

GOD'S WORD WHERE NEEDED MOST

Record

Spring 2012

GOD'S
SPIRIT
HOVERS
OVER
CHINA

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AMERICAN
BIBLE
SOCIETY

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Finding Us Faithful

Dear Friends,

We are living in one of the most exciting moments in the history of Bible ministry.



From the truly remarkable opportunities in China (see cover story), to the inspiring relief efforts in Africa (p. 21), to the cutting-edge translation technologies reaching people groups across the planet at record speeds (p. 22), we are living in amazing times!

With these opportunities, each of us must be faithful to God's calling, listening to his best hopes and serving where and when God

leads. Because of this, I want to let you know about my recent request to our Board of Trustees, asking them to begin a search for the next president of American Bible Society.

Beginning this last fall, Vickie and I began praying very carefully about the Board's invitation for me to begin a new term as president. From this, our clear conviction is that now is the time to invite new leadership to inaugurate the exciting and challenging ministries needed for our third century of ministry.

The 21 years I have spent at American Bible Society have been some of the most fruitful and rewarding

of my life, and I look forward to being actively involved in its global mission for years to come.

I count it a blessing and a privilege to be a part of this organization, and to have been given a front row seat to witness God's Word transform hearts and lives all over the world.

We are allowing plenty of time for a search and transition, so that we can find and welcome the right person. We are blessed with ongoing, strong leadership from our executive leadership team. But mostly, I wanted you to know right from the outset about these plans and invite you to join us in prayer. The work we are doing together is so important and

we long to be faithful to God in each of these steps.

These are indeed great days for American Bible Society, which was

recently named Best Christian Workplace for a second year in a row. Now, more than ever, I am so grateful for you. Your support and encouragement help make an incredible difference in the lives of so many.

Let us pray for the great joy of God's Word to go forward boldly, opening the hearts of people everywhere.

Yours Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. James Hed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping underline that loops back under the first part of the name.

“Our clear conviction is that now is the time to invite new leadership to inaugurate the exciting and challenging ministries needed for our third century of ministry.”



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The mission of American Bible Society 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. The Society is a member of the United Bible Societies, a partnership of the Bible Societies throughout the world cooperating to make Scriptures available to people everywhere in their own language.

Published since 1818, American Bible Society Record is the official periodical of American Bible Society and the second-oldest continuously published publication in the United States. It is published four times a year and is sent to as many of our supporters as budget allows. Postage is paid at New York, N.Y., and additional mailing offices. Other publications are encouraged to reprint the text of any Record article, but prior written permission must be obtained from American Bible Society Record to reproduce any images.

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National Update

'A Soldier's Hope' at Christmas



Christian trio Point of Grace gave 10 concerts in December, singing traditional and original Christmas music and promoting American Bible Society's Armed Services Ministry. From Nashville to California, the concerts featured a compelling video inviting attendees to support ministry to America's troops. From left to right above, Grammy® nominees Leigh Cappillino, Shelley Breen and Denise Jones are pictured with a vocal ensemble from The Fellowship at Two Rivers.

Speaking Up for the Lakota



Arlene M. Marshall (above) said, "I am a Lakota Sioux woman who understands the language because Lakota was my grandmother's and my mother's first language. . . . The forced removal of children from their home life and language has caused many of our people great hardship throughout the generations. It is important that the youth of today, who are struggling for an identity as a Lakota, can speak, pray and live in a world with respect as a Lakota. . . .

[This will] help them fully understand what it means to be a Lakota again and what being a true Christian is really about: respect, honor, compassion, generosity, forgiving and love. Thank you for the commitment and dedication to the enormous task of translating the Bible into Lakota."

She's My Sister 2012 Bike Tour Takes off June 1



Watch the video and pass along the information. Visit MySisterTour.org

Last year, riding for 39 days and more than 2,000 miles, the She's My Sister cyclists spoke to more than 4,200 people across 14 states. And, with your help, they raised more than \$134,000 to support She's My Sister™ — American Bible Society's healing ministry to the victims of rape and conflict in the DRC. This year, the tour begins in Daytona Beach on **June 1** and will end in New York City the week of **July 15**.

We encourage you to participate by recruiting others, coordinating a local event to support the tour, or hosting the cycling team at your church for a speaking engagement and lodging. To find out more, visit **MySisterTour.org**.

New Scripture Products

Favorite Bible Stories and Amazing Facts



Trivia tidbits, fascinating facts and 27 of the best-loved Bible stories pack this accessible, newly issued book from American Bible Society and Time Inc. Appropriate for school children (ages 9-11), ancient truths and tales are brought to life with colorful illustrations. The Bible stories are based on the *Contemporary English Version*.

Available in hardcover item #123539 for \$19.95 each, or \$14.95 each in a case of 10. Available in paperback item #123529 for \$12.99 each, or \$8.99 each in a case of 10. Order at Bibles.com.

The Financial Stewardship Bible



Individuals and groups seeking to use their resources according to biblical principles will benefit from this publication created in collaboration with Compass-Finances God's Way. The Bible features the *Contemporary English Version* with more than 2,000 highlighted verses about personal stewardship. A 64-page center section includes a 40-day Stewardship Scripture engagement journey and small group discussion guide with weekly memory verses.

Available in paperback item #123253 for \$19.99 each, or \$14.99 each in a case of 10. Order at Bibles.com.

Bible Broadcasts on Broadway



If you're in New York City in the Columbus Circle neighborhood, be sure to walk by Bible House and encounter the new media wall that is shining a light on God's Story. A screen measuring 10 feet by 15 feet hangs in the glass atrium and offers high-definition, short film experiences lasting 5 to 15 seconds. Passersby can enjoy a thought-provoking and visually stunning experience.

The subject matter changes constantly depending on new material, new issues or current events and holidays — such as a special reel for Easter.

The media wall is one expression of American Bible Society's Bible advocacy initiative. It was designed to pique the curiosity of those outside a traditional church audience. It aims to present a message of hope and compassion that brightens the day for one of the 8,000 people who daily travel past American Bible Society's Manhattan office.

If you happen to be at Broadway and 61st Street, be sure to look up!

Online Scripture Resources

'God Understands' Tailored for Armed Services members and Veterans

God understands you. He understands your hopes and dreams, your sorrows and fears — every one of your emotions. American Bible Society launched the online *God Understands*™ series to bring hope, healing, comfort and encouragement to our Armed Services members and Veterans. Check it out at

GodUnderstands.AmericanBible.org

MUSEUM OF BIBLICAL ART

MOBIA

'Finding Comfort in Difficult Times'



Chamberlain Bounds of Abilene, Texas, who fought in the Marine Corps during WWI, carried this New Testament through the odyssey that brought him to the "Flanders fields." It was published by ABS in 1917 and shows the wear and tear of wartime action, as well as his hand-written itinerary.

Turning to God's Word in times of danger has been a common practice for centuries. In 1643, Oliver Cromwell provided soldiers with a printed copy of the Bible for the first time. The exhibition, *Finding Comfort in Difficult Times* (on view through May 20), brings together "Soldiers' Bibles" that document individual lives within the context of war. Starting with the American Civil War, pocket copies of the New Testament or the entire Bible were regularly distributed by American Bible Society to both Union and Confederate soldiers. Surviving copies of these Scriptures and others bear testimony to their use and tell compelling stories of hardship and faith.

