AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

# STEWARDSHIP 2024

DILAGANO DISHA KU WANHU WOSE

How wonderful it is to see a messenger coming across the mountains, bringing good news, the news of peace!

- ISAIAH 52:7 (GNT)





## Dear Gospel Partner,

Do you ever reflect on how different your life would be without the Bible verses you hold close to your heart?

I often think about the moments when God has uplifted me through verses like Philippians 4:13: "I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me" (GNT). Or the times he has reminded me, despite my shortcomings, that "there is no condemnation now for those who live in union with Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1).

Now, imagine having no access to a Bible for God to speak these truths into your life. Picture feeling ill-equipped to engage with Scripture, missing out on his promises. Or living in a world where no one in your circle ever advocated for the Bible, leaving you unaware of the incredible hope and guidance waiting within its pages.

This is the reality for millions of people today as they live without the transforming power of God's Word in their lives. They miss out on the promises that bring peace and the truths that reshape hearts and minds.

That's why your partnership with us over the past year has been so impactful.

Because of your generosity, more people than ever before now can encounter Scripture and hear God's voice, whether in moments of daily challenges or life-changing decisions with eternal significance.

As we reflect on the close of 2024, I want to thank you for the role you've played in helping people across the globe access and understand God's Word. Together, we are sharing the lifechanging message that they, too, can know the truth, and the truth will set them free (John 8:32).

Your support is making an eternal difference. Thank you for being a vital part of this mission.

With deep gratitude,

Jennifs Hollow

Jennifer Holloran President/CEO American Bible Society





#### He sets the time for sorrow and the time for joy . . .

#### ECCLESIASTES 3:4

This year, we met Kou, who overflows with thanksgiving for you—the people she calls her Bible Society family!

We visited Kou in her hometown of Doumpa, Liberia, where she told us how your gift of God's Word touched her life.

Last December, Kou's husband passed away. Beyond her own grief, Kou carries the burden of caring for her seven children alone. Her family lives in a mountainous town that can only be reached by narrow roads. Earning a living is difficult, and her husband's death meant that her older children needed to leave school. Worried about their future without a father, Kou turned to God's Word for answers and comfort.

"From the day of my husband's death, the Bible really helped me," Kou says.

Just a few years ago, there was no Bible in Maan, the language that Kou and her children speak. Like many others in her community, Kou has a basic knowledge of English. But to truly understand Scripture, that wasn't enough.

"In the English Bible, we didn't know some words, and we didn't know the meaning," Kou says. "When the Bible is in our own dialect, we know it and are able to explain it to other people so they understand it."

Thanks to you, Kou now has the Maan New Testament—and she's eagerly waiting for the release of the Old Testament! The Maan Scripture speaks to Kou's heart in a way she never experienced before. She read the New Testament over and over again after the loss of her husband, and shared its reminders of God's love and care with her children. Now, a year later, Kou counts her New Testament as a precious possession.

"When I'm lonely, I always read it," she says. "I feel comforted. It really helps me."

Through your faithful support, the Maan Old Testament translation project is underway. The translation team releases each new book of Scripture to the community, one by one. Kou rejoices each time she receives another piece of God's Word and can share it with her children. When we visited her, she was studying the timeless truths of Ecclesiastes for the first time, thanks to you!

"I teach my children and I read to them," she says. "Ecclesiastes says there is a time for someone to be born, and a time for them to die. That word encouraged me!"



Kou, a Maan language speaker from Liberia, holds her precious personal copy of the book of Ecclesiastes, newly translated into the language of her heart.

# **I** am able to tell others about Christ. And most of them have come to Christ! I say thank you to God for that!"

Each new piece of the Bible strengthens Kou's faith and equips her to encourage others in her community.

"Through the Maan translation, we can explain everything when we go to evangelize," she says. "I am able to tell others about Christ. And most of them have come to Christ! I say thank you to God for that!"

Through your gift of God's Word, Kou also has the hope that her children will all grow up to love the Bible and live according to its truths in every season.

