LIVES CHANGED BY GOD’S WORD

85 MILLION BIBLES FOR CHINA

PAGE 18
“Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.”

PSALM 119:105
THE PROMISE OF A NEW SEASON
A message from Robert Briggs, American Bible Society Interim President and CEO

Friends, I am grateful for spring. I thank God for the sweetness in the air after the chill of winter and for the beauty of the cherry trees in full bloom around our office. The newness of spring is a treasured time for me.

Just as God’s earth sprouts life in the springtime, so does God’s Word sustain and refresh us in our new seasons. Second Timothy 3:16–17 says, “All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.”

When we apply God’s Word to our lives, it equips and qualifies us for every new season. God’s Word prepares us for every next stage. The Bible’s truths refine us anew.

The guidance of Scripture has been a particular help to me recently. At the end of last year, I entered into a new season at American Bible Society. Our President and CEO, Roy Peterson, announced his retirement after faithfully serving the organization for six years, and I was invited by the board to serve as Interim President and CEO.

Although I’ve served as part of the Bible Society team for more than 20 years, this new responsibility calls for fresh grace and provision from the Lord. The passionate team here at American Bible Society is freshly inspired to serve you and all who will benefit from our Bible work in this season. We covet your prayers. It’s an honor to continue serving loyal partners like you.

This spring, I hope the ancient truths of Scripture are made new to you. I pray that God’s Word encourages you this season and for many seasons to come.

Yours in Christ,

Robert L. Briggs
JESUS SPEAKS SIGN LANGUAGE IN MONGOLIA

HOW YOU ARE SHARING A SIGN LANGUAGE BIBLE WITH DEAF BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN MONGOLIA

By Hannah DeMarco
Javzaa clutches her Bible with both hands, weaving through Ulaanbaatar’s city traffic on her walk to church. She passes the colorful boxy buildings, the statues of Genghis Khan, her favorite shop to grab a quick order of buuz (dumplings). Javzaa was born deaf, so she doesn’t hear the cars honking, the restaurants’ pots clanging, the kids laughing as they push one another into caked snow.

When she enters the church doors, Javzaa feels the beat of the worship drum pulse through her even though she can’t hear it. She hums along to the vibrations. Her pastor begins the sermon, and Javzaa’s eyes dart to the sign language translator off to the side. She follows along, watching intently. Her pastor asks everyone to open their Bibles to James.

Javzaa opens her Bible, but she can’t find James. She’s had her Bible for years, but she can’t really use it. It doesn’t even really feel like her Bible. Its gold edges glow pristine. Crinkly pages stick together. The margins hold no scribbles, no notes.

After church, Javzaa sits slumped in her dining room chair, hovering over her Bible. Hot tears sting her eyes. Like 99 percent of Deaf Mongolians, Javzaa doesn’t read or write Mongolian. “Lord,” she prays, “I can’t read this. I want to know you. I want to read your Word. Help me read your Word. Help me, Lord.”

Javzaa speaks with her body. She pays attention to the way people around her move, what they tell her in a head tilt or crossed arms. She uses her hands, shoulders, and even her eyebrows to tell you her thoughts and emotions. She speaks Mongolian Sign Language.

Right now, not a single sign language Bible in the world exists. More than 466 million deaf people around the world live every day without a Bible in their language. But you are working to change that!

Little did Javzaa know—while sitting at her dining room table—that God was about to connect her to a group of people at Ulaanbaatar’s Deaf Church who would work with her to translate the first Mongolian Sign Language Bible.

THE FIRST MONGOLIAN SIGN LANGUAGE BIBLE

When Javzaa joined the Deaf Church, it felt like home. She found a community of Deaf people just like her! They sing and worship in sign. Their pastor, who is also deaf, recites passages of Scripture with her hands.

As Javzaa and others at the Deaf Church asked themselves, “How can we keep experiencing God’s Word on other days besides Sunday?” They felt the pain of not being able to connect to Psalms of comfort on troubling nights, of not being able to examine Jesus’s teachings for themselves when making a hard decision. That’s when they decided to fix the problem themselves and translate the whole Bible into Mongolian Sign.

Every week, Javzaa meets with the translation team in a small office they transformed into a makeshift studio to film the Bible translation. The team is made up of people with different talents: some fluent in sign and written Mongolian, some fluent in Hebrew and Greek, some (like Javzaa) who perform the sign translation on video. The curtains are drawn, the camera rolls. Javzaa signs God’s Word in front of a greenscreen where they can add the written verses so deaf and hearing groups can follow along together.

“I WANT TO READ YOUR WORD. HELP ME READ YOUR WORD. HELP ME, LORD.”

