

FROM HILTON TO YOU



Dear Friend,

There is much to be thankful for as I write to you and reflect on all that God is doing through your support to resource the under-resourced church.

This year, Bible League marks 85 years of ministry globally! What an amazing achievement. Since 1938, millions of people have been helped to understand God's Word and put their faith in Jesus. Today, more than 150,000 trained Christian volunteers around the world tirelessly serve the Lord as they carry out this global ministry we share.

In fact, Bible League supporters brought the Good News to an average of 315 people every hour of every day in 2022. That's 2,759,400 encounters with God's Word in a year!

In 2022 1,622 churches were planted, and 34,013,847 Bibles and biblical resources were provided to under-resourced churches in 70 countries... planting God's Word in hearts across the globe.

That is simply phenomenal ... and only possible through the grace and power of God. And I want to thank you for playing such an important role in helping to change so many lives.

You may know that I travelled recently across Australia and Asia to witness the life-changing work being done because you support this ministry. As I heard the stories of people whose lives were transformed by the Gospel, I was continually reminded of the importance of reaching people with the message of Christ.

So I urge you to keep your eyes on the Lord and continue praying for our mission together to bring God's Word to those in need.

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity as you continue to partner in this ministry to see more lives transformed by God's Word.

And may I encourage you as you continue "... to do good and to share what you have with others, because sacrifices like these are very pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16 ERV

God bless you!

Yours in His service,

Hilton

Hilton Edwards
Chief Executive Officer

YOUR PRAYERS ARE POWERFUL!

Thank you for lifting up the under-resourced Church around the world in prayer, as you join in to...

- Praise God for the provision of Bibles for the under-resourced Church in the Muslim World. Ask God to bless those who read His Word and share it with others.
- Pray for the trainers and leaders of the *Church Planter Training* and *Project Philip* programs. Ask God to refresh them as they share the Good News with others.
- Pray for those who minister in places of persecution. Pray that God's Word will continue to be planted in their hearts and encourage their faith, so that they can share Jesus' love to others with boldness and confidence.
- Pray for those in Bible-based Literacy classes across the world. Ask God that through their interactions with the Gospel, they come to know Christ as their Saviour.
- Thank God for the incredible work you have witnessed Him do throughout the nations. Pray that more and more people will open their hearts to receive His love.

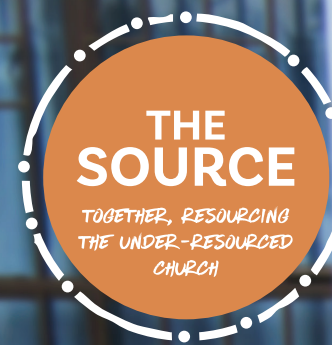
INVITE A DEVELOPMENT OFFICER TO SPEAK AT YOUR CHURCH

Want to know more about Bible League and the impact that you are making by partnering with us? We have Development Officers who would love to come and share at your Church.

Register your church's interest for a speaker and schedule a visit by contacting us today at either:

- 🌐 bl.org.nz
- 📞 **0800 242 537**
- ✉️ info@bl.org.nz

Bible League is a not for profit, multi-denominational organisation serving the local church and other partners around the world by providing Bibles and biblical resources for them to help people know Jesus Christ.



BibleLeague
INTERNATIONAL



VOL 12 ISSUE 2
JULY 2023

Pastor Adugna says,
"Thank you for serving disadvantaged churches in Ethiopia!"

Adugna* persecuted people who called themselves Christians... until he became one, **thanks to the support and prayer of friends like you!**

Raised in a strict Muslim upbringing in his remote Ethiopian community, Adugna says he was taught to hate people who loved Jesus. But at the age of 20, he was affected by a mysterious illness and couldn't work for months.

When he heard that Jesus had the power to heal him, he was sceptical... but filled with a sudden hope. Adugna shared:

"It was tough for me to seek prayer from the very people I hated... [but a church elder] shared the Gospel with me. I confessed my sin and accepted Christ as my Saviour. Then the elder prayed for my healing, and, through time, God healed me completely."

Adugna returned home a different man. He was still struggling physically, but spiritually, he had come alive!

His family were amazed at the changes in him, and they decided to follow Jesus, too. He became a passionate *Project Philip* Bible study leader who shared the Gospel with many in his community... and slowly, community attitudes began to change.

Project Philip is the heart of Bible League's global strategy – a Bible study program that trains local church members in evangelism and discipleship. It's inspired by the story of Philip and the Ethiopian in Acts chapter 8.