Interested in a Tour?

Contact Peter Anderson

(212) 408-1448

PAAnderson@AmericanBible.org

International Update

ALBANIA

Free Coffee and New Testaments Bring About a Conversion



Altin Hysi, the general secretary of the Bible Society of Albania, holds Interconfessional New Testaments.

The head of the Bible Society of Albania recounted his conversion story to American Bible Society staff at a recent meeting. Altin Hysi grew up in Communist Albania during the era when it was officially atheist, and in 1991, at the age of 21, he fled Albania along with many others. Just outside the refugee camp in Austria where he landed was a place run by missionaries who were offering free coffee and New Testaments (NT). It was the first time Altin had ever had a copy of the NT in his mother tongue. “The Bible had not been allowed in Communist Albania — and perhaps because of that I started to read it!” he says. “To my surprise, the words made a special impact on me,” especially Matthew 5. After two years of schooling, Altin took in the words of the principal of his Bible school that “Albania needed Christians” and went home. Now, as

the leader of the Bible Society of Albania, he asks for prayer for the completion of the Old Testament translation. “It’s difficult,” he says, “because the translators are far afield.”

AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal Communities Receive the CEV Bible



From left to right: Pastor Don Fehlberg, Elsie from the Aboriginal community and Pastor Dietrich Stahl admire the new *Easy Reading Family Bible* in Port Augusta, South Australia.

Close to 500,000 people make up the remote and Aboriginal communities of Australia. They speak up to 143 languages, including English. But low literacy levels make it difficult for many of them to read God’s Word, and only one complete Bible in an Aboriginal language exists — the Kriol Bible, published in 2007. American Bible Society’s *Contemporary English Version* text was chosen to make the *Easy Reading Family Bible* accessible. With the new *Easy Reading Family Bible*, launched in November, Aboriginal communities have

an opportunity to engage with God’s Word. The text was enhanced to include large print, Christian living helps, colorful resources (dictionary, concordance, encyclopedia, guides and maps), and Aboriginal artwork. “Translation projects help even the quiet members of a community to be involved in kingdom building. They often develop ministry skills and rise to being leaders in the church,” said Peter Greenwood, Uniting Church translator. The new Bible gives indigenous people a voice and affirms them as people who have value.

BENIN

In Benin, a Bible is Presented to the Pope



In November, Pope Benedict XVI visited Cotonou, Benin, and the Bible Society of Benin presented him with a Fon Bible.

The Bible Society of Benin, along with church and government authorities, presented His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI with the first copy of the Bible in Fon. The Fon people, who number approximately 1.7 million, live mostly in Benin. After waiting many years for the Bible in their language, the Fon people were exuberant

Partnering to Eradicate Bible Poverty

American Bible Society is partnering with Operation Christmas Child-USA (OCC) to provide God’s Word in 12 countries. This will be life-changing for children who have little

or no resources or education across Africa, Asia and Central and South America. ABS and OCC will distribute New Testaments to graduates of the OCC discipleship program,

“The Greatest Journey.” Some 412,000 children are expected to study God’s Word and encourage their family members to do so.

in expressing their gratitude to the Bible Society for the translation.

BRAZIL A Fruitful Year



Bibles in production at the Bible Society of Brazil's printing facility in Sao Paolo.

Last year was a fruitful year for the Bible in Brazil. In May, the Bible Press reached the mark of 100 million Bibles and New Testaments, produced in just 16 years. The Bible Society of Brazil distributed, in 2011, a total of 6,783,255 full Bibles to the Brazilian people (14.54 percent above the 2010 distribution). This alone is a record.

CHILE Gypsies Come to Christ



A pastor prays over and blesses a Romani child in Chile.

Chile is home to some 5,000 Romani-speaking Gypsies, many of whom are becoming followers of Christ. They have the New Testament, but work continues on translating the Old Testament into the Romani language, which should be completed in 2016.

RWANDA Bibles for Genocide Survivors



A student receives a Bible from a priest at a Catholic school in Rwanda.

Though it has been 18 years since the 1994 Rwandan genocide, people there are still deeply scarred. Many young people witnessed some of their 800,000 countrymen killed in the span of 100 days. In an effort to help the healing process, American Bible Society and the Bible Society of Rwanda are providing Bibles to 10,000 students in 25 Catholic schools. The project will also reach out to 4,775 young people who are no longer attending school.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Testimony of Healing

"I'm one of the participants concerning the trauma healing organized at Bukavu by the Bible Society who has benefited much," said the Rev. Ghislain Bafunyembaka Nakabenge. "It was too difficult for me to forgive those who killed Congolese people, including 36 persons from my own family during the war of 1996-1998 in our country. Since that bad event, I became a person living with trauma and without joy. . . . Since [then], I began to consider that all the people from the countries who attacked and destroyed our country . . . were criminals, and I decided to not be in good relationship with them forever. I started to be angry with God and began to consider him as a God of injustice who encourages criminals to kill people and to make disorder without punishment. I started to believe that

Congolese people were under a curse from God, and that is why we were living in poverty, even if our country is full of many natural resources. But I can say glory to God because when I got teaching from your organization about the trauma and how to be healed from it, my life has changed and I decided to forgive all the enemies of my country and my family and asked God to forgive me and to transform my life. Since then, I'm involved [in helping] other leaders of churches and people to be healed from trauma, and I have helped up to 19 persons. So may God bless your ministry."

The Rev. Nakabenge is president of Protestant Revival Churches in South Kivu and president and founder of Good News For All Nations Ministries, which is involved in leadership training, counseling as well as assistance to orphans and other children at risk.





GOD'S SPIRIT HOVERS OVER CHINA

100 MILLION BIBLES
A BILLION OPPORTUNITIES

“He said to them, ‘There is a large harvest, but few workers to gather it in. Pray to the owner of the harvest that he will send out workers to gather in his harvest.’” Luke 10.2 (GNT)

Barely more than 30 years ago, printing a Bible in China was illegal. Yet later this year, Amity Printing Company in Nanjing will roll its 100 millionth Bible — legally — off the printing presses. This event is nothing short of miraculous.

When God's Word goes out into the world, it does not return void; it accomplishes the work that God intends for it to do. One Bible can become a family's treasure; one Bible can be read in groups and shared with communities. One Bible can reach souls that far outnumber the one to whom it was given. The stories of men and women in China whom God has reached through the Scriptures are evidence of his Word at work in the world.