Javzaa

“Jesus won the victory for us.”

“God has given us mercy and love by sending us His son Jesus to save us. That’s why mercy is so important.”

Mongolian Sign Language is Javzaa’s heart language. Here are some words in sign that she holds onto for strength, along with why she cherishes them.

**Mercy**

“God has given us mercy and love by sending us His son Jesus to save us. That’s why mercy is so important.”

**Jesus**

“Jesus won the victory for us.”

**Victory**

“Jesus won the victory for us.”

**Mercy**

“God has given us mercy and love by sending us His son Jesus to save us. That’s why mercy is so important.”
Translating and filming a single verse can take longer than a week because some written words from the Bible aren’t yet formalized in sign language. And, since sign language is so visual, the team has to agree on things hearing people never even think about.

How high up the mountain did Jesus go during the transfiguration? How do we create a sign for the word “transfiguration”?

The translators huddle around a table, discussing for hours on end. The grueling work gives them life because they know they are doing God’s work. They work in anticipation for the day when the whole Bible will be translated into Mongolian Sign.

Translating from the Deaf Church knew they couldn’t translate the whole Bible on their own. They didn’t have nearly enough funding or expertise in translation. So they asked the Mongolian Union Bible Society to collaborate with them. Because of your generous support, the Mongolian Union Bible Society was able to answer their request! The Bible Society helped the Deaf Church team decide which books to tackle first and how to make sure their translations are accurate—and committed to financially supporting their translation work. In 2019, you helped complete the book of James!

Javzaa recently shared a video Sign Language Bible portion of James with her friends who can’t hear. She couldn’t wait to tell them about it! So she traveled 11 hours on an overnight train to a small village called Bulgan. Since the Mongolian Sign Language translation is on video, she downloaded the video onto her phone.

Javzaa sat on a bench in her friends’ ger (semi-permanent tent), flies buzzing overhead, a beam of sunshine peeking through the ceiling flaps. Javzaa’s friends crowded around her, glued to the tiny screen in her hands. One of her friends, Shirininkov, nodded along as he watched God’s Word unfold before his eyes.

Deaf Mongolians like Shirininkov long to have a full Bible of their own. “With the sign language Bible, I can understand God’s Word, and when I learn God’s Word, then I can grow in my faith,” signs Shirininkov. He can’t wait for the day when he can simply tap his phone and watch God’s Word anywhere, even in his remote country ger.

You travel with Javzaa every day, whether to the translation studio or a remote village where she shows God’s Word to Deaf Christians for the first time. You sit alongside her and her friends as they translate the Bible.

Javzaa signs, “This sign Bible is so very, very important to me and to all Deaf people. Because through that sign Bible, it will minister to us. I’m asking all of you, will you please help us? There are many souls in need. The one help that they need most is the Word of God in sign language.”

You can bring the Mongolian Sign Language Bible to life faster than anyone can imagine. With your support, Deaf Mongolians can finally see God’s Word. They can watch as Noah embarks on the ark. They can follow along with Paul as he travels to bring the Good News. Finally, they’ll be able to see truths from Jesus whenever they need a loving word from their Savior.

“We want Deaf people to be saved. We want them to be able to know God’s Word. This is my deepest desire,” shares Javzaa. “If you pray for us and help us have this Bible, I can only say thank you. Thank you so very, very much.”

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“No matter what we go through, we have Jesus. His peace can be with us in the most difficult of times.”

“Salvation is eternal life with Jesus. Whoever puts their faith in Christ, they have hope of eternal life in Him. Jesus includes everyone. No one is left out.”

“Because of Jesus, we aren’t in bondage anymore. We’re free.”
When Xavier was 4, his dad dropped him off at an orphanage in Peru. He felt sad and lost, like many of the world’s 153 million orphans. But the new children’s Bible you provided helped Xavier realize he wasn’t alone, and he found new happiness in God.

NICARAGUA
Thanks to you, 45,472 Nicaraguan children with cancer and their parents received Bibles and Scripture portions over the past two years.

SAaad’s mother left the family when Saad was 7. Now, at age 16, Saad is an orphan. Fortunately, he found hope in Jesus. Then, thanks to your generosity, he, like hundreds of other parentless children in Bangladesh, received his first Bible. Now Saad reads his Bible every morning and evening, finding belonging in God’s Word.

“THis is my first bible i received in my life!”
Saad, age 16, Bangladesh

“i was sad, not happy, but i received my bible and now i’m happy.”
Xavier, age 8, Peru

God is changing the lives of children around the world through His Word. Here are just a few testimonies from the millions of children who are having their hearts transformed by Scripture thanks to partners like you.

