# Steventeship 2021

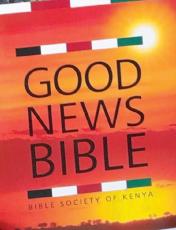
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AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY







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"In the same way let your light shine in front of people. Then they will see the good that you do and praise your Father in heaven."

MATTHEW 5:16

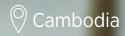
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# Stewarding the Gift of God's Word

Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well."

- 1 Peter 4:10 CEV

#### Dear Friends,

"Use your gift well."

That's how the Bible defines stewardship in 1 Peter 4:10. Simple yet challenging! As you might guess from the title of this report, *stewardship* is a responsibility we take very seriously here at American Bible Society, especially with 223,000 faithful Christ followers like you helping us invest an incredible \$110 million in Bible ministry during our 2021 fiscal year.

We praise the Lord for your outpouring of generosity! Your sacrificial gifts of love would have amazed us in a normal year, let alone amid the uncertainty of a global pandemic. Thank you for trusting us as your partners in gospel ministry.

And look what God did with the gifts you gave! Through Bible translation and provision, unreached people groups have now been reached with the good news of God's love and salvation. Through Bible-based trauma healing, people in crisis encountered a God who is near to the brokenhearted. Through our Armed Services Ministry and Faith and Liberty Initiative, our nation has been called to walk according to the lamp of God's Word once more.

As you read through the big numbers in this report—nearly two hundred Bible translation projects funded, thousands of trauma healing groups conducted, millions of Bibles provided, and *over a billion people* reached with the gospel—you'll also come face-to-face with the first-person testimonies of individual lives changed, all made possible through your passionate prayers and generous giving. Because of your gifts of love and through the work of the Holy Spirit, people from all around the world can now declare:

#### "Yes, Jesus loves me—the Bible tells me so!"

So thank you, dear friend, for being such a faithful steward of one of the most wonderful gifts that God has entrusted to you: the precious gift of his holy Word. Let us celebrate together as we look back on this year, for God has done great things!

Yours in Christ,



**Robert L. Briggs** President and CEO

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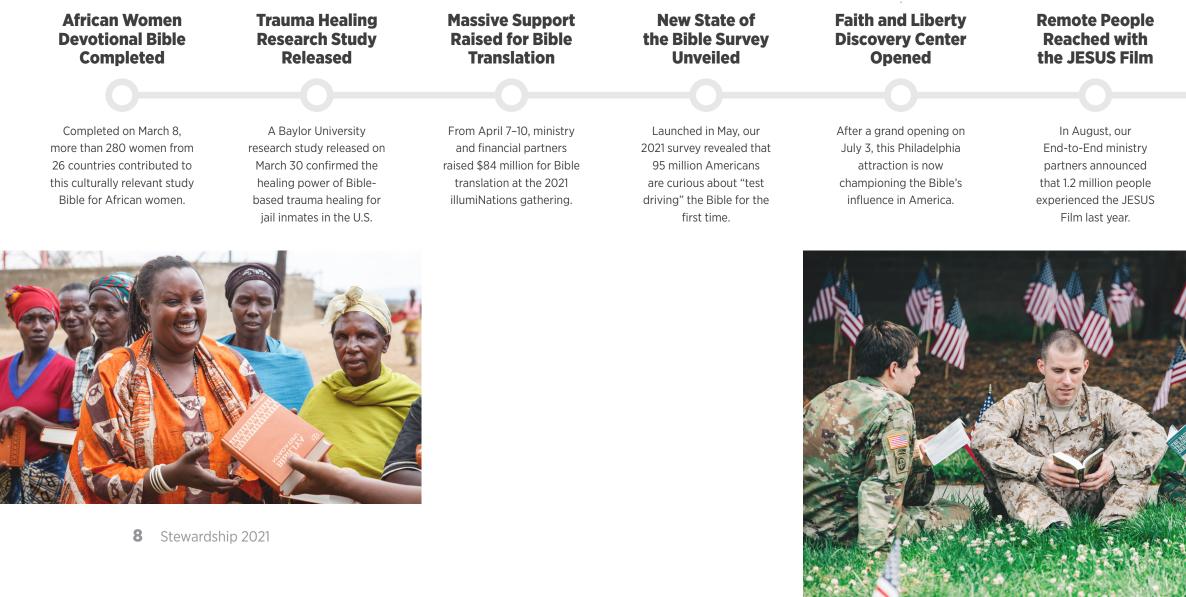
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# **2021: God Was Faithful!**

The Lord led us through many ministry milestones this year thanks to **YOUR** prayers and support. We look back and give him praise and glory for his faithfulness.





