





"THANK YOU FOR YOUR AMAZING GENEROSITY THIS YEAR."

Dear Friends,

You remind me of Issachar.

In 1 Chronicles 12:32, we meet a bold group of leaders from the tribe of Issachar who "understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take."

Just like those fearless visionaries, you understand the critical times we live in:

- God is speaking to every tribe and every tongue. You are finishing the Bible translation task, helping all people engage with God's message of love.
- God is near to the brokenhearted. You are bringing Bible-based trauma healing to the 1 billion traumatized people who long for the healing touch of Jesus.
- God is changing lives across our nation. You are calling our nation back to the guiding light of Scripture in the face of division and skepticism.

I pray you see the fruit of your labor in these pages.



Because of you, wounded soldiers know that God loves them. Traumatized women are smiling for the first time in years. Ancient people groups have finally met the Ancient of Days.

God is on the move, friends!

Thank you so much for your amazing generosity this year. We are so humbled to serve with you in these wondrous and momentous times.

Serving Together,



ROY L. PETERSON President and CEO American Bible Society

GOD IS

speaking to every tribe and every tongue.



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GOD IS

near to the brokenhearted.

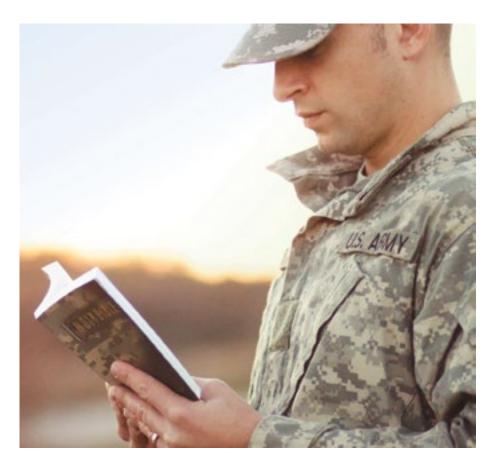


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GOD IS

changing lives across our nation.



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ANCIENT

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F U T U R E

YOU ARE STRENGTHENING
THE NEXT GENERATION OF
BELIEVERS IN ETHIOPIA

R A N S L A T I O

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GE'EZ

The encyclopedia will tell you that Ge'ez is a dead language. It will tell you that Ge'ez, an older cousin of Latin, is no more than a dry, liturgical language used in Ethiopian church services and holy readings.

But whoever wrote the encyclopedia has never walked the streets of Addis Ababa in the early morning, hearing ancient Psalms reverberating off the half-finished walls of the city.

They've never sat with a father reverently reading a Ge'ez manuscript to his family—teaching his children about God's undeniable role in their culture and their lives.

They've never entered the courtyard of Saint Gabriel's Church and bowed with hundreds of others to the words of God spoken in a language that predates Jesus's time on earth.

YOU ARE PRESERVING CHRISTIANITY IN ETHIOPIA

Ge'ez is so much more than a lifeless, academic language. Ge'ez is the very heartbeat of Christianity in Ethiopia.

That's why it is so significant that you helped translate the New Testament into Ge'ez last year. You are helping preserve the faith of a country for generations to come.

"Donors who support this project are maintaining Christianity in our country," says General Secretary of Bible Society of Ethiopia Yilma Gethahun.

Which is really saying something.

Surrounded by Muslim nations, Ethiopia has endured as one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Christian nations on the planet. Some trace the roots of Christianity in the country all the way back to the Ethiopian eunuch referenced in Acts 8:26–40.



Ethiopian priests joyfully receive the New Testament in Ge'ez. This new translation will help their churches engage deeply with God's Word.

AN ANCIENT TEXT HAS NEW LIFE

The Ge'ez Scriptures have an impressive ancestry of their own. Ge'ez Scripture manuscripts dating back to the fifth century exist in fragments across the country. To engage with these Scriptures, Ethiopian churches use everything from unwieldy books that cover half a desk to incomplete Scripture portions handwritten on parchments or animal skins.

In short, the church has struggled to find unity around a single, accessible Bible translation.

That all changed through your generous support. Church scholars from across Ethiopia came together last year to compile these manuscripts—reconciling the differences and creating one cohesive New Testament text. And translators are already hard at work on the Old Testament.



"DONORS WHO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT ARE
MAINTAINING CHRISTIANITY IN OUR COUNTRY."

Yilma Gethahun, General Secretary of Bible Society of Ethiopia

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NOW EVERYONE HAS A BIBLE THEY CAN READ

With this new publication, the ancient truths of God have become accessible to the broader Christian community.

"The portions of Ge'ez Scriptures that existed were only used by priests, and the faithful could only listen to them reading from the Word," explains Endrias Kacharo of the Bible Society of Ethiopia. "With the publication of this New Testament, the Ge'ez Scriptures have become accessible to all."

Church leaders in Ethiopia are keen to use the Ge'ez New Testament to nurture the next generation in their knowledge of Ge'ez and God.

"It is now our mandate to protect and preserve [our] Christian heritage and pass it onto the generations," says Bishop Aregawi, leader of the dioceses in Southern Gonder.

This passing of the torch will require more Bible translation work, enabled by the new Ge'ez Bible. Like Latin in the West, Ge'ez is a mother language to most of Ethiopia's 81 languages—only 9 of which have access to the Bible. So the Ge'ez Bible provides a strong foundation for future Bible translation work in Ethiopia and beyond.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Thank you for supporting this critical work. Because of you, a "dead" language is bringing the living hope of Jesus to a new generation in Africa.



By supporting projects like this one, you are a vital part of illumiNations—a movement of generous Christ followers and ministries committed to finishing the task of Bible translation by 2033.

For the first time in history, we have a roadmap to give all people access to God's Word in our lifetime. We praise God for the unprecedented unity and generosity that fuel this incredible movement of God's Spirit!









