

JOY

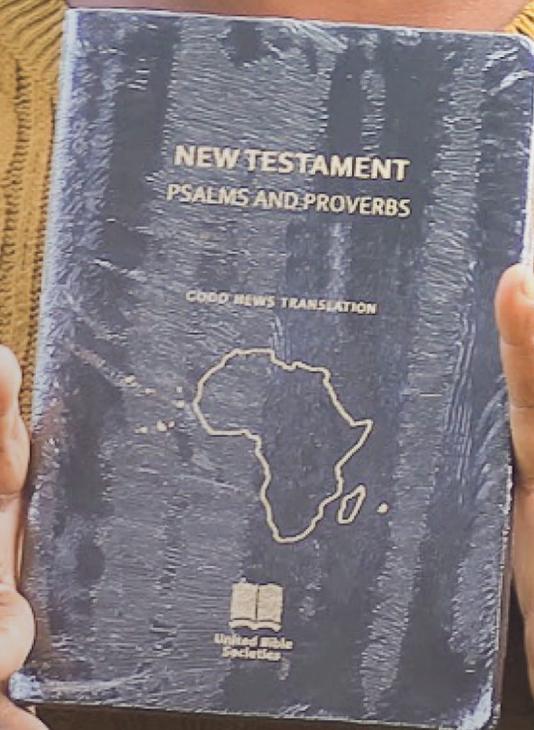
to the

WORLD



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

STEWARDSHIP
2022



OUR MISSION

IS TO MAKE THE BIBLE
AVAILABLE TO EVERY
PERSON IN A LANGUAGE
AND FORMAT EACH
CAN UNDERSTAND AND
AFFORD, SO ALL PEOPLE
MAY EXPERIENCE
ITS LIFE-CHANGING
MESSAGE.



ENJOY THE FRUIT OF YOUR LABOR

“But the fruit of the Spirit is ... joy.”

GALATIANS 5:22 ESV

Dear Fellow Steward,

As you flip through this year’s Stewardship Report from American Bible Society, all you’ll see are smiles.

Smiles in the remote villages of Indonesia. Smiles in the war-torn streets of Ukraine. A smile on the face of a military widow.

Why so many smiles, you ask? Well, the Bible assures us that there is a time for everything. That includes weeping and mourning as well as laughing and dancing.

The Bible also tells us that one of the fruits of the Spirit is joy. When you meet the God who created you, died for you, and cares for you—how can you keep from smiling?

You gave this gift of joy to thousands of people this year by sharing the good news of the Bible with them. On behalf of all those smiling people, I’m here to say thank you, friend. Thank you for giving sacrificially to this life-changing Bible ministry. Thank you for caring enough to tell others about Jesus.