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#### **One Million Bibles** Shipped to **African Nations**

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#### Warfighter Study **Bible Published for** the Military

On October 5, financial and ministry partners gathered to commission one million Bibles in seven different languages for 29 African countries.

Published in November, this new flagship resource will help troops, veterans, and military families dig deeper into the rich soil of God's Word.



AmericanBible.org 9



# **God's Word** for the Unreached

With more than a billion still waiting,  $\rangle \rangle$ YOU are helping unreached people read, understand, and apply their very first Bibles.

#### YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

181

Funded

**1.8**B **Bible Translations** People Given

Greater Scripture Access in their Language



At the moment, our congregation as well as many other ethnic groups are using Vietnamese to worship. But we are looking forward to the day when we will use our own language of Tai Don to pray, sing, and read Bible passages aloud in church. This will surely help eliminate the barriers in the mind of those who have not yet believed and encourage them to learn more about the faith.

When the translation is completed, our community can listen to God's Word in Tai Don, and they will have the feeling that Jesus is speaking in their heart language."

book, but our book!"





New Languages Given Digital Scripture Access

#### IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Name: Timothy Country: Vietnam Background: Translator for the Tai Don New Testament



### "The Bible will no longer be a foreign



# **God's Word** for People in Crisis

Trauma isolates us from God and others. YOU are helping people in crisis experience God's healing love through the Bible.

#### YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

**1**K Healing Groups Conducted

**26**K Wounded Hearts Healed





I had a grudge against my neighbors who had taken all of my property by force under the pretext that I am an orphan with neither parents nor siblings to defend me. To be honest, I couldn't get rid of that grudge. I hated them too much.

But after I was given a Bible and began reading the Word of God, something started changing in me. The Word transformed me. I felt more love within me. I decided to forgive my neighbors. They recognized that they were wrong, and they humbly asked for forgiveness.

I thank God for the reconciliation which transformed my life through the Word of God."

"The Word transformed me. I felt more love within me. I decided to forgive my neighbors."





#### **IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

Name: Pierre Country: Burundi Background: Recipient of the Kirundi Bible





# **God's Word for American Heroes**

We're on a mission with **YOU** to help brave Military heroes and their families discover the strength that comes from God alone.

#### YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR



Service Members Engaged with God's Word

**111**K Veterans Sought Healing in the Bible



I can't thank you enough, American Bible Society, and all who have made the wonderful Hero Squad gift box program happen! Bible verses from these devotions are really having an impact on my 11-year-old. He created and led a worship service for our backyard Vacation Bible School, he's stopped and prayed with random people, and he's more interested in understanding God's Word than ever before.

My younger children are also growing. They still argue like crazy, but I've noticed kinder words being used and more grace being shown. Most importantly I've seen and heard them reminding each other of the Scriptures. Wow! No other devotion has done this! Our youngest just turned three and received her Hero Squad box this past week. She's been carrying the Bible everywhere.

It's so wonderful to be able to sit down as a family to read the Scriptures and do activities that truly help our kids become better, godlier people."

understanding God's Word than ever before!"



Military Spouses Studied Scripture



Children and Parents Reached through New Hero Squad Program

#### **IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

Name: Mrs. Williams **Country:** United States Background: Army and Hero Squad Mom



# "My 11-year-old son is more interested in



## **God's Love to the Ends of the Earth**

Our alliance of Bible Societies in 240 countries is one of the world's largest global networks. **YOU** are a critical member of this fellowship!

#### YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

**191**M

Scriptures

Distributed by

Societies in 2020

United Bible

**1**M **Bibles for Africa Project Launched** 

in 2021



During these difficult times, when the whole world is in crisis, your financial support is like ventilation equipment. Just as people who fall seriously ill with COVID-19 need ventilators to help them breathe and recover to return to their normal lives, this financial support will help us to keep going and return to our activity as soon as possible.