A FAMILY TREASURE



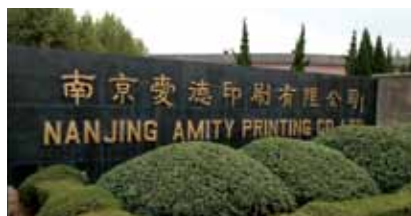
Elder Fu Xianwei, left, Chairman of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement (the officially recognized Chinese Church), remembers the Bible his grandmother read

faithfully. "My grandmother was a devout Christian," Fu says in an interview with United Bible Societies China Partnership (UBSCP). "She would cherish the household's only Bible . . . and regard it as a prized possession. Any family members who wanted to read the Bible would have to borrow it from her." Fu, a third-generation Christian, credits his grandmother's practice of daily Bible reading as one of the things that helped to bring him to the faith: "Without missing a day," he says, "she would sit on the veranda every afternoon and read the Bible. From my grandmother's life, I learned to treasure the Bible."

Fu's beloved family Bible was destroyed during the Cultural Revolution. Yet the faith he learned from his grandmother remained strong, and today he is the leader of a church with 23 million members.

"From my grandmother's life,
I learned to treasure the Bible."

- Elder Fu Xianwei



THE BIBLE ON CAMPUS

Maple Yuan, a college student majoring in teaching English, borrowed the first Bible she ever read from a friend because she wanted to learn more about Western culture.

"It's so important to them," Yuan says, referring to Westerners. "[The] Bible is everything."

But God had much more in store for Yuan than just a primer on culture in the West.

"I read [the] Bible within a month from the Old Testament to the New Testament,"

Yuan says. She did not believe it, she goes on to say, but she read it: "I think God planted a seed at that time." After Yuan graduated, she met a Christian pastor and his wife who had come to China from Texas. Yuan was going through a difficult period in her life, and was drawn to the warmth and love she felt from this pastor and his wife. So she began to ask them about God.

"I felt I had been called," Yuan remembers. "I confessed my sin, wanted to be a believer . . . [and] I became a Christian."



Stacks of Bibles await distribution in the Amity Printing Company warehouse in Nanjing, China. The woman at right anticipates receiving her own Bible in the Henan Province.

Huang Mei, below, helps make book covers at Amity Printing Company; she says God is using her hands to spread his Word.



“I read the Bible again, of course!” Yuan concludes. “I was the first one in my family to be saved.”

Sandy Yingying Gu also read Scripture for the first time while in college. “I had never read the Bible,” she says, but after hearing the testimonies of some exchange students from the United States, “I felt the urge to have what they had.”

“When they shared their testimony, they always referred to the Bible. ‘Bible says this, Bible says that,’ and I didn’t know what they were talking about. I wanted to find out why the Bible had so much authority that they’d always talk about it,” Gu states. And so she talked to them. “They showed me some verses from their Bibles,” she says, “and then I found a Bible and bought one. My first Bible.”

The experience of opening the Word of God for the first time was a powerful one for Gu. “At first, I was panicked,” she recalls. “[The] first time you touch the

Word of God, you open the Bible, it feels very different.” But then, “I found that it was amazing.” God transformed Gu’s life through his Word.

PRINTING THE WORD

Stories like those of Yuan and Gu are possible because of the work God is doing through Amity Printing Company and the Church in China, and their partnership with the Bible Societies. Yang Chen, who works for Amity, discovered the power of God’s Word right there at the company through a co-worker named Xie.

“The first time I met Xie,” Yang recalls in an interview with UBSCP, “I was put off by her brusqueness. However, some time later, I noticed an amazing change in her life. I was told she has embraced the Christian faith.”

Soon after, Yang, Xie and several of their colleagues were assigned to difficult work on one of the machines at the printing press. “One time when everyone was idling around and complaining about work,” Yang says, “they started to make fun of Xie, asking her to explain why God was not making their work life easier.” Rather than getting offended, Yang remembers, “[Xie] just walked over to them and shared the Gospel. She shared about a Father in Heaven who loved us so much that he created us in his image.”



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BIBLE IN CHINA



The President of Wesley Theological Seminary welcomed more than 500 guests to the October opening of

the “Bible Ministry Exhibition of the Protestant Church in China” in Washington. The crowd applauded thunderously when Rev. Gao Feng, president of China Christian Council (CCC), announced that “more than 400,000 believers in China are baptized each year. Although it is hard to fully comprehend the power of God’s Word, the rapid growth of the Church in China testifies to his power at work.” The exhibition later traveled to Chicago, Dallas and Charlotte, N.C.

In addition to supporting this exhibition opening in 2011, American Bible Society has been supporting government-approved printing of Bibles in China for 25 years. The relationship started and built momentum when Amity Foundation Printing Company and United Bible Societies opened Amity Printing Company in Nanjing in 1987. In 2007, the 50 millionth Bible ran off the press. In 2012, the 100 millionth Bible will be printed.

In 1979, following the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and ‘70s where tens of thousands of books, including Bibles, were destroyed and church life eliminated, the China government introduced new religious freedoms in China. Church life resumed and the church grew tremendously as it vigorously practiced its principles of self-administration, self-support and self-propagation. During the last 30 years, thousands of churches and meeting points were born, as well as theological seminaries and Bible schools that are training and equipping much-needed pastoral personnel, preachers and lay workers. Today, the church continues to expand, and new ministry outreaches to improve Bible literacy and social services among its members are being implemented.

Yang, who does not normally consider herself an “emotional person,” found herself inexplicably moved by what Xie said. “I did not know why, but after listening to what she had shared, I was so touched by his love for us I had to hold back my tears.” Soon after, Yang attended church with Xie, and eventually became a believer.

As a new Christian, Yang says she was “fascinated with the Bible.” Surrounded by God’s Word at the press, “when I was not on duty at work, I could read the Bible all day without getting bored.” Yang thanks the donors of United Bible Societies for their help in making the Gospel message a reality for her and her brothers and sisters in Christ in China.


Fang Xiaodong also came to know Christ through work at Amity Printing Company. “I did not want to believe,” Fang says, recalling his initial resistance to the Gospel. But through the living testimonies of his wife, his boss and another co-worker at Amity, Fang’s heart was changed. “I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior,” he says.

Challenges at work led Fang to increase the time he spent reading the Bible, and in prayer. He also relates that his faith then helped him resist corruption at work. Recalling the time he was offered a bribe and turned it down, Fang says: “I thank God that I had a Bible on my table to remind me that Christians should not accept bribes.” Corruption is antithetical to Fang’s new life as a believer. “People would say that I am foolish not to take bribes,” he admits, “but I would say that whoever does things in the dark does not belong to the Light and does not glorify God.”

BIBLES FOR THE FUTURE

As Amity moves on to printing its next 100 million Bibles, additional challenges and opportunities to spread the Gospel await. Increasing urbanization in China means that as more rural Chinese move to cities, the need for Bibles increases, as does the need for Bibles in different formats such as audio Bibles, Braille Bibles and Bibles for children.

These are challenges that the Church in China meets willingly with support from believers worldwide. Amity and its partners rejoice with believers in printing its 100 millionth Bible and are dedicated to continuing to bring the Word of God to his people throughout China and the rest of the world. It is the Bible Societies’ hope and prayer that someday, no believer will ever be without a Bible. With your help, we can make this vision come true.

By Elrena Evans 

Spring Gift Catalog

God's Word Where Needed Most



Provide Bibles to believers in China

Your gift
doubles
in impact

More than 1.3 billion people live in China. Many have never read their own Bible or about God's love. Because we have received a \$300,000 matching grant from our generous partners, your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, and provide twice as many Bibles for people who yearn for their own Bible.