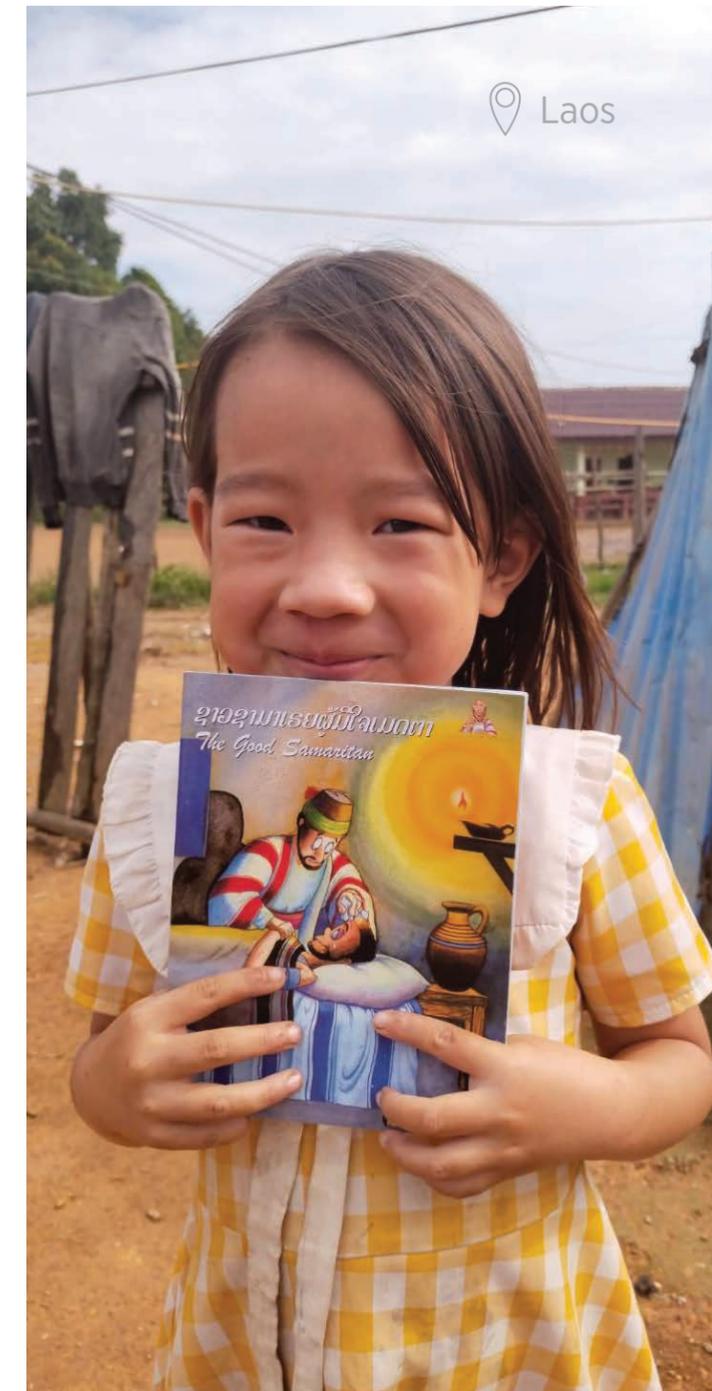
American Bible Society has been at this joyful work for 206 years and counting. We continue to rely on the steadfast support and prayers of gospel partners like you. I know there are many worthy causes that you can (and do) support. So, thank you once again for prioritizing the spread of God’s Word in our nation and around the globe.