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THIS YEAR, YOU SUPPORTED
FIRST BIBLE TRANSLATION
PROJECTS IN

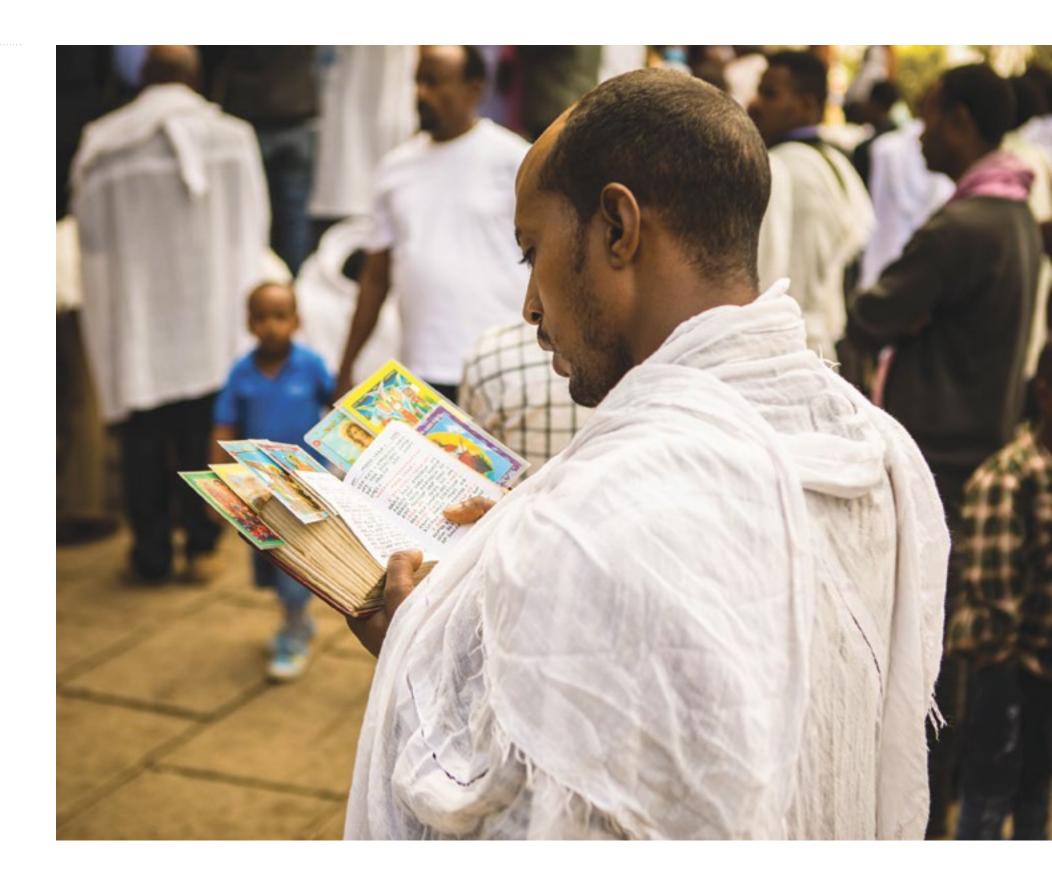
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LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY

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PEOPLE

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE
PEOPLE HEARING GOD SPEAK TO
THEIR HEARTS FOR THE VERY
FIRST TIME!





CHINA

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Fifty years ago, the Bible was a banned book in China.

Hungry for God's Word, believers would meticulously hand-copy entire books from a single shared Bible. Even after the Cultural Revolution in 1976, Bibles were still nearly impossible to obtain.

That's what makes Chinese believers like Li Wen living, breathing miracles.

LI WEN WAS AN ATHEIST

"I grew up as an atheist," says Li Wen, a Christian typesetter in Eastern China. "There should be no chance for me to know God and his Word."

Li traces her unlikely faith back to her early days as a typesetter at Amity Printing Press. The world's largest Bible printing press—and the authorized Bible press for the church in China—was established 30 years ago through the amazing generosity of partners like you.

"I MADE A DECISION TO

FOLLOW JESUS, AND THE JOY

OF BELIEF FILLED MY HEART."

"I was well-acquainted with the Word of God, even before I came to faith," Li says. "It was my job to help typeset the first portion of [the] Chinese Bible. Still, I only read the Bible as part of my work."

But in the months that followed, Li learned more about the truth of the Bible and its call to follow Jesus. Coworkers shared the gospel with her and invited her to Bible studies. Yet, she hesitated.

GOD SPOKE TO LI

Then one day, God spoke directly to Li's conflicted heart.

As she read Mark 5:36, the words of Jesus seemed to jump off the page just for her:

"Do not be afraid. Just believe."

Suddenly, all her fears—of her friends' rejection, of her parents' disapproval—ceased to stand between Li and her Savior.

She describes that day as the greatest moment of her life.

"God's grace came upon me," she says.
"Finally I made a decision to follow
Jesus, and the joy of belief filled
my heart."

Li started going to church. She got baptized. Although none of her family or friends were Christians at the time, their objections to her new faith ceased as they observed the remarkable change in her life.

Amity Printing Company, the world's largest Bible printing press, was established 30 years ago through the amazing generosity of partners like you.



"THANK YOU, FRIENDS.

IT IS YOU WHO MAKE IT POSSIBLE

TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

AROUND THE WORLD."

Li Wen, Amity Printing Press

A MIRACLE IN CHINA

Li's miraculous conversion mirrors the miraculous existence of Amity itself.

With the support of American Bible Society partners and other generous Bible Societies, Amity Printing Press was founded and constructed between the years 1986 and 1987.

Since then, Amity has printed more than 180 million Bibles—Bibles that have spread the light of God's Word into hearts throughout China and around the world.



BANNED BOOK TO BESTSELLER

Today, Amity produces about 14 million Bibles each year through your continued prayers and support.

"From a banned book, [the Bible] has become the best-selling book in China," says Kua Wee Seng, director of United Bible Societies China Partnership.

"That has helped fuel the explosive growth of the church in China over the past 30 or 40 years."

As God's Word gets into hearts and homes in China and around the world, millions of people are choosing to believe in God, just like Li Wen did.

An unlikely convert working in an unlikely Bible factory, Li says she is so thankful for your generous support.

"Thank you, friends," Li says. "It is you who make it possible to share the Word of God around the world."

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YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES MIRACLES HAPPEN!

Establishing Amity Printing Press required a timely investment from our 1816 Founders Fund—a strategic ministry fund formed through the legacy gifts of faithful partners like you. Thank you for making ministry miracles possible through your prayers and support!



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Jorge's smile says it all: God's Word is alive and flourishing in Cuba.

After decades of a severe Scripture shortage, a new generation of Cubans and their families are now engaging with Scripture and rediscovering the God of the Bible.

Your generous support of the Million Bible Mission brought more than 1 million new Bibles to the island of Cuba between 2013 and 2018. Jorge, a leader in the Methodist church, finally has Bibles for his congregation—and a reason to hope for the future.

THE CUBAN PEOPLE NEEDED BIBLES

Jorge remembers growing up in Havana during a time when only two out of every five Cubans owned a Bible.

