FROM HILTON TO YOU

Dear Friend.

You and I can find comfort in the knowledge that God is eternal and unchanging - especially in today's world, when change is speeding up, rather than slowing down.

He is the shelter in every storm, and we can put our hope in His steadfast nature. It's just as the Bible says...

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8 ERV

Isn't that a great encouragement? And for me, your faithfulness and generosity to plant His word in more hearts is a powerful reminder of His constant goodness.

Because every day, new stories are flooding in of changed lives, transformed hearts, fearless faith and a growing Church... and it's friends like you who make these stories possible.

In fact, you and I have the awesome opportunity to play a role in reaching more and more people with the Gospel as He continues to open doors in Indonesia, North Africa and across the Muslim world

So I want to encourage you today that the future is bright for the millions who are yet to hear the message of Jesus. The Church is growing – even in the places you and I might least expect – and that's so exciting.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers for the ministry, and for so many people like Pastor Farel and Mr Bakti (page 1) whose lives are being filled with a new hope, a new purpose, a new flourishing as God's Word is planted in their hearts.

May God bless you with even more of His goodness, just as you are helping so many to be blessed.

Yours in His service.

Hilton Edwards Chief Executive Officer

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.

THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH THE UNDER-RESOURCED **CHURCH IN PRAYER TODAY**

Your prayers are truly powerful! So, thank you for standing in prayer today as you...

- Pray for the provision of Bibles for the underresourced Church in Indonesia. 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.
- Lift up 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.

YOUR CHURCH CAN PLANT BIBLES IN THE UNDER-RESOURCED CHURCH THIS CHRISTMAS... WITH THE **BIBLE TREE!**

Each year, Churches around New Zealand unite to plant Bibles in the under-resourced Church. And your church is invited to share in the spirit of generosity! Through the Bible Tree, your church family can give Bibles to someone they may never meet, but whose life will be transformed forever! For more information:





bl.org.nz

0800 242 537



info@bl.org.nz



Pastor Farel* says his church in Indonesia is growing strongly - thanks to the support of friends like you!

Indonesia is the biggest Muslim nation by population in the world - and the Christian Church there is desperately under-resourced. But as friends like you step forward to share Bibles and Project Philip biblical resources, tools and training, more and more locals are coming to know and love Jesus.

Pastor Farel says he is particularly encouraged by the number of local men who are coming to faith.

"The growth of male congregations in our church was not significant. But, through the learning of the Bible, now they're coming back to church.

"Before, the church only had one service. But now there are three! That indicates the level of growth."

INSIDE

One well-known figure in the community, Mr Bakti*, held a traditional belief in ancestral spirits. But after

being invited to study the Bible, his heart changed. Now, he is quick to share God's goodness with others. Pastor Farel shares...

"Mr. Bakti believed that the one who is giving the blessing is the spirit of his ancestors. But since we came to his house to teach the Bible, he now believes that the one who gives blessings is no longer the ancestor spirit, but Jesus through his Holy Spirit. He says Jesus now is the host of the house!"

Lives are being transformed as God's word is planted in more hearts – and it's only possible through the faithful and generous support of friends like you as you share the Bible with those who otherwise may never have an opportunity to study the Scriptures. Pastor Farel is full of gratitude for your support. He said:

"I want to express my hope and gratitude for every Bible given to our people. Our people are usually in low to middle economics, but now they can get their own Bible for their household.

(CONTINUED OVERLEAF)



Bible League New Zealand PO Box 301144, Albany, Auckland 0752 Freecall 0800 242 537 or (0800 BIBLES)

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.

02 Pastor Adugna: "Without God's Word, no growth comes!"

03 Ponleu's life was changed... thanks to friends like you!

03 You're building the church in places where it is needed most!

04 From Hilton

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"Thank you so much, and may this partnership always last – not only with our church but with all the other churches in Indonesia that need Bibles. Thank you!"

So thank you for equipping church leaders like Pastor Farel with Bibles and biblical resources. And thank you for planting God's word in thousands of hearts across Indonesia as you help more people to know Jesus – and share him with others!

*Name-changed for security reasons.

Pastor Adugna:

"WITHOUT GOD'S WORD, NO GROWTH COMES!"

Thank you for equipping the underresourced Church in Ethiopia!

Your support to provide 210 essential Bibles and biblical resources to the

under-resourced Church in Ethiopia is changing lives across that nation!

Pastor Adugna shared how his life was transformed by the Gospel... and how he was equipped to help others come to know Jesus.

"The elder shared the Gospel with me; I confessed my sin and accepted Christ as my Saviour. Then he prayed for my healing, and through time God healed me completely."

Inspired by the story of Philip and the Ethiopian in Acts chapter 8, the Project Philip program trains leaders who invite others to study the Gospel of John. Every participant receives a Bible and is encouraged to become part of a local church.

"Without God's Word, no growth comes. The study materials are essential. I became motivated to share the Gospel in my village... so that lives are changed."

Thank you for helping to plant God's Word in their hearts so that many like Adugna come to know Jesus – and share Him with others!

*Name has been changed to protect her privacy.

Ponleu's life was changed in a *Project Philip* study group...

Ponleu* was born into poverty in Cambodia and raised by his grandparents after his father died. He knew the struggles of living in poverty.

As a young man, he moved to Thailand to find a better-paid job and a better life. But even as his standard of living improved, he felt strangely unfulfilled.

"My life was miserable. I had got what I wanted, yet I still felt empty," he said.

When he met a pastor ministering among migrant workers, he was invited into a *Project Philip* Bible study. There, he found a new purpose.

"I decided to go to church and opened my heart to accept Jesus. God changed me, and I became a servant of God from

BUILDING

THE CHURCH

in places where it is needed most!

You're

THANKS TO FRIENDS LIKE YOU!

that day onwards."

Ponleu gave up drinking and gambling and instead began sharing his testimony with other Cambodian migrant workers.

"God has called me... I want to see both Thais and Cambodians saved. Therefore, I will continue to share the Good News with them."

"Thank you very much to Bible League and the donors for the training and materials you provided!"

Your faithful support for *Project Philip* is helping thousands like Ponleu to share the love of Jesus – and see lives transformed. Thank you!

*Ponleu's name has been changed to protect his privacy.

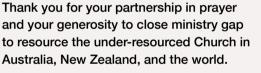


YOUR GLOBAL IMPACS



04.00

724,000
REACHED IN LATIN
AMERICA THROUGH
PROJECT PHILIP
IN THE PAST YEAR



Because your support is helping to plant God's Word in the hearts of many, so that they come to know Jesus – and share Him with others!

Abam* lives in a nation where Christians are in the minority and often persecuted. Yet your support is providing essential support and resources to help him grow and disciple his local church. He said:

"I learned how to shepherd my church, gather souls to fellowship, and approach the lost for Christ, especially Muslims, who are a majority in my area... I'm forever grateful for this lifechanging learning experience."

In places where there are no local churches, Church Planter Training provides the Bibles and training that builds sustainable churches where they are needed most.

And you are helping to bring people like Abam to faith, to gather new Christians together, and to grow the church where these new believers can grow and share their faith with others. God bless you!

*Name-changed for security reasons.



588

IN THE PHILIPPINES
IN THE PAST YEAR



MORE THAN

6.8 MILLION

EASY-TO-READ VERSION BIBLES PLANTED GLOBALLY IN THE PAST YEAR