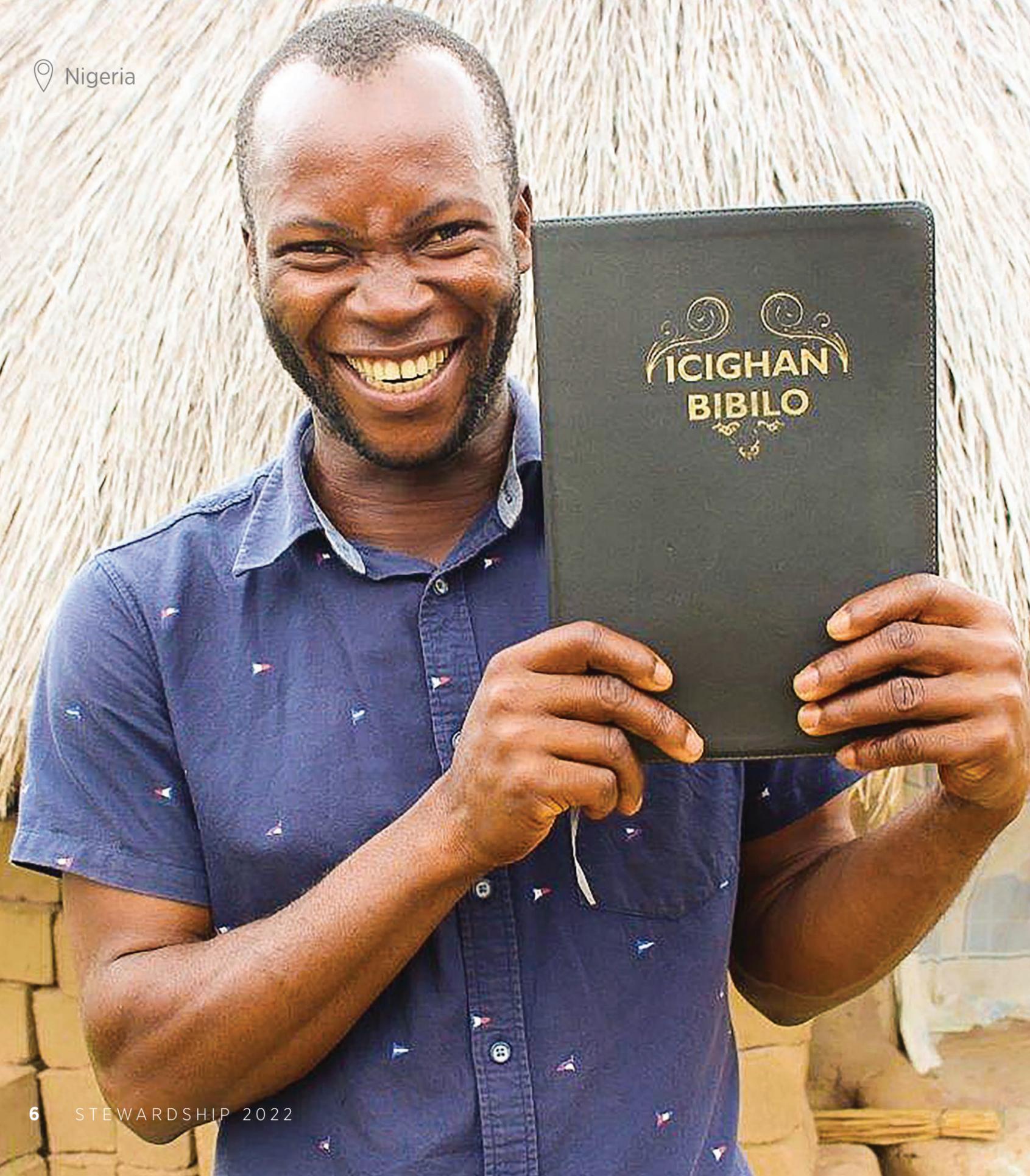
Your grateful partner,



David Viehman
Acting CEO, American Bible Society

*P.S. As you see the fruit of your stewardship,
I hope it brings a big smile to your face too!*





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MAKE A JOYFUL
NOISE TO THE LORD,
ALL THE EARTH!

PSALM 100:1 ESV

GOD'S WORD FOR THE UNREACHED

Dear Evangelist,

Tears of joy streamed down their faces.

Hundreds of Walak people had assembled at the entrance of their village in Papua—the easternmost province of Indonesia. Many were decked in bright garb, feathery headwear, and colorful face paint.

They were awaiting the arrival of the Word of God.

Through your faithful prayers and generous support, my Bible Society team in Indonesia recently had the privilege of delivering and dedicating a translation of the New Testament in Walak—a language spoken by approximately 30,000 people.

I'll never forget our long and tiring journey to the remote village of Ilugwa. After seven hours on two different airplanes, we drove up a rocky road for two hours until we reached a remote community with no electricity or cellular network. But I instantly forgot about our exhausting trip when I caught my first glimpse of the joyful throng that had gathered to receive the New Testament in Walak.

Indonesia





YOUR
IMPACT ON
UNREACHED
PEOPLE THIS
YEAR

102

Language Groups
Reached through Bible
Translation

77M

People Given Greater
Access to Scripture

16M

People Engaging with
First Bibles via Print
and Digital Copies of
Scripture

Their tears of gratitude and shouts of joy testify to the incredible power of Bible translation.

That glorious day became an *Ebenezer*—a moment to remember God’s faithfulness to the Walak people. The first New Testament in their mother tongue was about to be dedicated at a special service. The celebration had already been postponed three times due to COVID-19.

Finally, God answered their prayers!

During the dedication ceremony, the Walak people celebrated how God’s Word had brought peace to their community. Wars between villages had cost thousands of lives over the years. That all changed years ago during an initial Bible translation workshop for the Walak people. The meetings gave Walak leaders from different villages the opportunity to encounter short drafts of Scripture in their own language for the first time.

They were so moved by the gospel of Jesus Christ that, on the final day of the meetings, the rival chiefs agreed to make peace for good.

This story becomes even more incredible when you consider that the Walak people had received the gospel before—*just not in the language of their hearts.*



You provided the Walak people of Indonesia with their first New Testament. Now they can hear Jesus speak to them in their heart language!

Initially, the gospel was proclaimed to the Walak people in the Lani language by neighboring preachers. Although Lani bears some similarities to Walak, it was still a second language to the people. The seeds of God’s Word did not take root.