1.5M+ children’s Bibles were distributed in 2018!

Pray for children around the world to be grounded in God’s Word. Ask God to bless the efforts of Bible Societies in reaching the next generation with His message of truth. Share God’s Word with future generations at give.bible.
THE BIBLE’S MESSAGE FOR BAHRAIN’S MIGRANTS

Two arced, mirrored towers spear the sky in a triangular shape: Bahrain’s World Trade Center. At night, the sea of ultra-sleek structures and bright city lights bounce off the Persian Gulf—a rainbow of reflections. Not far from modern Manama, however, packed housing units line unlit streets. Here, behind-the-scenes service and domestic workers rest their weary heads.

More than half of Bahrain’s population and nearly 80 percent of its workforce are migrant workers. These men and women say goodbye to their homes and families in impoverished villages in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines, and Sri Lanka and arrive in Bahrain ready to work. They send their earnings back home to their families, with the hope of being reunited again one day.

What they face, however, is unlike anything they expected. Confronted with unpaid wages and harsh working conditions, many migrant workers are used, abused, and exploited—with no one to come to their defense. They live in crowded buildings known as labor camps—men in one, women in another—that are divided into rooms where 10 to 12 people sleep, sometimes on bug-infested floors. Discouraged and lonely, with what seems like no way out, migrant workers become depressed and often suicidal.

YOUR GIFT saves

Because of your love, however, God’s Word is reaching thousands of vulnerable migrant workers in labor camps and churches across Bahrain. They’re discovering that God is their defense. He hears their cries. He uplifts their weary souls.

YOUR GIFT multiplies

Anu moved to Bahrain from India with the hope of making some money and returning to his family in two years’ time. Now, six years later, he lives in a labor camp and works long days as a house painter. He can’t read or write. But when he listened to the audio Bible you sent in Telugu, his heart language, he came to accept Jesus as his personal Savior! He couldn’t contain his excitement and shared his new faith with his friend, Paran, a Hindu. Paran also became a believer and started telling others in their labor camp about Jesus. The number of believers in the camp has continued to grow! Now, the group meets weekly to sing, pray, and talk about Scripture—using the Bibles you provided. Paran says, “In Hinduism, there is no peace, there is no happiness. But here [in the Bible], I got it—from God. The relationship from God is here.”

YOUR GIFT satisfies

Because of your gift of God’s Word, migrant workers are finding the blessing of new life in Christ. Although they live in difficult settings, they now have the love of Jesus to share with one another—and with their families back home in the days to come. Thank you for giving the gift of eternal life and hope through the message of the Bible.

YOUR GIFT MATTERS IN THE ARABIAN GULF

3,000 Audio Scriptures given to illiterate Telugu speakers like Anu

60 languages served by Bible Society in the Gulf

34,500 free Bibles and Scripture Portions distributed in 2019
God’s Word for Our Military

60,000,000+ Bibles have gone to American Service Members, Veterans, and their families through American Bible Society’s Armed Services Ministry™ to date.

~550,000 U.S. Service Members currently receive Scripture engagement materials each year thanks to you.

~900 chaplains nationwide are helping Service Members engage with God’s Word through Armed Services Ministry™.

FINDING FAITH AT FORT JACKSON

Thanks to your support, a Veteran named Pastor Vargas gives 1,000 Soldiers a Bible of their own each year. Pastor Vargas has served on the Fort Jackson base in South Carolina for more than 23 years, and he partners with American Bible Society’s Armed Services Ministry. Half of the Army goes through Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, where Soldiers have the opportunity to learn about God through weekly services Pastor Vargas leads in both English and Spanish.

Pastor Vargas is grateful for your support, which allows him to provide Bibles to these brave Service Members from all faiths and backgrounds. These Bibles challenge the Soldiers to ready themselves with faith in Jesus the way they ready themselves physically. Pastor Vargas says, “These soldiers have a hunger for Jesus. They want more and more. They are looking for answers. They need to understand that God is here for you in the good times and the bad times—in every time, in every moment.” Thank you for giving chaplains and Military ministry leaders like Pastor Vargas the Bibles they need to keep our troops spiritually equipped.

“THESE SOLDIERS HAVE A HUNGER FOR JESUS. THEY WANT MORE AND MORE.”

Pastor Vargas

Discover our history.
Imagine our future.

In America’s past, the Bible shaped the values of our nation’s founders, inspiring them to build a country that looked to God for hope and guidance.

In America’s present, biblical literacy and understanding have almost disappeared. Is it any wonder that biblical values are also in retreat?