50 Bibles for people in China	CHMTCH1	\$ 250
25 Bibles for people in China	CHMTCH2	\$ 125
10 Bibles for people in China	CHMTCH3	\$ 50

The generous China matching gift opportunity will only be in effect until the first \$300,000 is raised.

Share God's Word where the need is greatest

Millions of people all over the world are starving for God's Word. Your gift will keep our Bible presses rolling and provide God's life-changing Word where the need is greatest.

Bibles for 20 spiritually hungry people	WMN1	\$ 100
Bibles for 10 spiritually hungry people	WMN2	\$ 50
Bibles for 5 spiritually hungry people	WMN3	\$ 25



Give a life-changing gift this spring

Your new Spring Gift Catalog is the perfect way to share your love and faith with family and friends celebrating special occasions this season. Every gift provides spiritual sustenance to hungry souls worldwide, letting them know that Jesus, the Living Word, can change lives today.

The perfect gift for:

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American Bible Society has supported our troops with Bibles for 195 years—through 9 wars!



Our most popular gift

Support our troops away from home

Thousands of brave men and women continue to fight for our freedom thousands of miles from home, putting their lives at risk on the front lines. Show them they are important and remembered by giving them comfort, solace and courage through the gift of God's Word.

Bibles for an entire battalion (600 soldiers)	MGEN1	\$ 3,000
Bibles for an entire company (100 soldiers)	MGEN2	\$ 500
Bibles for six squads (60 soldiers)	MGEN3	\$ 300
Bibles for three squads (30 soldiers)	MGEN4	\$ 150
Bibles for one squad (10 soldiers)	MGEN5	\$ 50

Help bring healing to America's wounded warriors

Help give America's wounded heroes the strength and comfort they need. Your gift provides Bibles plus topical Scripture booklets called *God Understands™*. These booklets give thoughtful biblical answers to tough questions and serve as a reminder that God knows and understands our pain in a very real way.

Bibles plus <i>God Understands</i> for 50 wounded warriors	WWGU1	\$ 250
Bibles plus <i>God Understands</i> for 25 wounded warriors	WWGU2	\$ 125
Bibles plus <i>God Understands</i> for 10 wounded warriors	WWGU3	\$ 50



Giving is easy.



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY



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Sharing God's Word since 1816 For nearly 200 years, American Bible Society has been impacting the lives of millions of people through God's Word. This would not be possible without help from generous friends like you, who have provided over 6 billion Bibles worldwide since 1816. Thank you for helping us continue to share God's life-giving water with a thirsty world.

Bible storybooks and food for America's children

What would Jesus have us do for thousands of American children who go to bed hungry for food and yearning for His love? These little ones desperately need nourishment, both for their stomachs and for their souls. This Spring, share the love of God through colorful, easy-to-read Bible storybooks and a supply of nutritious food.

Bible storybooks and nutritious food for 9 children	BTERF1	\$ 72
Bible storybooks and nutritious food for 6 children	BTERF2	\$ 48
Bible storybooks and nutritious food for 3 children	BTERF3	\$ 24



Show orphans they have a Father who loves them

Here's a wonderful opportunity to share our Heavenly Father's love with boys and girls who have lost their parents to disease, war and other tragedies. You'll help send colorfully illustrated children's Bibles — in native languages — to orphans in India, Africa, Asia and Latin America. Imagine the joy God's Word will bring to a lonely and grieving child.

Bibles for 20 orphans	ORPHN1	\$ 100
Bibles for 10 orphans	ORPHN2	\$ 50

But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and don't try to stop them! People who are like these children belong to God's kingdom."

Matthew 19.14 (CEV)

Comfort suffering children in Appalachia

No child in America should suffer from hunger. But many do — especially in Appalachia, where poverty is widespread and severe. You can help by giving Bibles, food, medical care and more to needy children in Appalachia's most destitute regions.

Bibles and basics for 15 children and families	BTAPP1	\$ 120
Bibles and basics for 10 children and families	BTAPP2	\$ 80
Bibles and basics for 5 children and families	BTAPP3	\$ 40



American Bible Society partners with 147 national Bible societies that work in more than 200 countries around the world.

In the event that funds are raised beyond the needs of a specific project, they will be used to help provide God's Word where needed most.

You may be eligible for a free gift based upon a particular item you ordered and/or the total amount of your donation. Please be sure to check the applicable box to receive your gift. If you would like the full amount of your donation to go toward sharing God's Word, then you may decline the free gift by checking the appropriate box. All of our gifts fall within the IRS tax guidelines, however, if you qualify for more than one gift, the total of those gifts may exceed the limitations of the tax law and therefore the tax-deductible amount of your donation may be adjusted accordingly. This will be indicated on your receipt.



Help girls and women recover from brutal sexual assault

Who can bring healing and peace to girls and women whose lives have been shattered by brutal, vile rape that left permanent emotional and physical handicaps? Only God. That is why your gift to help brutalized girls and women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is so important. In more than a decade of conflict, thousands of girls and women have been sexually assaulted. They are in anguish and desperately need to know God's healing love.

Bibles and trauma counseling for 20 girls and women	CONGO1	\$ 200
Bibles and trauma counseling for 15 girls and women	CONGO2	\$ 150
Bibles and trauma counseling for 7 girls and women	CONGO3	\$ 70

Love sharing God's Word? Send Bibles monthly in honor of your loved one

Do you love to tell the "... old, old story of Jesus and His love"? Give a Bible-A-Month Partnership to your loved one and send a Bible every month in their honor to individuals all over the world who are eager to know His truth. You'll put God's Word into the hands of people who do not have a Bible of their own, and even some who have never seen a Bible — and share the hope of His eternal love.

Give 3 Bible-A-Month Partnerships (for three people)	BAM1	\$ 180
Give 2 Bible-A-Month Partnerships (for two people)	BAM2	\$ 120
Give 1 Bible-A-Month Partnership (for one person)	BAM3	\$ 60



Great
Mother's
Day
Gifts

Partner Benefits

With a Bible-A-Month Partnership, your monthly commitment to help share the Bible answers the prayers of millions who are desperate for hope. You will receive a welcome package that explains how you or your loved one can register the partnership and begin receiving these benefits and more:

- ★ Monthly Partner Reports with stories of lives you help change
- ★ Our Partner Quarterly Devotional
- ★ Our annual Scripture calendar
- ★ 20% off all purchases at Bibles.com



TRAVELOG

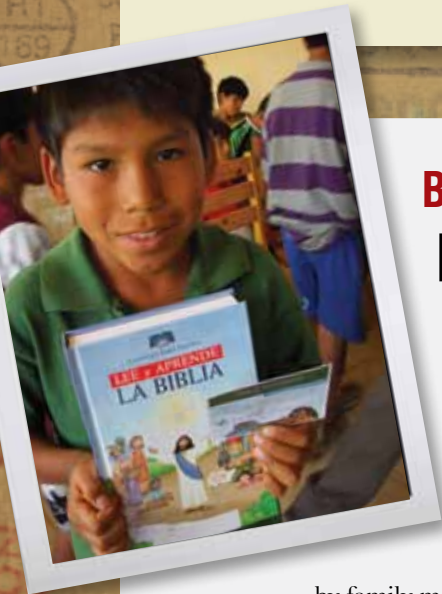
Four Stories from Four Corners

Bibles for Orphans at Christmas

“What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world.” James 1.27 (GNT)

On Christmas day, American Bible Society posted an online video webcast capturing the Christmas distribution of Bibles to orphans in Bolivia, India, Romania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

This was made possible thanks to ABS donors who responded to a September fundraising mailing. ABS representatives were present (with local Bible Society colleagues) in each country and blogged their thoughts. Below are excerpts from these posts.