"I have the hope that the Bible will change their lives," she says. "The Bible can encourage. Through reading it, we can be strong in serving the Lord."

Your faithful partnership with American Bible Society helped Kou and her family receive eternal words of hope: "God who lives in his sacred Temple, cares for orphans and protects widows" (Psalm 68:5). And through your provision of God's Word, you remembered Kou in her time of sorrow and gave her—and many other Maan speakers—a reason for joy!

"I am grateful to God for the Bible Society family, for our translation," Kou says. "It has impacted so many of us. Thank you! I am grateful to God for you!"



# Because you shared God's Word with those in need, you helped make an eternal difference in the lives of millions!

On behalf of the many people all around the world who received hope, healing, and new life because of the life-changing message of the Bible this year . . .

Thank you!



### From the United States of America

... for supplying members of the U.S. Military Community with Bibles and Scriptureengagement tools. Your passion and partnership provided U.S. military members, veterans, and their families with free militaryspecific Bible resources—allowing these great American heroes to draw strength, healing, and hope from the Bible in their hours of greatest need.



### From China 💡

... for bringing Scripture access and engagement to China's millions. Your commitment to increasing Scripture access in China enabled new believers, waiting Christians, and faithful Chinese pastors alike to study and understand God's Word, be strengthened in their faith, and resist the dangers of false teachings.



## From Venezuela 💡

#### ... for sending Scripture to underserved people groups. You empowered remote and indigenous ethnic communities like the Wayuu in Venezuela and others elsewhere around the globe with access to the gift of God's Word many for the very first time.



#### From Liberia 🦻

... for funding Scriptureengagement efforts for the Next Generation of children, teens, and youth. Your support answered the need for innovative, relatable resources to place the Word of God into the lives of countless young people from all walks of life in places like Liberia and others in need all around the world.

## From Vietnam 💡

... for making it possible for people to hear the gospel through the End-to-End **program.** You enabled people in places like Vietnam and others around the world to encounter God's Word through this highly effective, four-step journey of Scripture access and engagement.





### From Lebanon 💡

... for bringing Scripture-based trauma healing across the globe. Your support helped offer the hope of Jesus to broken spirits in places like Lebanon and other communities the world over in the face of painful losses, deep emotional wounds, and struggles with spiritual discouragement.



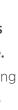
## From Colombia 🤊

... for supporting the work of Scripture provision for people groups and communities waiting to receive their first copy of Scripture. You carried out the Great Commission by helping to bring the Good News of Jesus to the people of Colombia-and others throughout the worldin the language they best understand.





... for providing support for ongoing translation efforts for those who do not yet have Scripture in their language. You blessed people in places like Chad and others around the world with precious access to the Words of Life by helping them to overcome barriers to Bible access and engagement through the provision of Scripture in their heart language.



#### From around the globe 💡

... for partnering in support of greater Scripture access through the development of digital Scripture translation, access, and engagement resources. Your giving accelerated the provision of invaluable digital Bible translations and other resources to reach those in need in America as well as the wider global community.

#### YOUR GENEROSITY: ONE NOTE IN GOD'S



Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands...

#### 1 THESSALONIANS 4:11 (NIV)

Dr. Neil Stipp is a father, organist, and award winning composer. He's written multiple scores, including a symphony that premiered in Eastern Europe in 2021. But when asked how he would describe himself, he says, "I'm simply an ordinary sinner, saved by grace." And just like you, Neil loves sharing God's Word!

Neil grew up in a Christian home, but it wasn't until the end of high school that his spiritual life truly deepened and he began studying the Bible more faithfully. As he honed his musical skills and earned his undergraduate and master's degrees in organ performance and his doctorate in music,

Neil continued to grow in God's Word-and saw how it changed his life.

"The Bible gives solutions for all kinds of problems in the life we live down here," Neil says. "I've experienced the love, joy, and peace of the Spirit in my life. I've learned to forgive people because the Lord has forgiven me. The Bible has had such an impact upon me. I want others to experience that same impact, and the only way I can do that is through sharing the Word of God."