But with the publication of their first New Testament, the Walak people can now read God’s Word in the language of their hearts every single day. As one Walak leader put it: “Formerly Jesus came to our village speaking Lani to us. Now he speaks Walak to proclaim the good news to us.”

Friends, this glorious spread of the gospel was only possible through your prayers for the lost and your support of Bible translation projects like this one. Please continue to pray for the Walak people as the team prepares to embark on

an Old Testament translation project as well.

Thank you for expanding the borders of God’s Kingdom. Thank you for bringing the Bible to an unreached people. Thank you for loving and sharing God’s Word where needed most.

On behalf of those who are no longer Bibleless,

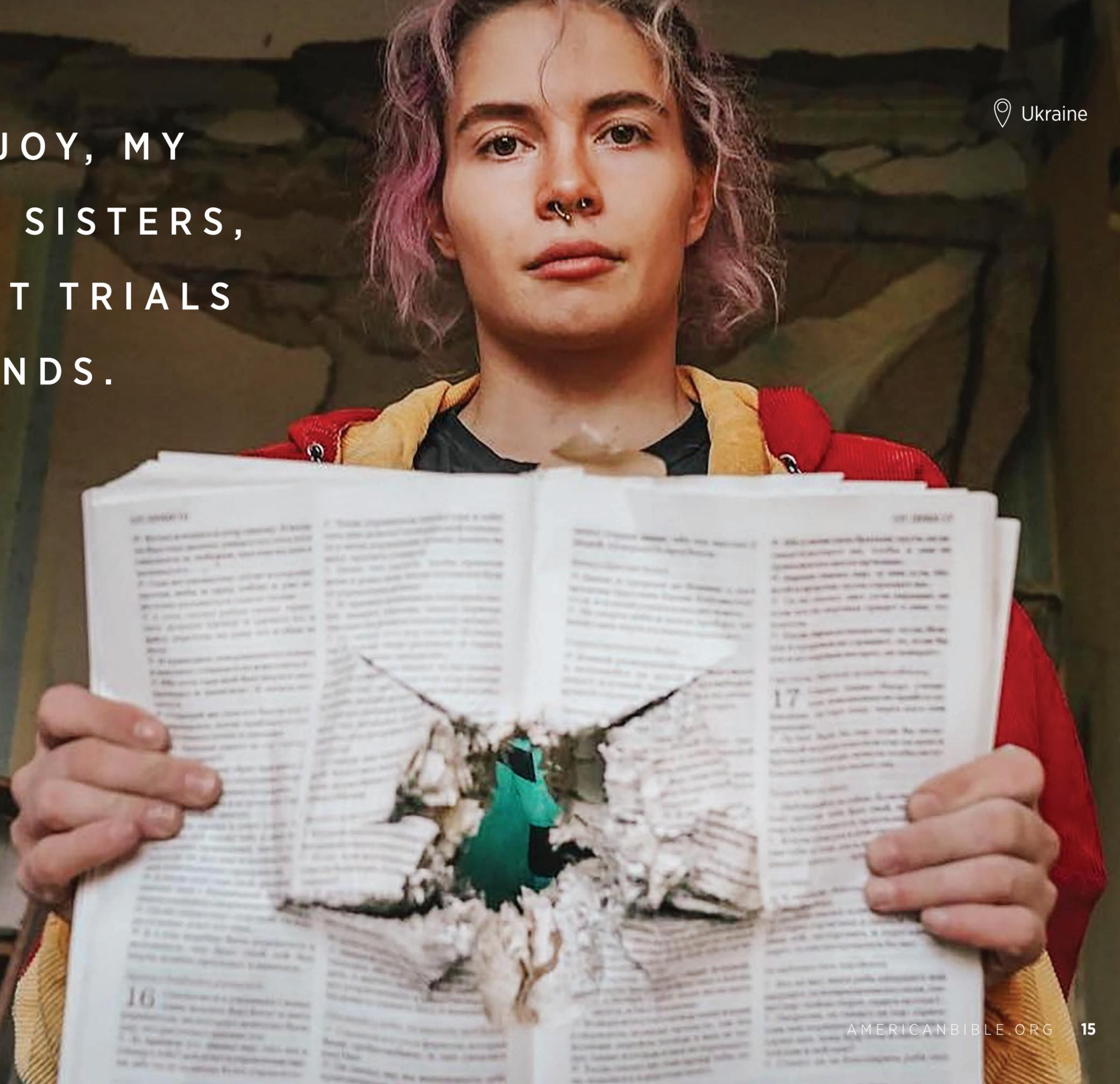
Anwar

Rev. Dr. Anwar Tjen

*Head of Bible Translation
Indonesian Bible Society*

COUNT IT ALL JOY, MY
BROTHERS AND SISTERS,
WHEN YOU MEET TRIALS
OF VARIOUS KINDS.