"I used my grandmother's Bible," he recalls. "So it was like using something borrowed, but of course it was something that meant a lot to me."



"THE BIBLE
IS LIKE A
GEM THAT
YOU LOOK
AFTER.
SOMETHING
TO HELP
YOU LIVE
EACH DAY."

At the time, Bibles like the one belonging to Jorge's grandmother were nothing short of a miracle.

Back in 1959, the new Communist government clamped down on religion in Cuba.

Many Christian leaders were sent to work camps. Church-run schools were shut down. Believers were forced underground.

By the time restrictions began to loosen 30 years later, the few Bibles remaining in Cuba were either worn out or damaged by the island's humidity.

ONE MILLION NEW BIBLES FLOODED CUBA

With restrictions eased, church leaders in Cuba were anxious to see the Cuban people reading God's Word again.

But with limited resources, it would be hard to make a dent in the need. The years of Scripture drought could only be reversed through a large influx of Bibles.

You made that dream a reality!

On June 2, 2018, the Million Bible Mission concluded with an unforgettable day of celebration and worship in Havana.

Jorge attended the celebration with his family. Cubans from 62 denominations queued up to receive a Bible.

Jorge, who also picked up a new Bible, called it "a great treasure" that changes lives.

"It's like a gem that you look after," he says. "Something to help you live each day."

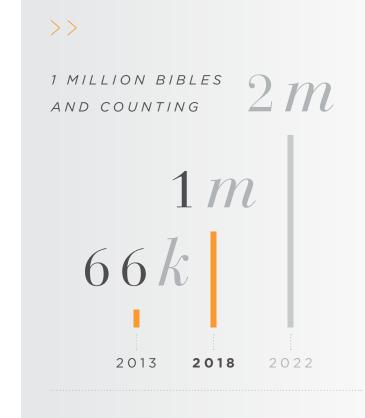
As a representative on the Cuban Council of Churches, Jorge wants God's Word to influence all Cubans—not just the 60 percent or so who profess faith.

For that to happen, more Bibles are needed. A second phase of the Million Bible Mission will bring another 1 million Bibles to Cuba by the end of 2022 with the help of partners like you.

JORGE SAYS "THANK YOU!"

In the meantime, Pastor Jorge and his fellow Cubans will continue to smile whenever they think of you—the generous friends who brought them the treasure of God's Word.

"[I want] to profusely and eternally thank everyone at the Bible Society, wherever they are, for supporting this project," Jorge says. "My gratitude to them is endless."



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Miss Jessica, as her students call her, wasn't one to sit still.

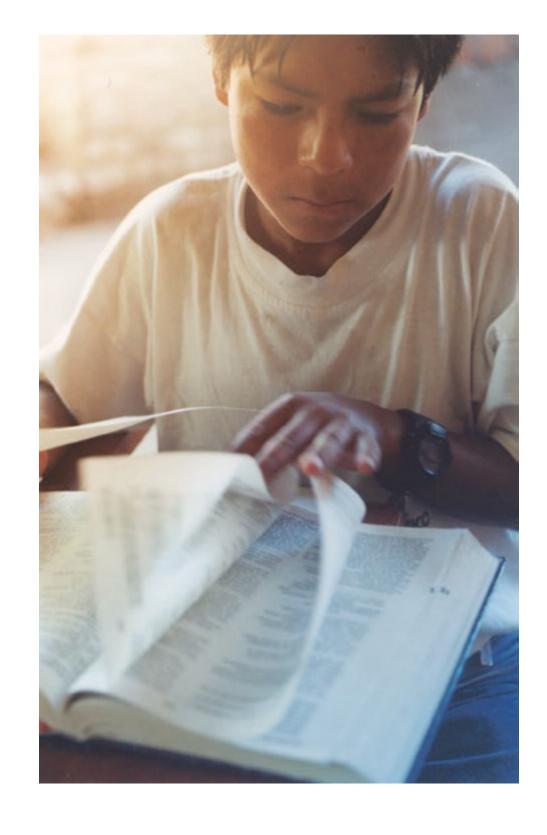
During the week, she taught at Cruz Saco, a private school in Peru. After work, she had her own studies and family time.

But under the surface, Jessica sensed that her busyness was merely distracting her from a deeper void in her life.

JESSICA FELT CUT OFF FROM GOD'S LOVE

"I didn't have a very good relationship with God," Jessica admits. "I only used to read the Bible when I was at church." Her church offered discipleship classes, but she was too busy to attend.

The longer Jessica's life went on like this, the more depressed she became. It was as if a dark curtain had come down on her life.





A community in Peru learns how to use an Audio Scripture player called a Proclaimer.

"I felt all alone," she says. "I cried inconsolably. I was anguished and felt that no one understood me."

YOU REINTRODUCED JESSICA TO JESUS

One day, Jessica visited the Peruvian
Bible Society in search of resources for
her students. The staff offered her a
Proclaimer™—an Audio Scripture device
created by Faith Comes By Hearing®.

As Jessica listened to the New Testament for herself, she rediscovered the loving relationship with God she had been longing for so desperately. "When I heard it, I knew it was what I needed," Jessica says. "I felt God talking to me."

After hearing God speak to her heart through the Proclaimer[™], Jessica decided to join a Scripture listening group. As she sat still and listened to God's Word, her joy began to return.

Her relationship with God blossomed.

"I know that he healed me and brought me through the trial," Jessica says.

At the culmination of the Scripture listening group, Jessica received her

very own Bible through your generous support. Now, armed with the Word of God, she memorizes Scripture and disciples her students.

NOW SHE HAS STRENGTH FOR THE FUTURE

Jessica even brings the Proclaimer™ to class, so her students can listen to the New Testament too. "Now they see me as more than just Miss Jessica," she says. "They know they can trust me as a spiritual counselor."

"WHEN I HEARD IT, I KNEW IT
WAS WHAT I NEEDED.

I FELT GOD TALKING TO ME."

Today, Jessica is still a busy woman. But thanks to you, God's Word is at the center of her life.

From darkness and loneliness, she is now a light for Christ in her community.