BOLIVIA

Priceless Joy

The kids in the orphanages often come from very traumatic backgrounds. Many were physically abused. A large percentage of them were abused

by family members. Some were simply abandoned, and they were forced to fend for themselves and live on the streets.

One boy I met, Carlos, 11, was locked in his bedroom with no food for days. His mom simply left the house one evening and didn't come home. Neighbors rescued him and brought him to the orphanage. Carlos subsequently gave his life to Christ.

Seeing the joy on each child's face as they received their very own Bible . . . was utterly priceless. . . .

The children were spellbound and captivated by their new Bible. I've never seen anything like it before. They all sat and thoroughly studied and read it.



Carlos was absolutely thrilled with his new illustrated Bible and said, “The illustrations will help me understand the Bible better.” Carlos wants to be a doctor when he grows up. He said, “There are a lot of people who live on the streets and get hurt, and I want to be able to help them.”

Thank you for blessing children like Carlos, all around the world, with a brand new Children's Bible of their very own! I know it will be a huge impact on the lives of these precious children.

By Kim Carter

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The Flame of Love



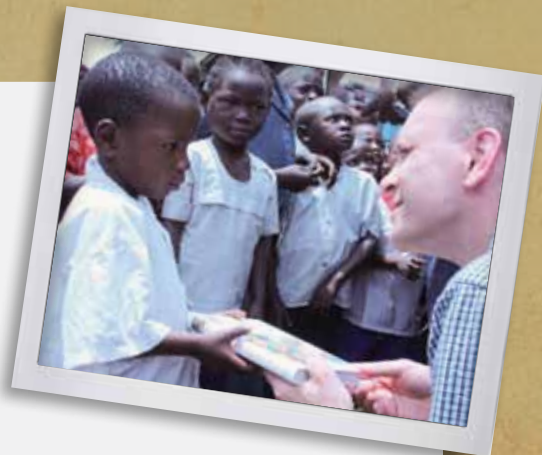
As I think of these orphans, I am reminded of something Dr. Diane Langberg (co-chair of the advisory council for She's My Sister™) told me this spring. She said that traumatized kids cannot learn in school. Until they work through their emotional wounds, they cannot physically focus on learning new things. They will be stuck in a cycle of pain. . . . I'm glad that we have the opportunity to bring them Bibles so they can learn of God's real character and call on their lives.

Sister Alvera runs a shelter for orphans, widows and other women displaced by war. It's called Flame of Love. She is someone I wish [everyone] could meet. She is a living model of the joy of service, someone

who has taken to heart Jesus's message. As she put it in a recent letter,

"there is no greater love than to give your own life for those you love." More from that same letter: "The work we do for widows, orphans, raped children, raped women and disabled women is not an easy task. But we trust in the Lord who asks us to see him in the poor, small and abandoned people. We contemplate the face of Christ in the faces of these women and children we support."

By John Walter



INDIA

Please Take My Picture

Siddapura Child Development Center stands in the heart of Bangalore. This center serves 250

children below the poverty level by supplying them with a warm meal, school fees and school supplies, and an after-school program that teaches them about Jesus Christ.

While taking photos of a group of children, I felt a tug on my shirt and a familiar phrase heard at every orphanage I visited: "Uncle, Uncle, please take my picture!" a young boy pleaded, calling me by the title all visitors receive upon visiting the orphanages. I obliged, of course, and snapped a picture while he struck a pose.

"What is your name?" he then asked. After introducing myself, he grabbed my hand and vigorously started shaking it. Beaming up at me he said, "My name is Raj Nikhil. Now you know us, Uncle," referring to all the children at the center.



Standing in that crowded room on the other side of the world, God used Raj Nikhil's words to remind me just how vast his love and kingdom extends.

Being able to watch the children receive their Scriptures was so amazing. They would immediately start to read them with one another, and their excitement was contagious. There was so much happiness in that room, and I feel so blessed to have been a part of it!

By Michael Gibeault

ROMANIA

All You Need Is Love

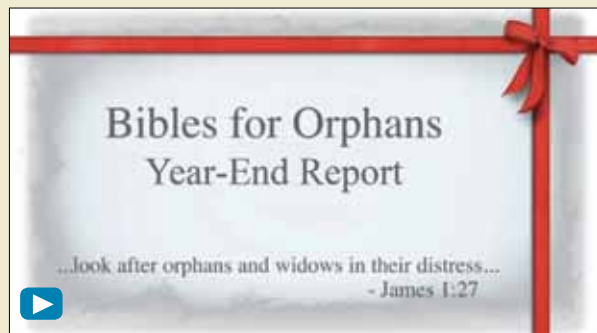


As an observer, I was impressed with the way the children reacted to our visits. In one of the high schools, just outside of Bucharest, every student stood at attention and welcomed us warmly when we walked through the door. One of the young ladies approached me and handed me gifts from the class, including a painting of Jesus that she had painted and signed.

We were given the opportunity to pass out candy and New Testaments for every student in the class. One of the young men, named George, spoke wonderful English. When I asked him what he needed most, he said, "I need my parents' love." All of these children live in poverty, and yet they long more for love and attention than anything else.

As we drove back, I reflected on my visit, and one thing stood out more than anything else: the joy that all of the children we visited had, even in extreme poverty. I realized that these children had never experienced anything close to what we often take for granted here in the United States. These children were happy and content with what they had because they knew nothing else. I am thankful that the Lord has allowed me the honor and privilege of spreading his holistic message through his Word, which is as relevant and life changing as ever.

By Bob Hobbs



Be sure to check out the video that aired on Christmas at BiblesforOrphans.AmericanBible.org



Committing to God's Word

Summit attendees dedicate themselves to Uncover the Word™



Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church, joined the summit and spoke on the urgent need for Bible engagement in our country.

Orlando, Fla. — Nearly 300 ministry leaders from across the whole Church — Evangelical, Protestant, Greek Orthodox and Catholic — gathered here Nov. 7-9 for the Uncover Summit, sponsored by the Forum of Bible Agencies-North America.

The conference was indeed a summit — a mountaintop experience in which attendees committed themselves to Uncover the Word,™ a national movement of people who are committing themselves to the daily practice of Scripture engagement.

The Rev. Samuel Rodriguez, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, kicked off the conference with a riveting speech.

