 500 Church Leaders

Alongside chaplains, we depend on the church to minister to our Military brothers and sisters. In 2020, more than 500 church leaders partnered with us to share Bible resources with Military families.

# Thank You from Hurting People



## 112 Countries

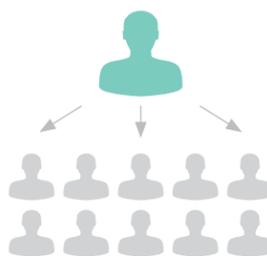
As of this year, Bible-based Trauma Healing ministries are active in 112 countries around the globe. That's 58% of the world!

## 3,068 Hearts Healed

This year, 3,068 people suffering from the pain of war, displacement, abuse, and other traumas found healing in Christ through our Trauma Healing ministry.



» **TRAUMA HEALING GOES DIGITAL:** Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we saw a decrease in the number of in-person trauma healing groups held this year. However, dedicated and innovative trauma healing partners launched virtual healing groups all around the world.



## 1,554 Trained Volunteers

Our Bible-based Trauma Healing ministry follows a “train the trainer” strategy. We equip trauma healing facilitators in church communities to train hundreds of volunteers to serve the hurting people around them. This year 1,554 compassionate volunteers were trained.



Teens in Sri Lanka received New Testaments and testified to the power of forgiveness after participating in a trauma healing group. PHOTO BY: Wilakshitha Mendis

“MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD CHANGED. WITH THE TRAUMA HEALING LESSONS, I FELT LIKE GOD UNDERSTOOD ME. I FELT FREE TO LIVE.”

- LESBIA GONZALEZ, TRAUMA HEALING PARTICIPANT



An architectural rendering of the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center is becoming reality as construction continues. The center is scheduled to open its doors in May 2021.



### The Beacon Sculpture

The Faith and Liberty Discovery Center's landmark sculpture, The Beacon, is one of the largest Corian® sculptures in America, weighing more than 25,000 pounds. Its three interlocking strands represent America's three founding documents: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bible.

# Thank You

## from Americans Seeking Faith and Liberty



### Grand Opening May 1, 2021

The Faith and Liberty Discovery Center (FLDC) is an immersive Bible center that will share how the Bible guided our nation's founders and continues to influence innovators and changemakers today.



### 250,000 Visitors

We expect 250,000 people a year to visit the FLDC and engage with the history-making story of the Bible's influence on America.



### 25,000 Square Feet

With 25,000 square feet of interactive gallery space to explore, guests will have a lot to discover about America's heritage of faith.



### \$53.5 Million Raised

89% of the funding needed to complete the FLDC has been raised, with \$17M invested in FY20, keeping us on track for our grand opening in 2021.

**“ Faith and liberty is the anchor in life . . . It's necessary for us to pay attention to the life of the Bible.” —Linda Bean, Faith and Liberty Discovery Center supporter**

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JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

**YOUR GENEROSITY (MINISTRY RESOURCES)**

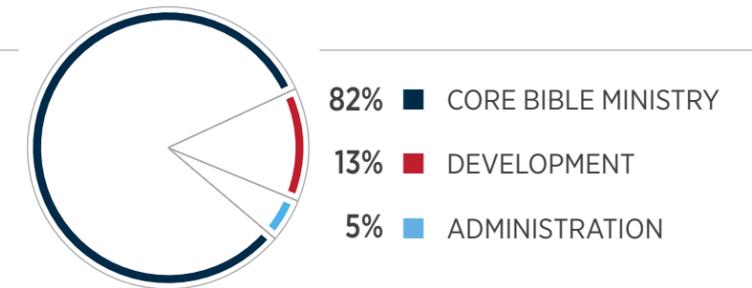
Direct contributions	49.9 M
Funds deployed from long-term investments	56.0 M
Planned gifts	8.6 M
Scripture sales	3.7 M
Other	2.1 M
<b>Total</b>	<b>120.3 M</b>

**OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT (MINISTRY INVESTMENTS)**

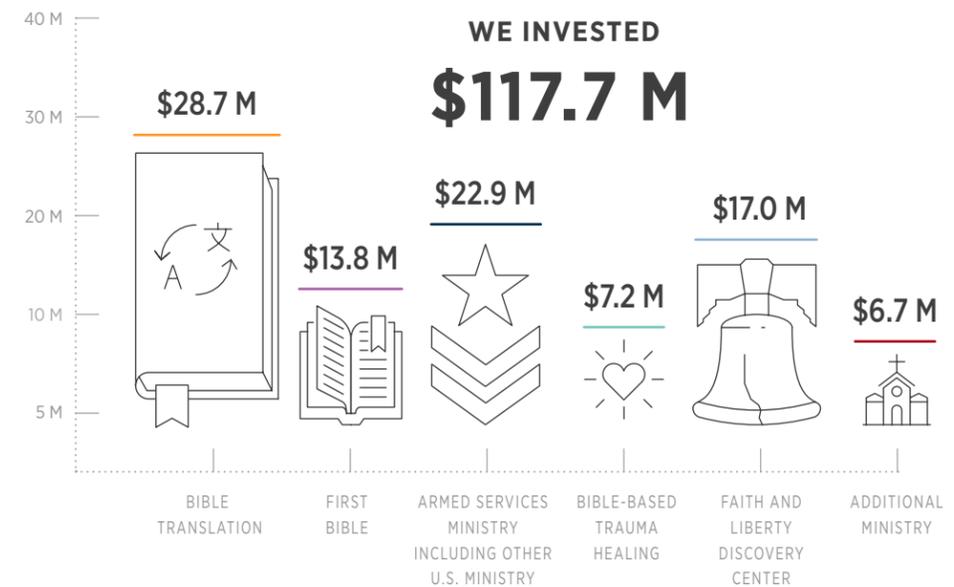
Core Bible Ministry	96.3 M
Bible Translation	28.7 M
First Bible	13.8 M
Armed Services Ministry including other U.S. Ministry	22.9 M
Bible-based Trauma Healing	7.2 M
Faith and Liberty Discovery Center Construction	17.0 M
Additional Ministry	6.7 M
Development	14.9 M
Administration	6.5 M
<b>Total</b>	<b>117.7 M</b>

# Thank You for Your Generosity

**GOD PROVIDED  
\$120.3 M**



**WE INVESTED  
\$117.7 M**



During this pandemic year, we were conservative in our budgeting. We are already dispersing the surplus, much-needed funds to the most strategic Bible ministries.

These figures have not yet been externally audited. Our audited financials are made available at the beginning of each calendar year at [abs.us/stewardship](https://www.americanbible.org/stewardship).



FOR THE EARTH SHALL BE FILLED WITH  
THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF THE LORD,  
AS THE WATERS COVER THE SEA.

*HABAKKUK 2:14 KJV*



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

[Americanbible.org](http://Americanbible.org)