Jessica's favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13:

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

"When I feel weak, when my own strength has given out," Jessica says, "the Word encourages me and lifts me up." YOU SHARED GOOD NEWS
THROUGH A KINGDOM
PARTNERSHIP CALLED
END-TO-END LAST YEAR

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PEOPLE ATTENDED

BIBLE LISTENING GROUPS

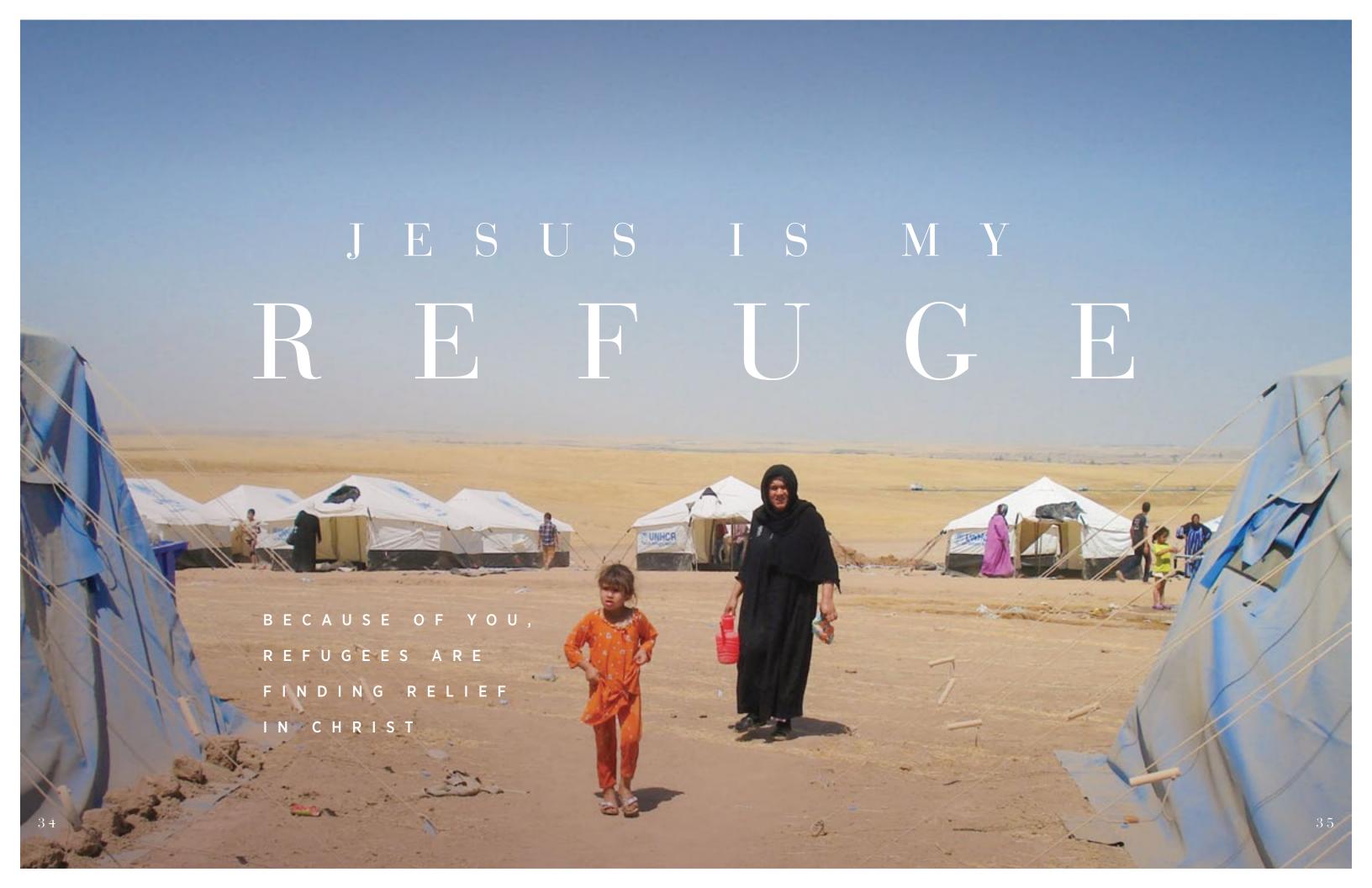
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PEOPLE RECEIVED
PERSONAL SCRIPTURES

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PEOPLE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS





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Liqua and her family never expected to be refugees.

They had a normal life in Iraq: school, jobs, holidays with family.

But one morning, Liqua's community received a blood-chilling announcement: By 2 p.m., the area would be under the control of ISIS.

With just hours to escape, Liqua had few options for her husband, sons, and herself.

"There were no cars to rent," she remembers. "We didn't take anything with us. We just walked away."

LIQAA FLED FOR HER LIFE

She and her family fled from Mosul to the city of Irbil, 50 miles away. But it became too dangerous to stay there as well. Exhausted, they fled again—this time, crossing the border into Jordan.

As her family stumbled into a foreign country with nothing but the clothes on their backs, Liqua questioned God's love for her.

"I used to blame God for everything that happened to us," she says. "We asked God why he's doing these things to us."

YOU BROUGHT HER HOPE

But God had not forgotten Liqaa. Through your prayers and support, Liqaa joined a Bible-based trauma healing group at a Jordanian church.

Liqua listened to the stories of others who had experienced loss. She lamented the life she had left behind. Finally, she let go of her grief and ran to Jesus for healing.

In the final session, Liqua wrote down her darkest memories and burned them in front of a cross, symbolizing Christ's healing love for her. "We felt relieved and refreshed," Liqaa says. "All my pain was gone."

Today, Liqaa and her family regularly attend church.

They are learning more about Jesus, and their faith has grown.

"We go to church with our pains and life pressures. But when we pray with the Christians there, we find relief," she says. "Then we feel that everything is okay and that Jesus is with us."

Above all, Liqua finds strength in God's Word.

"WE FELT RELIEVED AND
REFRESHED. ALL MY PAIN
WAS GONE."

Her favorite passage is Psalm 50:15:

"Call on me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

"JESUS IS MY REFUGE"

Liqaa's day of trouble isn't over yet. She is eager to leave Jordan and establish a stable future for her children.

But thanks to your prayers and support, she now knows where to run for deliverance.

"In my suffering, I pray to God," she says. "Jesus is my refuge and my Savior."

SCOPE OF BIBLE-BASED TRAUMA HEALING TO DATE

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R N A D E

Bernadette's husband died. Then she fell silent.

For two years, she didn't speak to anyone in her Rwandan community. No words of love for her children before bedtime. No laughter over a shared joke with a friend. No prayers of heartache and hope to her Savior.

GOD GAVE BERNADETTE HER VOICE BACK

Everything changed when her neighbor Apollonia saw Bernadette's pain. Thanks to your support, Apollonia was trained in trauma healing. She knew how to help people tell their story of suffering and bring their heartache to Jesus.