Project Philip trains leaders like Adugna – who has become Pastor Adugna – who invite others to study the Gospel of John. Each participant receives a Bible and is encouraged to join a local church. Pastor Adugna says:

(Continued overleaf)



Bible League New Zealand PO Box 301144, Albany, Auckland 0752 **Freecall** 0800 242 537 or (0800 BIBLES)
✉️ info@bl.org.nz 🌐 www.bl.org.nz 📘 BibleLeagueANZ 📺 bible_league_anz

Bible League International New Zealand – CC48547, a registered charitable entity in terms of the Charities Act 2005.
If projects are oversubscribed Bible League will determine another priority project.

INSIDE

- 02 Thank you for resourcing the under-resourced Church in the Muslim World!
- 03 You're helping Endrit pray for his enemies – and find hope!
- 03 Your generosity is helping to equip church planters like Adesh in Nepal!
- 04 From Hilton

(Continued from page 1)

“Many churches are planted, and many people are involved in Project Philip Bible studies because of the hunger for God’s Word and desire to grow spiritually.

“I thank all the donors and Bible League Ethiopia office for their effort and commitment to serve the disadvantaged churches of Christ in rural Ethiopia.”

You can help transform more lives like Pastor Adugna’s by resourcing the Project Philip ministry in Ethiopia with more Bibles and biblical resources. More on that to come soon!

**Name changed for security reasons*

THANK YOU

for resourcing the under-resourced church in the Muslim world



Thank you for helping Bible League-trained believers in Asia – home to the world’s largest Muslim population – to bring Project Philip Bible studies into public schools to reach students with God’s Word.

Your support to help provide more than 3,616 essential Bibles and biblical resources is creating a life-transforming impact for students like Dian* who says:

“Through Project Philip Bible studies, I have learned that Jesus is the epitome of perfect love.”

Each week, Dian* looks forward eagerly to her Bible study lesson, along with her best friend, Syahla*. It’s not easy to be a Christian in their community, but Syahla says:

“My Bible study leader is more than a mentor to me. She listens to all my struggles and comforts me when I am being bullied for being a Christian.”

Thank you for helping more Muslims to engage with God’s Word in ways they understand. And thank you for your prayers for Dian and Syahla to grow in God’s Word and help others to discover Jesus!

**Name changed for security reasons*

BIBLES

for Persecuted Christians

He now prays for his enemies who’ve been attacking his Christian community:

“Radicals don’t like to see a church. The pressure is big. Sometimes they scream when we’re inside to don’t let us quietly pray and worship God. Some set fire to the door. Others threw stones to break the glass. They damaged my car.

“I was upset, but decided to pray for them and ask God to intervene. Then things became much more quiet.”

Studying God’s Word helped changed Endrit’s attitude as he did what Jesus said:

You have heard...‘Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies. Pray for those who treat you badly. Matthew 5:43-48 ERV

Thank you for providing Bibles so persecuted Christians like Endrit can stand strong!

**Name changed for security reasons*

You’re helping Endrit pray for his enemies – and find hope!

Endrit* was born into a Muslim family like most around him in Albania. But after receiving a Bible, he “came to know Jesus”!



Church Planter TRAINING

Your generosity helps equip church planters like Adesh in Nepal!

Church Planter Training is designed for places where there are no local churches, and for growing churches eager to share the Gospel. And you’re helping equip passionate people like Adesh* to teach others about the love of Jesus with your support!

Adesh, a married man with five children, grew up in a strict Hindu home but became a Christian when his daughter was seriously ill. He shared:

“We took her to the doctor, who was unable to diagnose her. We then decided to take her to a prayer meeting. We heard many were getting healed there.

“As the pastor prayed, we saw our daughter get healed, and we trusted in God.”

Now, Adesh is reaching others in his region with the message of God’s love. He says:

“The Church Planter Training was very useful. We’ve planted more house churches and



delegated responsibilities. I have witnessed many abandon their idols to live for God.”

Thank you for your generosity to see Bibles and biblical resources put into the hands of Church Planters. Pray and ask God to bless the planting of His Word in people’s hearts across the world.

**Name changed for security reasons*



OVER
2.3 MILLION PEOPLE
REACHED THROUGH PROJECT PHILIP WORLDWIDE IN THE PAST YEAR



MORE THAN
5.7 MILLION
DIGITAL DOWNLOADS OF THE BIBLE IN THE PAST YEAR



OVER
312,000 PEOPLE
REACHED IN THE PHILIPPINES IN THE PAST YEAR