JAMES 1:2 ESV



Photographer: Oleksandr Prokopenko

GOD'S WORD FOR PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Dear Prayer Warrior,

What a year it has been.

Here in Ukraine, this year has felt like a movie about the end of the world. I never thought I would see my home city of Kyiv transformed into a warzone before my very eyes. I'm sure you've seen much of the devastation on your own news channels.

But during this horrific year, I'm humbled to look back and think about how God has used me—and how God has used *you*. My position with the Bible Society here has allowed me to minister to everyone from terrified children to brave soldiers to grieving parents. We talk together. We pray together. We weep together.

Friends from around the world often ask me: How do I explain the incredible resilience displayed by the Ukrainian people in the face of death and destruction? My answer is simple:

Thank God we have the Bible.



Anatoliy is one of the courageous leaders in Ukraine risking his life to provide the hope of God's Word to people in crisis. Thank you for continuing to give generously and pray earnestly for all of our brothers and sisters affected by the war.



YOUR IMPACT ON PEOPLE IN
CRISIS THIS YEAR

800K

Bibles Deployed to Suffering Ukrainians

32K

People Cared for through Trauma Healing

2K

Churches Equipped in Trauma Healing

That’s why I’m so eager to deliver this message of thanks to you—our faithful prayer warriors and generous caregivers. When the call went out to flood Ukraine with Bibles for suffering Ukrainians, you responded. Because of you, more than 800,000 new Scriptures have now been printed and deployed in the Ukrainian and Russian languages.

They are being distributed alongside life-giving aid like water, medicine, and bread—both within Ukraine and in countries receiving refugees. In fact, I’ve probably handed out thousands of Bibles myself!

Incredibly, no one has said, “No.” Everyone wants a Bible. One man even offered to exchange a loaf of bread for the Bible. “Please give me a children’s Bible,” he pleaded with me. “I have kids at home. I would like to read with them the Bible stories.” What a joy it was to assure this man that he could keep both the bread and the Bibles!

You see, when people are bleeding and hungry, the Bible becomes like first aid. It brings comfort and healing to their souls when all else gives way. I’m especially glad that we’ve launched our first round of trauma healing camps for Ukrainian children. These precious little ones have lost so much. They need to experience the love of Jesus now more than ever. The Bible can help them process their pain and find healing in the arms of their heavenly Father.

As we shine the light of Jesus in the midst of so much darkness, our Bible Society volunteers are now known as the “Angels of Kyiv” by our grateful countrymen. I am truly blessed to serve with such a courageous and compassionate team. Earlier this year, one of our Bible distribution vans was even struck by a Russian bullet. Please, please, please continue to pray for divine protection over our team.

I also feel that God has surrounded our ministry with a legion of generous “angels” from around the world. You are one of those angels! Thank you for sending physical and spiritual aid to the people of Ukraine in our hour of need. You are standing behind all those Bibles. We feel your love and your care.

And of course, along with my deepest thanks, I must also send you an urgent plea to continue praying for an immediate end to this terrible war. Pray for peace. Pray for healing. Pray for Ukraine.

From your grateful brothers and sisters in Ukraine,

Anatoliy

Anatoliy Raychynets

Deputy General Secretary

Ukrainian Bible Society

These Ukrainian children participated in a Bible-based trauma healing camp in the summer of 2022. Many of them lost parents or relatives because of the war. Your faithful support of this ministry reminded them of God’s unbreakable love for them in Jesus Christ. Thank you!



📍 U.S.A.

THE JOY OF THE LORD
IS YOUR STRENGTH.

NEHEMIAH 8:10b ESV



GOD'S WORD FOR AMERICA

Dear Hero,

We were almost there....