"I'M SMILING NOW, BUT BEFORE I DIDN'T SMILE EVEN WITH MY OWN CHILDREN."

Apollonia read Bernadette these words from the book of Job:

> *If my troubles and griefs were* weighed on scales,

they would weigh more than the sands of the sea,

so my wild words should not surprise you.

Job 6:1-3

Bernadette realized she wasn't alone. Job shared her grief. Apollonia shared her grief. Jesus shared her grief.

Slowly, Bernadette's heart softened, and her mouth opened.

"I'm grateful to God because I came together with others and said what's painful to me," she shares. "I'm smiling now, but before I didn't smile even with my own children."

WE INTERVIEWED THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE

Since American Bible Society joined the trauma healing cause ten years ago, we've heard countless stories just like Bernadette's.

Thanks to an evaluation project concluded in 2018, we can now demonstrate that these powerful stories of life transformation are not isolated occurrences. They are the typical outcomes when traumatized people encounter the healing love of Jesus through Bible-based trauma healing.

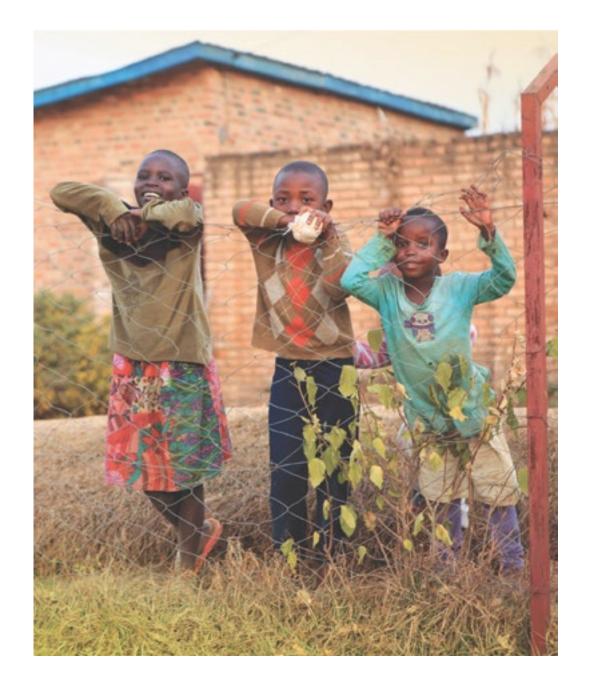
Here's how the research worked.

Over the course of two years, we asked nearly 3,000 trauma healing participants in 26 countries to share what they experienced. Surveys were conducted before, immediately after, and several months after the healing group.

OUR RESEARCH UNCOVERED SOME AMAZING RESULTS

Those who came in with the worst trauma symptoms saw transformative improvements. Not only did their trauma symptoms subside, they also grew closer to God and engaged more deeply with his Word.

While we are still analyzing the depth of data from this study, it is abundantly clear that Bible-based trauma healing effectively guides traumatized people toward personal healing, reconciliation with God, and renewed relationships with their neighbors.



PORTRAITS OF HEALING

Our research also gave us a window into the lives of trauma healing participants several months after they completed a healing group.

They feel more at peace.

Memories of their trauma haunt them less than they did before. Nightmares turn into restful nights.

They embrace God's presence in their lives.

Participants turn to God's Word more frequently for courage and guidance. Their anxious thoughts turn to hopeful prayers for the future.

They are restored to their communities.

Participants get plugged into a church. They help others in their community who suffer from trauma's wounds.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING **JOY TO BROKEN HEARTS!**

Thank you for carrying God's message of joy and restoration to people around the world who thought they were beyond God's grasp. Your support helps people like Bernadette long after they leave their trauma healing groups.

Now they can tell their stories in full the pain and suffering, but also the love and belonging. Now they can live with hope for their future. Now they can say along with Bernadette, "I am smiling!"

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GOD'S WORD RESTORES HOPE

Drawing closer to God in Scripture with others reduces trauma symptoms.

CLOSENESS TO GOD



SYMPTOMS



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"You will never amount to anything."

Joe can still hear the words of his drug-dealing father from long ago.

Sometimes, the words hurt even more than the physical blows.

Those words drove Joe to prove his father wrong. To beat him at his own game. To be a better pain-inflictor, enforcer, and dealer.

"You had to beat the man to be the man," Joe says.

"THEY SAY THAT YOU ALWAYS TURN TO

GOD IN YOUR DARKEST HOUR-AND THERE

WAS NO HOUR DARKER THAN THE ONE

THAT I WAS FACING."

But sometimes, "the man" gets caught. Joe spent 10 years in and out of prison, which only fueled his violent habits.

"I got into a lot of fights and hurt a lot of people to make a name for myself in case I ever did come back to prison," Joe explains. "Then I wouldn't have to go through all that again."

JOE WAS A HEARTLESS CRIMINAL

Even with a wife and two children to care for, Joe fell back into a life of crime.

"I had my wife tell me that I was the most heartless person she's ever met," Joe says. "She said I was a monster."

Another arrest sent Joe to prison again. But this time, the doors would stay locked for a long time.

Facing multiple 10-to-life sentences for drug possession and distribution, Joe had nothing but time to ponder his dark and uncertain future.

"They say that you always turn to God in your darkest hour," Joe says. "And there was no hour darker than the one that I was facing."

THEN HE MET JESUS IN JAIL

Joe decided to join a Christian discipleship program led by prison chaplains—a miraculous choice given his old, negative view of faith.

"I was kind of a bully towards people with Bibles," Joe admits. But like Saul on the Damascus Road, Joe became a brand new man when God spoke to his heart.

"Once I learned about the Bible ... I was saved," Joe says. "I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior."

Although Joe attended Bible studies, it wasn't until he completed a Bible-based trauma healing class organized by our partner Good News Jail & Prison Ministry that he fully experienced the life-changing message of God's Word.

For the first time, Joe acknowledged the painful things that happened to him growing up. He saw clearly how he had been hurt, and how he had hurt others.

God changed Joe from the inside out.

Instead of looking for a fight, Joe looked for strength in Scripture. He became one of those people with Bibles he used to mock; he's read nearly the entire thing.

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After God healed his wounded heart, Joe became a chaplain's assistant. Here he is with Chaplain Joy Stevens, one of our faithful ministry partners.



"OUR GOD IS A FORGIVING GOD.

HE MAKES EVERYTHING POSSIBLE."