For us, receiving the funding literally means surviving. The consequences of not receiving funding from the Solidarity Fund could have had disastrous effects not only for the Moldovan Bible Society, but for the Moldovan community. They would not have had access to the Bible-the living Word of God.

To us, you are our heroes, and we thank you for helping us meet the challenges of this moment, so we can continue to provide Bibles for our community."

this moment."





#### IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Name: Anatoly Kirillov Country: Moldova **Background:** Bible Society General Secretary and Recipient of Emergency Funding



"You are our heroes, and we thank you for helping us meet the challenges of



# **Thanking God for Our Faithful Partners**

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With so many worthy causes in this broken world, thank **YOU** for choosing to share the good news of God's love where it is needed most.

#### YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR



Given by American **Bible Society** Partners







The strongest way for people to follow Jesus is to be able to read the Bible for themselves. Through all these years and all these attacks against the Bible, God has preserved it.

Now it's our opportunity to get it to everyone.

Stewardship is a very important part of our Christian life, and it's not just with money. We all have things we can improve. We are all to be stewards. Adam and Eve were given that job, and they goofed it up—and we're goofing it up even more! Being a bystander and simply reading about what's happening is not what God wants for us. The Christian life is lived in action words, and one of those action words is to give.

What better organization can we give to than one that is going to get God's Word into people's hands?"

of our Christian life."





Partners Made a First-Time Gift

35ĸ

Partners Have Committed to Pray for our Ministry

#### IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Name: Sarah Ward **Country:** United States Background: American Bible Society **Financial Partner** 

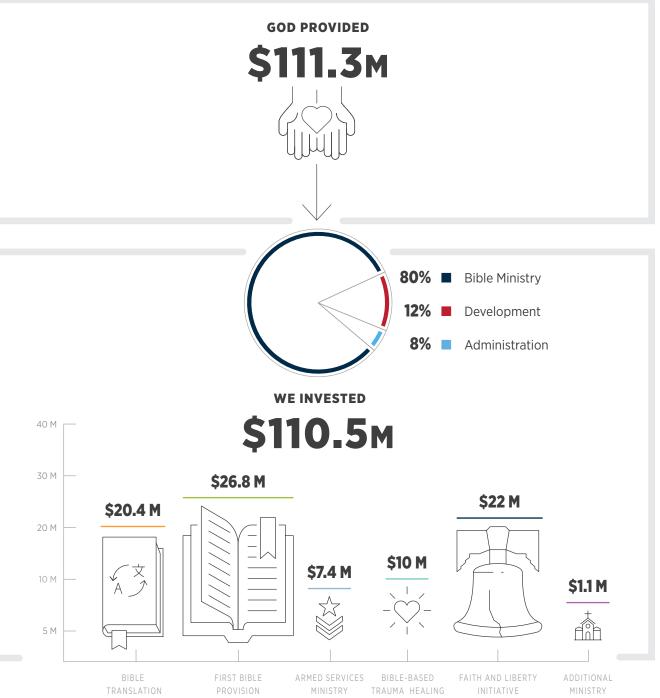


"Stewardship is a very important part

# Financial Report 2021 JULY 1, 2020-JUNE 30, 2021

# YOUR GENEROSITY (MINISTRY RESOURCES)Direct contributions46.1 MFunds deployed from long-term investments54.1 MPlanned gifts5.1 MScripture sales3.9 MOther2.1 MTotal111.3 M

OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT (MINISTRY INVESTMENTS)	
Bible Ministry	87.7 M
Bible Translation	20.4 M
First Bible Provision	26.8 M
Armed Services Ministry	7.4 M
Bible-based Trauma Healing	10.0 M
Faith and Liberty Initiative (Construction and Programming)	22.0 M
Additional Ministry	1.1 M
Development	13.6 M
Administration	9.2 M
Total	110.5 M





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** 

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20 Stewardship 2021

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

AmericanBible.org **21** 

# **Our Leadership**

#### SENIOR EXECUTIVE TEAM

Robert L. Briggs, President and CEO
Ovidio Alfaro, Senior Vice President of Administration and Operations
John Clause, Senior Vice President of Ministry Advancement
Nicole Martin, Senior Vice President of Ministry Impact

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

For the period June 20, 2021 – July 1, 2022

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



#### **OUR MISSION WITH YOU:**

MAKING 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.

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

HABAKKUK 2:14