With my husband's retirement just around the corner, our little military family rolled into a new town for what would be our last military-related move. We were more than ready to settle down and start dreaming about life after the military.

But just six weeks after we got to town, my husband died suddenly. We were still house hunting, church hunting, and looking for schools. We had no community yet, and I felt completely isolated as I entered into the hardest days of my life.

That's when I heard about the Hero Squad program from American Bible Society's Armed Services Ministry. I honestly didn't know if we'd even qualify. On paper, we weren't technically an active-duty military family anymore. But I knew we needed something—anything—that looked like support.





Danita Jenae and her daughters want to thank you for sending them Scripture care packages through our Hero Squad ministry for U.S. Military families. For these selfless families, there is no lifeline like God's Word to help them endure the ups and downs of military life.

Tears well up when I remember when our first quarterly care package arrived at the front door. We felt seen for the first time in months. The gifts inside for my girls were so age-appropriate and meaningful. It felt like a breath of air and a pop of joy in our long season of isolation and sorrow. My girls oohed and aahed! They love working through the Hero Squad Scripture devotionals.

(The thrill of hope. A weary mama rejoices.)

Loss kind of comes with the territory in military life. Military kids lose friendships often. They lose their sense of security when a parent deploys. It's easy to feel lost in the shuffle.

But these Hero Squad boxes acknowledge that, in so many ways, the child is serving their country too. The gifts say, "Hey, we appreciate you! We see you! You matter. The heartbreak you've been through matters. We're praying for you and rooting for you!" And beyond that sense of

belonging, these care packages are also teaching kids how to engage with God in prayer and through the Bible in a practical, hands-on way.

You see, when faced with non-stop change, one thing never changes: God's Word. His character is always good and kind. When we lack security and stability on this side of heaven, we can always find it in his Word.

Now when I meet someone new and they ask me, "Where are you from?" I often tell them, "I'm from Hebrews 11." Because I'm longing for something greater. Because my citizenship is in the kingdom of God. Because heaven is my true home.

But right now, the Bible is my home. It's the closest thing to heaven I have on this side of eternity.

I want to thank everyone who has sown the seeds of this Hero Squad ministry. Generous

people like you might not always see the fruit of your ministry firsthand. We sow seeds in the dark and trust that the harvest will grow. May our family's story be evidence of the fruit of this ministry. These Hero Squad boxes remind military families that they are not forgotten and never alone. It is such a powerful ministry.

Well, as I write this, I feel those grateful tears welling up again. Thank you, friends, for meeting a big need and ministering to these kids who need constant, godly encouragement in their lives. You really are a hero to us!

From a grateful mother,

Danita

Danita Jenae

Hero Squad Mom, Gold Star Spouse, & Author of "When Mountains Crumble: Rebuilding Your Life After Losing Someone You Love"

YOUR IMPACT ON AMERICAN **HEROES** THIS YEAR

435K

Total Heroes Reached via Armed Services Ministry

25K

Military Wives Growing Stronger in Scripture

7K

Military Children Supported through Hero Squad

FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT

My special visit with Rev. Dr. Wilbert D. Gough
(1918–2022)



Dear Gospel Partner,

It's not every day that you meet someone who has been alive for more than half of American Bible Society's 206-year history. But that's exactly what happened when I spent an afternoon with the energetic Rev. Dr. Wilbert D. Gough shortly after his 104th birthday.

After building a friendship with Rev. Gough over the phone for many years, I was so excited to finally meet him in person! A Baptist minister, Rev. Gough and his wife, Florence, used to serve as local volunteers with American Bible Society.

"We used to host a lot of luncheons about the value and importance and mission and benefit of American Bible Society," Rev. Gough recalled.

Rev. Gough also remembered that from the earliest days of their marriage, it was a priority for he and Florence to include American Bible Society as a beneficiary in their estate plan.

"We had American Bible Society in our Will ever since we made a Will!" Rev. Gough told me with a twinkle in his eye. "The Word of God is everything to me. I live by it. Great is the Lord and his Word and greatly to be praised!"

It's no surprise to me that Rev. Gough included American Bible Society in the earliest draft of his Will. Nothing brought him more joy than sharing God's Word with others.