NOW JOE IS SERVING CHRIST

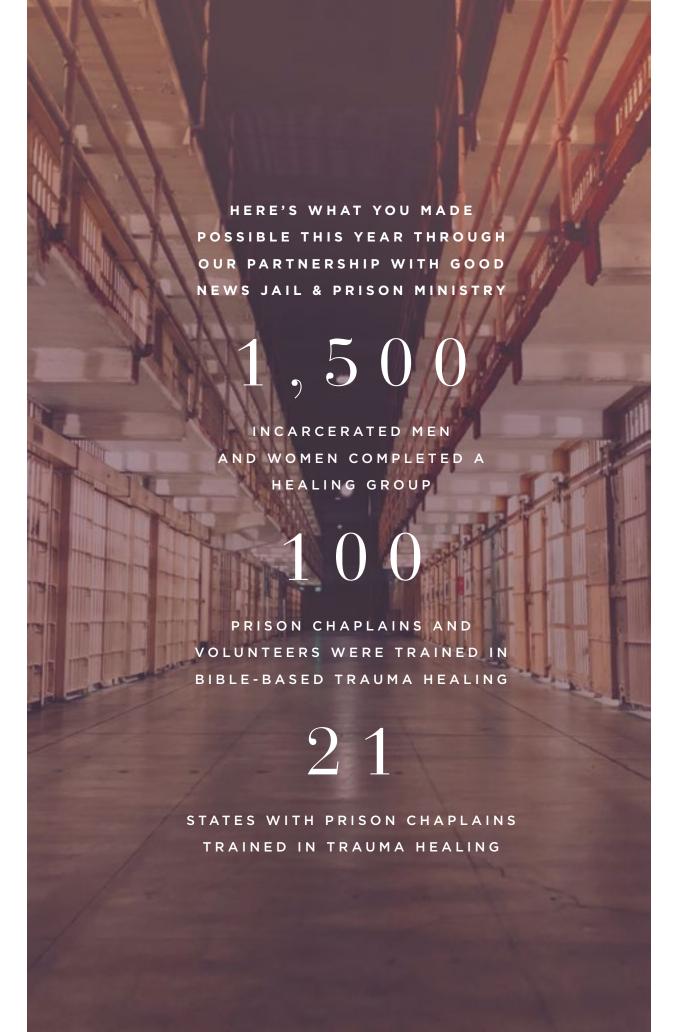
Thanks to your love, prayers, and support, Joe broke down and let go of the guilt and shame he'd been carrying.

Day by day, he is healing from the wounds caused by his earthly father and finding peace in the love of his heavenly Father.

Joe even secured a shorter prison sentence as a direct result of his spiritual growth. A judge was amazed by the life change evidenced by Joe's Bible-based trauma healing journal. Now Joe, who was facing a lifetime in jail, will be out of prison in about 10 years.

In the meantime, Joe is serving Jesus as a chaplain's assistant. He is encouraging his fellow inmates to find healing and forgiveness in Christ, just like he did.

"Our God is a forgiving God ... he makes everything possible," Joe says.
"No matter what situation you're in, he'll always bring you back to him ... That's what he did with me."





G T R A N S F O R M I N G Changing lives across our nation



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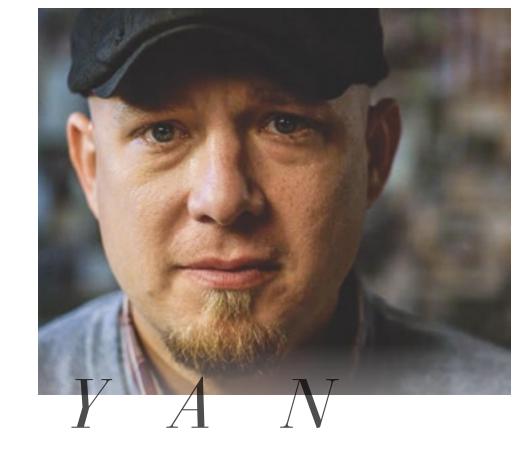
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"I don't like to share my story," says U.S. Army Veteran Bryan Flanery. "I don't like to be the center of attention."

But 20 Military Veterans take their own lives every day. And to help them experience God's love, Bryan is sharing his story with anyone who will listen.

BRYAN WANTED TO DIE

It all started when a violent armored vehicle crash in Afghanistan brought Bryan's military service to a screeching halt.

"Here I am, 26 years old, with a partial knee replacement, partial hip replacement, plates and screws down my neck—and still looking at more surgeries," says Bryan, describing his injuries.



"I KNEW I
WAS GOING
TO TAKE
MY LIFE."

"NOT EVERYBODY IS CALLED TO FIGHT, BUT EVERY ONE OF US IS CALLED TO SERVE."

Bryan's physical scars were nothing compared with the wounds in his mind and heart.

"They said, 'This is your new norm,'"
Bryan recalls. "'You'll never be the man
that you once were."

Even with a wife and two children at home, Bryan felt like his future and identity had collapsed.

"I knew I was going to take my life," Bryan remembers.

By God's grace, Bryan's suicide attempt failed when someone walked into his room and dialed 911.

GOD TURNED HIS LIFE AROUND

That's when Bryan encountered the unfailing love of his heavenly Father.

He started attending a Bible-based group for Veterans called REBOOT Combat Recovery—one of American Bible Society's trusted ministry partners.

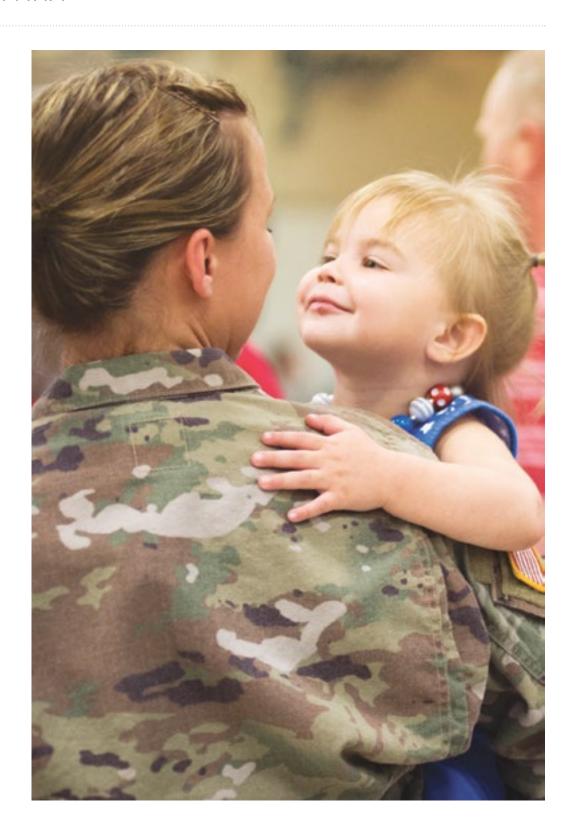
"It changed everything," Bryan says.
"For the first time, I realized I
wasn't alone."