“We live in times of great instability and flux,” he said. “We’ve heard that Christianity in America will not survive in any viable or sustainable manner. But I beg to differ. Even though the housing markets crumble and the stock market crashes, the Church of Jesus Christ is still alive and well. It is a prophetic movement driven by the cross. I’m convinced the best is yet to come.”

The Rev. Chris Webb, president of Renovare USA, led daily devotions that drove home the centrality of God’s Word in all creation and in all time. These devotions — beautiful, majestic and powerful — emphasized that attendees need to be rooted in the Word themselves before they can serve others.

Jim Mellado, president of Willow Creek Association, challenged attendees to commit to uncover the Word in their own congregations.

The Rev. Allan Figueroa Deck, S.J., executive director

of the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, discussed Roman Catholic perspectives on Bible engagement for the whole church. Instructional sessions featured the latest on digital tools, as well as research on Bible engagement among American adults and college students.

Dr. Kara Powell, executive director of the Fuller Youth Institute, delivered a thought-provoking presentation on how to imbue the younger generation with “sticky faith” — her term for faith that will carry them through their college years.

Dr. Powell’s research shows that many Christian teens are ill equipped to withstand the pressures of college life. Students drink more alcohol and have more sex in college than they did in high school, her findings show. This is no surprise, Dr. Powell said, but the biggest increase occurred among Christian youth who struggled with college pressures.

In a special ceremony, participants signed the Uncover the Word Commitment. In doing so, they pledged to:

1. **Declare** their confidence in God’s living and active Word
2. **Renew** their personal daily encounter with God in Scripture
3. **Restore** the Bible to a place of centrality
4. **Dedicate** themselves to create compelling invitations to Scripture engagement

Attendees needed little convincing. “This movement represents the whole Church,” said Gary Benedict, president of the Christian & Missionary Alliance. “For too long, we’ve been silos. We need to work together as one Church.

“Count me in.”

By Maria Wolf 

**UNCOVER
THE WORD**
UncoverTheWord.com

Summit.AmericanBible.org

A Ray of Hope in Turkana

Thanks to an American Bible Society emergency appeal last summer, some 2,000 Kenyan families had food this winter, despite the worst drought to hit the Horn of Africa in 60 years.

Although 4 million Kenyans were starving, most relief efforts were focused on refugee camps straddling Somalia and Kenya. ABS, armed with research from Global Scripture Impact (GSI), sharpened the focus of its response and helped those who were far from the spotlight. ABS and its donors raised more than \$150,000 to get food, water and God's Word



Villagers in Nepeikar, Lodwar County, Kenya, carrying food supplies brought by the Bible Society of Kenya and the Anglican Church of Kenya in December 2011.

to 10 of the worst-hit villages in Turkana, Northwest Kenya.

GSI, the research arm of ABS (which just celebrated five years in operation), had relationships with people on the ground who knew the needs. The Bible Society of Kenya (BSK), working with local churches, identified where the need was the greatest.

"Even in a crisis as big as this, the role of GSI is to be able to identify where donor's investments will make the biggest difference," said GSI Research Director Rhoda Gathoga. "In this incident, the world

was focused on Dadaab refugee camps on the border of Somalia and Kenya. While this was a critical need, it focused on one area instead of the vast number of suffering people. GSI, working with BSK, was able to focus on those yet to be served."

Within 48 hours of the decision to mount an emergency appeal, GSI



David Amedu, on the right, is about 8 years old. He and his friends helped unload the food supplies. David's favorite subjects are English and Kiswahili, and he would like to be a pilot someday.

had produced an Impact Briefing that identified the Bible Society as the agency to work with churches representing the 10 remote villages, along

with Living Water International. The plan was that BSK would receive the funds to acquire and distribute food and Bibles in audio and print formats. Living Water would dig wells.

Thomas Tharao, head of operations for BSK, described the December delivery of 11 tons of food to feed 500 families living in and around Lodwar, Kenya. Traveling more than 40 miles on bad roads, the delivery truck got stuck trying to cross the soft sand of a dry

riverbed. The team had to push the truck and reroute to another town for distribution. Some team members had to walk the remaining 22 miles to alert the townspeople of the change in plans.

"The next morning, we arrived early at 8 a.m. to distribute the food," said Tharao. "We were surprised to find that the villagers . . . had already arrived. They . . . had started their journey at 1 a.m. . . . to avoid walking in the high temperatures, which often clock over 107 degrees."

Tharao was very grateful for the response from ABS donors. "This was a very fulfilling exercise, knowing that for the next one month, 500 families would not go hungry. . . . It was also good to see that people have a hunger for the Word of God and for the education the project will provide through the provision of Bibles, New Reader Portions and Audio Bibles. Indeed this project is bringing a ray of hope to the lives of the people of Turkana," he said.

By Barbara Delp 🌟

Turkana.AmericanBible.org

A Great Multitude That No One Could Count

New technology and partnership to bring God's Word to all the world



Forty years is a long time — just ask the Children of Israel. Or ask the Eastern Jocaltec of Guatemala, who waited 40 years for the completion of a Bible translation in their heart language. The image of one Eastern Jocaltec man in tears as he received his long-awaited Bible made a lasting impression on donor and filmmaker Mart Green, who had flown down to Guatemala with Wycliffe Bible Translators for the dedication ceremony of the new translation in 1998. That image went on to spark an idea that Green later shared with the Forum of Bible Agencies: a vision for a collaborative effort that would link Bible ministries together, in partnership, enabling them to share God's Word on an unprecedented level.

That is the vision behind Every Tribe Every Nation (ETEN), a

cooperative initiative to collect, digitize, store and distribute Bible translations from a single clearinghouse location. John Mark Mitchell, American Bible Society (ABS) director of digital ministry, says that ETEN facilitates “Bible agencies working even closer together, and donors working even closer together, in a concerted effort to complete the translation goals that are before

us . . . and massively accelerate Bible engagement through digital distribution.”

“We could see and be able to live in an era when the Bible is available in every language, in every tongue, for every tribe.”

This effort, now a joint partnership of American Bible Society, the United Bible Societies, Wycliffe/SIL and Biblica, is quickly moving to launch. As technological advancements enable increased digital access around the globe, ETEN's goal is to ensure that a heart language Bible translation is available for previously unreached people groups in a format they can


understand and relate to.

ETEN is poised to “explode [Scripture] distribution beyond anything we can imagine right now,” says ABS Executive Adviser to Global Scripture Ministries Peter Bradley. Smartphone technology, for example, has “just leapfrogged over the old technology of landlines, and everything else.” It's Mitchell's hope that through the use of technological advances, such as smartphones and print-on-demand technology, ETEN will allow an “even deeper relationship to develop between Bible agencies. And, through an active participation from donors, we could see and be able to live in an era when the Bible is available in every language, in every tongue,

for every tribe.”

Worldwide, only 451 translations of the full Bible have been completed, but some 1,200 New Testaments and 850 single books of the Bible are also

translated. As ETEN works to digitize and aggregate those Bibles, some 2,000 heart languages remain untranslated. “It's going to take some important investment, but we have the possibility that in our lifetime,” Mitchell says, “that gap could be closed.” And no one would ever wait 40 years for a Bible again.