"Oh, I love to share the Word of God!" he exclaimed with the booming voice of a lifelong preacher. "In the Word of God, you learn the love and the grace and the goodness and the purpose of God for your life. You find the joy that there is in Jesus."

Even at 104 years old, Rev. Gough gave no indication that his mission of sharing God's Word was a thing of the past. His apartment



When you include American Bible Society in your estate plan, you ensure that future generations will meet Jesus in the pages of the Bible!

contained filing cabinets bursting with typewritten sermons and biblical poems of his own creation. In fact, he was affectionately known by neighbors as, "the guy who is always passing out sermons!"

"Every day is precious," Rev. Gough reminded me. "As long as I live, I want to advance the Word of God."

In God's perfect timing, Rev. Gough went home to be with the Lord just a few short weeks after my special visit with him. Until his very last breath, he faithfully advanced the Word of God.

And thanks to his legacy gift with American Bible Society, this faithful steward will be handing out Bibles through his estate—even while residing in glory. What a legacy!

If you'd like to plan your own legacy of sharing God's Word, we're standing by to help you,

Patricia

Patricia Nduati
Gift Planning Associate
American Bible Society

Plan your legacy of sharing God's Word with future generations.
Speak with one of our Gift Planning advisors today!

- Call: 1-800-549-3328
- Email GiftPlanner@AmericanBible.org
- Visit: [ABSGift.org](https://www.ABSGift.org)

FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022

YOUR GENEROSITY (MINISTRY RESOURCES)

Direct contributions	48.0 M
Funds deployed from long-term investments	28.8 M
Legacies	12.9 M
Scripture sales	4.0 M
Other	3.7 M
Total	97.4 M

OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT (MINISTRY INVESTMENTS)

Bible Ministry	76.5 M
Bible Translation	19.2 M
First Bible Provision	27.3 M
Armed Services Ministry	10.6 M
Bible-based Trauma Healing	10.7 M
Faith and Liberty Initiative (Construction and Programming)	6.9 M
Additional Ministry	1.8 M
Development	14.8 M
Administration	8.3 M
Total	99.6 M



Note: Figures presented represent unaudited operational activities in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

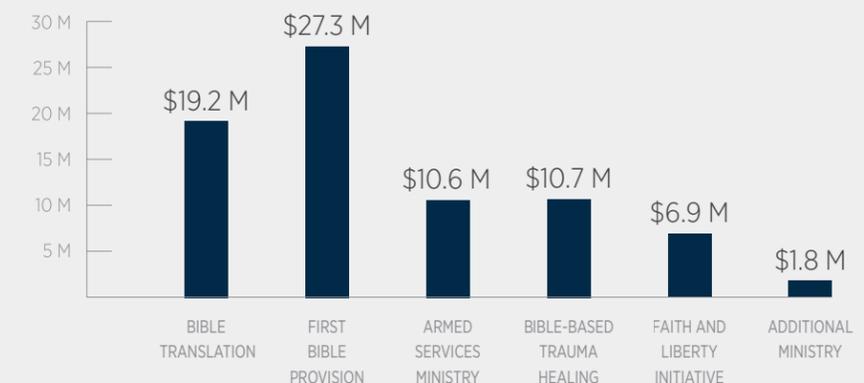
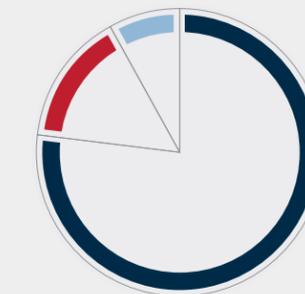
GOD PROVIDED

\$97.4M



WE INVESTED

\$99.6M



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

OUR BOARD

FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 20, 2021 - JULY 1, 2022

- Karen McDonald – *Board Chair*
- Katherine Barnhart – *Vice Chair*
- Mary E. Banks – *Secretary*
- Georganne Perkins – *Treasurer*
- Joyce Koo Dalrymple
- Tessie Devore
- Deborah Garcia-Gratacos
- Timothy Houseal
- George Kovoov
- Mark Matlock
- Theodore Nicolakis
- Ash Noah
- Mario Paredes
- Charles Shaver
- Kenneth Volpert
- David H. Wills
- David Viehman



Laos

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

HABAKKUK 2:14