Bryan gave his life to Christ. He found healing from the trauma he suffered. He soaked in the truth of God's Word.



Thank you for helping Troops and Veterans connect with a Christian community that cares for them!

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"I REALIZED MY ONLY HOPE TO GET MYSELF OUT OF MY STRUGGLE IS KNOWING GOD'S WORD."

"I realized my only hope to get myself out of my struggle is knowing God's Word," Bryan says.

"When the enemy knocks on your door and tries to tell you you're useless—that this world is better off without you—you know that's not the truth," he says. "You know what God's Word says about you."

JESUS LOVES OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS

Today, you are sharing that truth with U.S. Veterans like Bryan through a new online resource called *Never Alone*, which launched in early 2018.

"Most people that are going to take their life don't wake up at 9 o'clock in the morning and decide to do it," Bryan explains. "They search for answers."

Now, when Veterans search the Internet with questions of doubt and sadness, they are prompted to visit NeverAlone.Bible. The site contains Bible study materials and testimonies, including Bryan's, that reinforce God's loving presence during the hardest moments of military life.

The website even connects suffering Troops and Veterans with local support groups, like the REBOOT community that turned Bryan's life around.

"If seeing a simple video can let them know that somebody cares ... that Jesus Christ himself cares so much," Bryan says, "then it's worth it."

YOU ARE CALLED TO SERVE

Thank you for serving and praying for the men and women who faithfully serve our country. As Bryan reminds us, even a little support makes a big difference in someone's hour of need.

"Not everybody is called to fight, but every one of us is called to serve," he says. "Sometimes serving is as easy as pointing somebody to a website like American Bible Society's."



SEE THE STORY

Watch Bryan's powerful video testimony at **NeverAlone.Bible**

VISIONARIES

TWO INSPIRING LEADERS
RALLY SUPPORT FOR
THE FAITH AND LIBERTY
DISCOVERY CENTER

PHILADELPHIA

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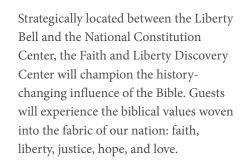
Linda Bean and Doug Pederson come from very different walks of life.

One is a New England business owner and member of the L.L. Bean family.

The other is a Super Bowl champion and head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles football team.

But in 2018, Linda and Doug both used their influence to rally support for the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center— American Bible Society's forthcoming attraction set to open in 2020 on Independence Mall in Philadelphia.





Here are some memories from the two watershed fundraising events made possible by these generous partners. Thank you to all the friends and families who are helping bring the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center to life!





"THIS DISCOVERY CENTER OPENS UP AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE THAT VISITS TO SEE THE HISTORY OF OUR GREAT CITY OF PHILADELPHIA-BUT ALSO HOW THE BIBLE IMPACTED . . . THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT SHAPED THE BELIEFS OF OUR COUNTRY."

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LEFT: Historian Joseph Loconte gives an inspiring talk on the Bible's influence in American history. American Bible Society partner Linda Bean hosted the dinner at our Philadelphia headquarters.

CENTER: Thanks to generous partners like you, the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center is set to open in 2020.

RIGHT: On November 29, 2018, Linda Bean (red shirt) joined with her fellow financial, ministry, and civic partners to break ground on the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center. "I WANT TO SPEND MY TIME ON EARTH MAKING A

DIFFERENCE-FOR THIS GENERATION AND THE NEXT.

I BELIEVE THE FAITH AND LIBERTY DISCOVERY

CENTER CAN MAKE THAT DIFFERENCE."

Linda Bean, American Bible Society Prayer and Financial Partner



REVIVING THE DREAM

CHURCHES IN CHARLOTTE SEEK RACIAL HEALING IN THE SCRIPTURES

U.S. CHURCHES

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JIM & VERNIE

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s death. To carry on his dream, 16 churches in Charlotte, NC, came together in 2018 for a four-week Bible study program on race and the Bible.

Their task was simple, but profound: read and discuss God's Word with a church that doesn't look like yours.

Two participants shared how God moved in their midst when their churches, though diverse, approached the Bible as one unified body of Christ. Vernie White attends Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and Jim Shaffner attends Meyers Park Presbyterian Church.



WHAT MADE THIS

EXPERIENCE SPECIAL

FOR YOU?

JIM:

The wonderful thing about this particular program is that it's centered on the Bible. It's really just a Bible study. You start with Bible verses and you address the hard questions from there. That starts the dialogue.

VERNIE:

We opened up the Scriptures and had very intense conversations. But with the group we have, it was not really awkward or difficult. All of us were very open to being brutally honest and committed to learning about each other's race.



"AND NOW I GIVE YOU A NEW COMMANDMENT: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER."

John 13:34



A diverse fellowship of Charlotte churches gathered in April 2018 to celebrate the spiritual legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

U.S. CHURCHES

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In addition to Charlotte, church partners in Phoenix, Philadelphia, Kansas City, and New York also led Scripture engagement efforts to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.



WHAT DID YOU LEARN
ABOUT EACH OTHER?

VERNIE:

One takeaway for me is that white folks didn't really understand black folks. And black folks didn't understand white folks. We were so used to staying in our own little communities. Now we are really beginning to understand each other because we are getting to know each other. We are building relationships.

JIM:

I've heard firsthand about the racism they have experienced. I knew it was out there, but when you hear it from someone that has suffered firsthand, it's so meaningful. It surprised me, but then again, it doesn't surprise me at all.



HOW DID YOUR

THOUGHTS OR

BEHAVIORS CHANGE?

JIM:

I am thinking a lot more about racial justice than I was 20 years ago. There's not enough awareness. There's a lot of noise on TV, but there's not enough awareness of systemic racism and the racial divide.

VERNIE:

A lot of it has to do with living what the Bible says. Change comes from just imitating Christ in your everyday life. It's not enough to know "What Would Jesus Do?" You also have to "Do What Jesus Did!"



HOW DOES THE

BIBLE BRING RACIAL

HEALING?

VERNIE:

The Bible is not pleasure reading. It's for learning and correcting and making changes. If you believe what the Bible says, you know that nobody is any better than the other. God made man in his image. There is no difference between Jew, Gentile, or anyone else.