By Eirena Evans 

Join us in prayer for the launch of this exciting ministry outreach!

Quiet Time

“Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if any hear my voice and open the door, I will come into their house and eat with them, and they will eat with me.” Revelation 3.20 (Good News Translation)

April 2012

Come Together in Faith
and Be Filled with Hope

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (WESTERN CHURCHES)

- 1 Mark 11.1-11
- 2 Mark 11.12-33
- 3 Mark 12.1-27
- 4 Mark 14.1-31

MAUNDY THURSDAY (WESTERN CHURCHES)

- 5 Mark 14.32-72

GOOD FRIDAY (WESTERN CHURCHES)

- 6 Mark 15.1-41
- 7 Mark 15.42-47

EASTER SUNDAY (WESTERN CHURCHES)

- 8 Mark 16.1-20
- 9 Romans 5.1-21
- 10 Romans 6.1-23
- 11 Romans 15.1-21
- 12 1 Corinthians 15.1-34
- 13 1 Corinthians 15.35-58
- 14 1 Peter 1.1-25
- 15 1 Peter 2.1-25
- 16 1 Peter 3.1-22
- 17 1 Peter 4. 1-19
- 18 1 Peter 5.1-14
- 19 2 Peter 1.1-21
- 20 2 Peter 2.1-22
- 21 2 Peter 3.1-18
- 22 Revelation 1.1-20
- 23 Revelation 2.1-29
- 24 Revelation 3.1-22
- 25 Revelation 4.1-11
- 26 Revelation 5.1-14
- 27 Revelation 6.1-17
- 28 Revelation 7.1-17
- 29 Revelation 19.1-21
- 30 Revelation 20.1-15

Orthodox Christians will observe Holy Week from April 8-14, and celebrate Pascha (Easter) on April 15 and may substitute the readings from April 15-21 in place of the readings for April 1-7. This substitution will enable the Passion and Resurrection readings to coincide with the Orthodox dates.

May 2012

Come Together in Faith and
Receive New Life in the Spirit

- 1 Revelation 21.1-27
- 2 Revelation 22.1-21

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

- 3 Joel 1.1-20
- 4 Joel 2.1-32
- 5 Joel 3.1-21
- 6 Ezekiel 1.1-28
- 7 Ezekiel 2.1-10
- 8 Ezekiel 3.1-27
- 9 Ezekiel 34.1-31
- 10 Ezekiel 36.1-15
- 11 Ezekiel 36.16-38
- 12 Ezekiel 37.1-28
- 13 Ezekiel 39.1-29
- 14 Ezekiel 43.1-27
- 15 Ezekiel 47.1-23
- 16 Ezekiel 48.1-35

ASCENSION DAY

- 17 Acts 1.1-26
- 18 Romans 8.1-17
- 19 Romans 8.18-39
- 20 Romans 12.1-21
- 21 Romans 13.1-14
- 22 Romans 14.1-23
- 23 1 Corinthians 3.1-23
- 24 1 Corinthians 4.1-21
- 25 1 Corinthians 5.1-13
- 26 1 Corinthians 6.1-20

PENTECOST

- 27 Acts 2.1-21
- 28 Acts 2.22-47
- 29 Acts 3.1-26
- 30 Acts 4.1-22
- 31 Acts 4.23-37

Orthodox Christians will observe Ascension Day on May 24.

June 2012

Come Together in Faith and
Build Up the Body of Christ

- 1 Acts 5.1-16
- 2 Acts 5.17-42
- 3 Galatians 1.1-24
- 4 Galatians 2.1-21
- 5 Galatians 3.1-29
- 6 Galatians 4.1-31
- 7 Galatians 5.1-26
- 8 Galatians 6.1-18
- 9 Philippians 1.1-30
- 10 Philippians 2.1-30
- 11 Philippians 3.1-21
- 12 Philippians 4.1-23
- 13 Colossians 1.1-29
- 14 Colossians 2.1-19
- 15 Colossians 2.20—3.17
- 16 Colossians 4.2-18
- 17 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10
- 18 1 Thessalonians 2.1-20
- 19 1 Thessalonians 3.1-13
- 20 1 Thessalonians 4.1-18
- 21 1 Thessalonians 5.1-28
- 22 2 Thessalonians 1.1-12
- 23 2 Thessalonians 2.1-17
- 24 2 Thessalonians 3.1-18
- 25 Hebrews 8.1-13
- 26 Hebrews 9.1-28
- 27 Hebrews 10.1-39
- 28 Hebrews 11.1-40
- 29 Hebrews 12.1-29
- 30 Hebrews 13.1-25

Orthodox Christians will celebrate Pentecost on June 3, 2012.

To download 2012 Scripture readings or to subscribe to daily Bible readings by e-mail, go to:

DailyBible.AmericanBible.org

ABSRECORD.COM Record / 23

Pray Around the World

“... And every time I pray for you all, I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the Gospel...” Philippians 1.4, 5 (GNT)

Greece



We thank God that, despite the difficult economic situation, the distribution of the Word of God by all churches continues

smoothly. We thank him, too, that the Greek New Testament on CD had a warm welcome. We pray that we may continue to be partners with all Churches in their efforts to help people know God by his written Word.

Holy Land



Praise God for the impact of the monthly women's breakfast, for opportunities among both evangelical and historical churches

and for the expansion of our projects and our staff team. Pray for God's guidance for our projects, asking that our community may experience God's love through our ministry. Ask, too, for more opportunities to distribute Bibles and other Christian materials.

Laos



We are hoping to launch the *Revised Lao Bible* this year after some delays in finalizing the project; give thanks for the efforts of

UBS and the Lao Evangelical Church in progressing the work and pray that the new Bible blesses many people. Laos is still a closed country for Christian ministry and distributing the Bible is risky — please pray for those working to share God's Word and for more freedom for Christians.

Mexico



We thank God for the millions buying Scriptures and receiving them through our free programs. We thank him, too, for the

Portion of Luke for *Chenalthó* and *Zapotec* children. Pray for increased distribution of Braille Bibles and sign language DVDs and for Faith Comes By Hearing® in Spanish and ethnic languages. Pray for continued funding for our indigenous-language translations and ask that people may benefit from and engage with our website and social networking sites. Pray for our promoters, staff and board.



The congregation of a church in Maiduguri, Nigeria, attending a service on the UBS Day of Prayer in May. This church was destroyed by a bomb during religious rioting but has been partially rebuilt. Members who had lost their Bibles received new ones from the Bible Society of Nigeria.

Netherlands Antilles & Aruba



Thank God for our indispensable Bible World and Film & Bible Bus volunteers, old and new, and for the new coordinator

of work in Aruba. May God give him guidance. Please remember the *Papiamentu Study Bible* translators, three of whom had health problems last year. Pray, too, for our Sowers' Club, who faithfully support us with finances and prayer. And remember our Make-Your-Own Children's Bible project and our campaign against domestic violence.