Neil doesn't remember exactly how he heard about American Bible Society—he only knew that if he

gave, someone would receive a Bible. He became a Bible-A-Month<sup>®</sup> partner in 1979. To date, he's given more than 1,000 Bibles! Each month, he sees the difference he's making through American Bible Society's Bible-A-Month newsletter.

"I enjoy receiving the mailings and seeing the smiling faces," he says.

Neil wanted to ensure that those smiles wouldn't disappear on the day he went home to be with the Lord. But even more than that, he wanted to reach as many hearts as possible with the saving news of

**FF** I love the Word of God. The best way I can change Bible Society is here for!"

Jesus Christ. As he began planning how to invest his earthly treasures, American Bible Society was at the top of his list.

"I would like to see my assets provide the Bible and help translate the Bible. I want to make sure my assets are given to an organization that has remained consistent to the Word of God," he says. "American Bible Society has been consistent for more than 200 years. That's why I decided to include them in my trust."

Neil's parents set a good example by creating a trust, which easily transferred their assets to their children upon their passing. Now, Neil gets to do the same.

Thank you for answering God's call to share his Word! To continue your legacy of Bible ministry for future generations, speak with one of our Gift Planning advisors today!



"A revocable trust is the way to go," Neil says. "It's very simple: once you end this life, you can't take anything with you. Putting your assets in a trust avoids probate, and I would recommend that to anyone."

Beyond providing for his loved ones, Neil wants his trust to support ministries that are committed to sharing the gospel. "The Lord knew I would spend and prepare my assets wisely," he says. "He's been generous in giving me all that I need. I just want what he has given to be humbly used for what American Bible Society is doing. After all," he adds,

# lives is giving the Word to others. That's what American

paraphrasing John 3:30, "Christ must increase, and Neil Stipp must decrease."

Neil's favorite verse is 1 Thessalonians 4:11, which includes instruction to live a quiet life. But through his love for God's Word and commitment to sharing it around the world, Neil's life is one note in a symphony of God's grace and salvation for all people—a song that will continue for eternity! It's a legacy you can leave, too, as you consider how to bless others with God's Word beyond your time on earth.

"I love the Word of God," Neil says. "The best way I can change lives is giving the Word to others. That's what American Bible Society is here for!"

Call 1-800-549-3328 Email GiftPlanner@AmericanBible.org Pisit ABSGift.org

#### FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

YOUR GENEROSITY (MINISTRY RESOURCES)		
Contributions	\$31.5 M	
Legacies	\$3.8 M	
Scripture Sales	\$5.4 M	
Other	\$3.0 M	
Funds Deployed from Long-term Investments	\$38.2 M	
Total	\$81.9 M	

OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT	(MINISTRY INVESTMENTS)

Total	\$91.7 M
Administration	\$9.1 M
Development	\$10.9 M
Other Ministry	\$3.8 M
Digital Tools	\$8.6 M
Trauma Healing	\$7.0 M
Translation	\$16.2 M
Faith and Liberty Initiative	\$11.3 M
Armed Services Ministry	\$8.7 M
Bible Access/End-to-End	\$16.1 M
Bible Ministry	\$71.7 M

Platinum Transparency 2024 Candid. Note: Figures presented here and on the following page represent unaudited operational activities in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). SIGL ACCESS ARMED SERVICES FAITH & LIBERTY TRANSLATION

25 M

15 M

10 M

5 M

END-TO-END

MINISTRY

INITIATIVE

Note: Our audited financials will be made available in the Spring of 2025 at **americanbible.org/the-mission/financial-stewardship** 

HEALING

Note: Due to the closing of the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center and consolidation of ABS office space, in Fiscal Year 2024 we will recognize certain one-time charges in our audited financial statements. These charges are not included in the Ministry Investments figures above.



A M E R I C A N B I B L E . O R G 15

TOOLS

MINISTRY

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#### FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024

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For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

- HABAKKUK 2:14