JIM:

Can you imagine trying to heal the racial divide in America without the Bible? Where would we start? My African American neighbors in Charlotte worship the same God that I do. They were saved by the same Jesus. They read the same Bible that I do. Why not start there?

CELEBRATING MLK IN
CHARLOTTE AND BEYOND

73k

PEOPLE REACHED VIA
FACEBOOK CAMPAIGN

5 k

VISITORS TO MLK SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT SITE

200

PEOPLE IN CROSS-CULTURAL
BIBLE STUDIES

69

68 not start there?



TRANSLATION

Pray for God to move mountains as we seek to give every language group on the planet access to some Scripture by 2026.

TRAUMA HEALING

Pray for the 1 billion traumatized people who yearn to experience the healing touch of Jesus in his Word and through his church.

TRANSFORMING AMERICA

Pray for God to transform our nation as we work to see 100 million people in the U.S. engaged with God's Word by 2026.

Join our online prayer community today!

abs.bible/prayer

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"OUT OF THE FULLNESS OF
HIS GRACE HE HAS BLESSED
US ALL, GIVING US ONE
BLESSING AFTER ANOTHER."

John 1:16



Your generosity reminds me of Jesus.

Thank you for blessing others with the good news of Christ's love. We know there are many worthy organizations that seek your support, and we are so honored that you've entrusted us with your time, talent, and treasure.

Your gifts made an incredible difference for the kingdom of God this year.

Thanks to our strategic 1816 Founders Fund, which covers our operating costs, 100 percent of your gifts went directly to serve our brothers and sisters in the U.S. and around the world. We know they are eager to say "thank you" for helping them experience God's love.

Our 1816 Founders Fund also allows us to multiply the impact of your giving. For every \$1.00 you gave through donations and Scripture sales this year,



\$1.19 went out to share God's Word with those who need it.

As a careful steward of your God-given resources, it brings me deep joy to share this impact with you. We pledge to continue stewarding your funds with the utmost integrity and transparency, knowing that your trust is a precious gift.

Thank you again for the privilege of partnering with you as you live out God's high calling on your life. Let's praise our Lord Jesus for the great things he has done!

In Christ,

Mark WILSON, CPA, MBA Senior Vice President and CFO

$G \ E \ N \ E \ R \ O \ S \ I \ T \ Y \qquad R \ E \ P \ O \ R \ T$

JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018 (\$ MILLIONS)





100% OF YOUR GIVING GOES
DIRECTLY TO BIBLE MINISTRY!

$B \ O \ A \ R \ D \quad o \ f \quad D \ I \ R \ E \ C \ T \ O \ R \ S$

JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

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Angela Williams (Vice Chair) // President and CEO, Easterseals, Inc.

Katherine Barnhart (Secretary) // Barnhart Crane & Rigging; Co-founder, GROVE Group

Mark Hanson (Treasurer) // Owner and President, Sea Foam Sales Company

Nick Athens // Co-founder and Co-owner, EcoVac Services

Thomas Bindley // Founder, Bindley Captial Corporation

Rebecca Contreras // President and CEO, AvantGarde

Mark A. Dennis Jr. // President and CEO, McGaw YMCA

Tessie Güell DeVore // President, Bible Media Group; Vice President of Publishing, OneHope

Peter Handal // President and CEO, SmartSource Computer & Audio Visual Rentals

Cheryl Holland // President, Abacus Planning Group, Inc.

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George Kovoor // Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Darien, CT

Karen Louie // Executive Director and Audit Manager, JPMorgan Chase

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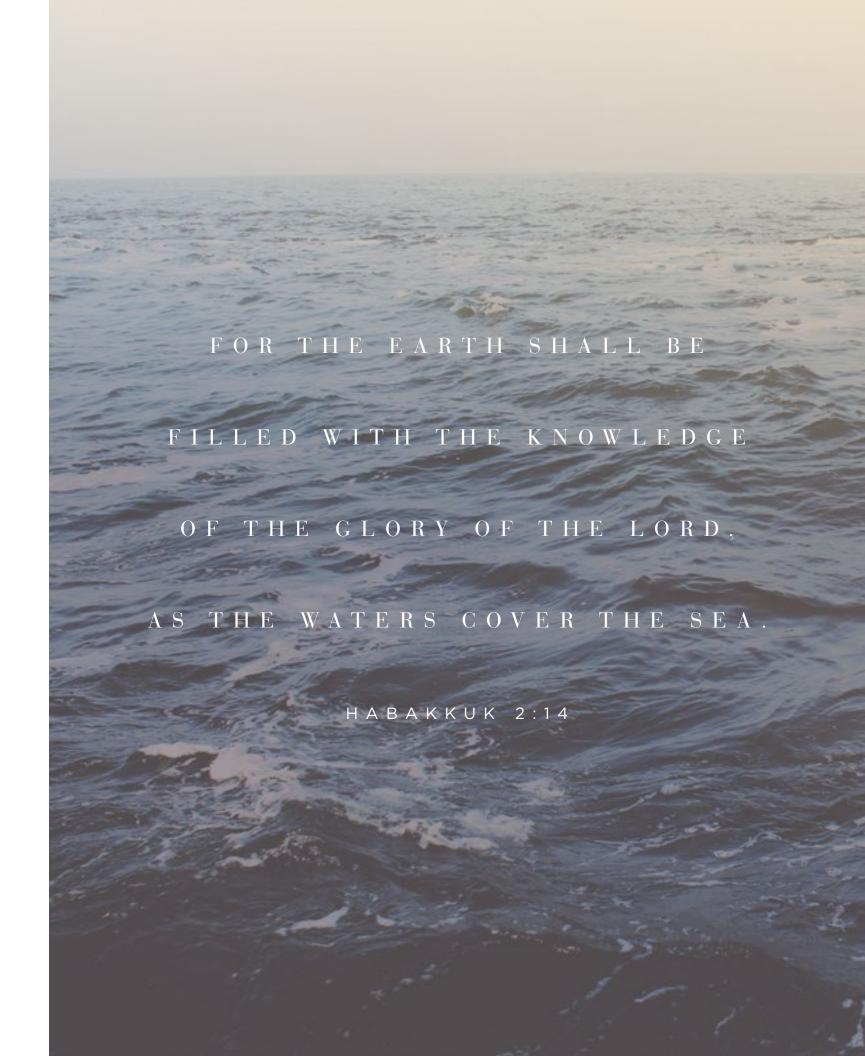
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