Nigeria



Praise God for the opening of Bible House in Abuja. Give thanks, too, for successful elections, for the celebration of the

anniversary of the *King James Bible* and for the election of board members and a new board chairman. Pray for religious tolerance in the north and ask that God's Word will illuminate every home besieged by darkness. Ask, too, that the church will positively influence the government. Please also pray for the Trauma Healing program, as there has been violence in response to the fuel subsidy elimination in January.

Share your prayer needs with our
Circle of Prayer community on Facebook.
[Facebook.com/circleofprayer](https://www.facebook.com/circleofprayer)

In Memoriam

“But you, O LORD, are king forever; all generations will remember you.”

Psalm 102.12 (GNT)

OUR UNCLE

CLIFFORD ANDERSON

GIVEN BY MR. AND MRS. BRUCE FLANIGAN

OUR PARENTS

CHARLES AND MARY BOBLASKY

EARL AND MILDRED CHEW

GIVEN BY MR. AND MRS. THOMAS BOBLASKY

GRACE DAHLQUIST

GIVEN BY GARY DAHLQUIST

BRUCE LUNDBY

GIVEN BY MR. AND MRS. ELROY A. KELLE

DALE MACOMBER

GIVEN BY MR. AND MRS. WAYNE MACOMBER

BARBARA MILLER-SORGE

GIVEN BY AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY STAFF

MY HUSBAND

THE REV. GLENN E. MUNCY

GIVEN BY CAROLYN B. MUNCY

OUR MOTHER

MAJORIE P. MUNIZ

GIVEN BY PAULA, PAUL AND TERRY

MY FATHER

EDWARD YIP PANG

GIVEN BY EPHRAIM PANG

EDWARD YIP PANG

GIVEN BY VIRGINIA M. GRANGER

GIVEN BY ADHC MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC

MARGARET RHEA BRANDON REED

GIVEN BY BETTY REED CONN

MY PARENTS

VELMA AND CLARENCE SWANSON

GIVEN BY BARBARA S. McCULLOUGH

CLARINE G. WELLS

GIVEN BY KATIE WELLS CEWE

MY HUSBAND

HAROLD F. YEE

GIVEN BY MRS. LAVERNE A. YEE

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY TRUSTEE

B. EDGAR JOHNSON

GIVEN BY AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY TRUSTEES AND STAFF

Honor the memory of a loved one by helping to provide Bibles to people who don't yet have them. Memorials of \$500 or more for one individual or family unit will be published in the American Bible Society *Record*. For further details about the memorial process, please write to **Donor Relations, American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.**



Give to What You Love

“His name is holy; from one generation to another he shows mercy to those who honor him.” Luke 1.49b, 50 (GNT)

“Find something you love and give to that,” is the wise advice Rachel MacQuarrie received from her mother Helen Cox when she was a child. Helen had been an American Bible Society donor since 1949, the year she became a believer through reading an ABS Bible.

Gilbert and Helen Cox were devout Presbyterians and brought up their three daughters to believe in God. Rachel watched her mother read her Bible, pray and make notes in her journal every day. When Rachel found Helen’s journals after she passed away, she discovered that Helen would comment on what she was studying in God’s Word and an insight she had. She might also say

“Find something you love and give to that.”

something about what was going on. Rachel found the place where her own daughter was mentioned: “Emily born today.”

What Rachel cherishes about her mother’s spirit is that “she

was definitely joyful and thankful, and she worked at being that way, especially after our father died.”

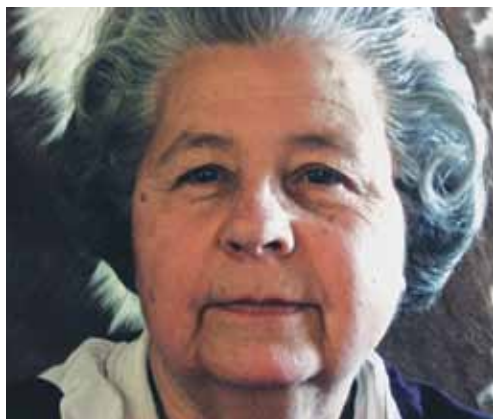
When Helen passed away in June 2011, Rachel wanted to honor her memory, and she realized that she, too, loved the mission of ABS. So, she is continuing her mother’s legacy as a life-long donor to American Bible Society. She is still following her mother’s wise advice.

By Liz Smith 

If you would like to learn more about leaving a legacy gift to American Bible Society, please visit ABSGift.org

HELPING FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

“Jesus came to them and said: ‘I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth! Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples.’ ” Matthew 2.18, 19a (CEV)



On a modest plot of rural acreage near Cumby, Texas, Billie Callendar’s biggest challenge now is battling congestive heart failure and chronic leukemia. As challenging as that is, her life is simpler yet spiritually deeper than ever. Billie has long been an avid student of God’s Word. Through the Bible Society’s Bible-A-Month Partnership, she sends Bibles to people hungry for the Word of God all over the world.

Just as important are the plans she has made to ensure her values and commitments to the Great Commission continue into the future. She discussed her plans with a Bible Society representative and then had her attorney draw up a Will and a Revocable Trust that will distribute her estate to American Bible Society upon her passing.

“I know that through the Bible Society, I’m fulfilling Jesus’s Great Commission. I can reach so many more people for Christ through ABS,” she says. Billie has peace of mind knowing the Bible Society is helping her meet her soul’s deepest desire: to obey Jesus by spreading God’s Word to people and places around the world she will never be able to visit herself.

Photo by Liz Smith.

E-mail giftplanner@AmericanBible.org, or call **800.549.3328**.

Learn more by visiting www.ABSGift.org.

REFERENCE CODE:

[Yellow box for reference code]



Photo by John Walter.

Help Provide God's Word in China ... FOR JUST \$1!

Some have prayed for their very own Bible — for years.

That's why American Bible Society is helping to provide 300,000 Bibles to men, women and children in China — a land still suffering a Scripture famine. Yet the shortage of Scriptures grows.

Because of our ministry partnerships in China, all we have to do is cover the cost of paper for the Bibles these men, women and children crave. **That means every dollar friends like you send will help give a Bible to a Chinese brother or sister.**

When you share your blessings, you will help satisfy searching souls who have been waiting for the hope and comfort of God's Word — perhaps all their lives. Please help place a Bible into the hands of someone in China whose heart is hungry for the Truth. *Thank you!*

Please return the coupon with your check made payable to American Bible Society.

To take part in this life-transforming mission, you can make your tax-deductible donation today in one of three ways:

1. Give securely online at **ABSRecord.com/biblesforchina**
2. Call our toll-free number now **1-866-895-4448**
3. Return the coupon at left with your check, payable to:
American Bible Society
P.O. Box 96812
Washington, D.C. 20090-6812

DETACH

Yes! I want to help answer the prayers of spiritually starving people in China who are still waiting for the Good News.

- I'd like to Pledge a monthly gift of \$ _____ BPM120301990013A
- I'd like to make a one-time gift of \$ _____ CPM12030171228XA

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE # _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Contributions to American Bible Society are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible as allowed by law. Please know that if the Lord blesses us with funds beyond this need, we will prayerfully use them for further Scripture ministry.