In America’s future, YOU can share the Bible’s incomparable influence with hundreds of thousands of students, children, and other Americans in need of God’s truth.

The Faith and Liberty Discovery Center is opening in Philadelphia in fall 2020. At this immersive Bible experience, people from across the country will discover how the Bible is just as relevant today as it was at the time of our founding.

Become a Charter Member of the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center!
fldc.americanbible.org
AT AGE 60, MIAO BELIEVER LEI ZHANG RECEIVED HIS FIRST BIBLE

1 OF 85 MILLION BIBLES FOR CHINA

By Laura Chan
ou are sitting under a brisk summer sky on a carved wooden stool. Next to you is a modest clay house with a thatched roof. At your feet, the ground rolls away down the hill and into tiered rice paddies and rivers. Bundles of sticks are piled to your right and left—the hope of heat for the fall and winter to come. Across from you sits a man in his 60s, wearing a worn blue jacket and carefully cradling a beige-covered book in his farm-calloused hands. His fingers, bruised from labor, pet the pages gently as he searches for something in the text. He grins and the wrinkles around his eyes go to their familiar places. And startling the calm majesty of the morning, he begins to read his favorite words from this book, “For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.”

The man you’ve just met is Lei Zhang*, and you can’t fully fathom what a miracle it is for him to be reading that book, his Bible, to you. Lei is holding that new Bible so gently because he knows what a gift it is. You see, for the past 30 years of his Christian life, Lei has longed for God’s Word in his language. Up until now, he’s only had pieces of Scripture, only dreamt of what the whole story could be. Then, when he turned 60 years old, you stepped in and provided that Bible for Lei—the first in his life.

LEI’S 30-YEAR WAIT

Everything in Lei’s early life worked against the moment you just experienced. For the first 30 years of his life, religion was banned in China. There were no church buildings. Pastors and Christian communities operated in whispers, threatened with imprisonment or worse if they dared to share their faith. No one evangelized in the streets; no one hosted worship nights; no one carried around a Bible. There seemed to be no way for Lei to ever hear about Jesus.

Complicating matters was Lei’s remote location. He was born in a small Miao farming village on the side of a mountain to a family with very little. “Our lives have always been modest,” Lei says. Growing up, Lei didn’t even have shoes to make the 31-mile trek to the nearest town, so instead of attending school, he stayed home to help farm corn and beans.

For nearly 30 years, Lei wondered if there was more to life than farming. He came of age, got married, and took over the family farm. Every morning he woke up to light a fire in his home’s open oven, thankful for what he had, yet feeling unsettled in his soul.

Miao (Hmong) speakers live primarily in isolated mountain villages throughout China and Southeast Asia. More than 1.7 million Miao speakers live in China alone, according to Ethnologue. They are traditionally farmers and family oriented, divided into patrilineal clans. Although Miao religious views are varied, the group traditionally follows animism or shamanism—believing spirits inhabit all things. Now that the Miao have the Bible in their language, however, God is bringing them closer to Him.
One day, strange visitors came to Lei’s village. They walked from house to house, inviting people to events to hear about someone named Jesus. Lei couldn’t shake the invitation. Reflecting, he says, “I was thirsty for the truth.”

At one of these events, Lei was introduced to the Way, the Truth, the Life he’d been missing. After nearly a lifetime of religious silence during the Cultural Revolution, the glorious Good News of Jesus was finally explained to Lei in ways he understood. At age 30, he became a follower of Jesus. He found the Living Water for which he’d been thirsting.

Suddenly Lei’s life was reoriented. As a farmer, he was accustomed to the physical rhythm of planting, waiting, harvesting. As a believer, his life took on a new spiritual significance. When he lost crops to frost and disease, he had a Provider God to trust. When he had surprise bumper crops and good weather, he had a Provider God to thank. He immersed himself in learning everything he could about this God who had given him life and new life.

Lei was eager to read God’s Word—this manual for living that the missionaries had talked about. But because he hadn’t been able to go to school as a boy, Lei had never learned to read. Through his local church, he started taking literacy courses. Lei learned to read and was eager to dive into God’s Word, but that still wasn’t a possibility for many reasons.

No one in Lei’s circle of believers could read the Bible—because no one had one. First, Bibles are hard to come by in rural areas. Second, during China’s Cultural Revolution (1966–1976), all religious Scriptures were confiscated and destroyed. In the aftermath, Christians faced a severe Bible shortage.

Amity Printing Company, a governmentally authorized Bible press started through Bible Society partnerships just after the Cultural Revolution in the ’80s, started printing Bibles in Chinese at an incredible rate, but it wasn’t close to enough for everyone in the country who wanted one.

Further complicating these issues was the fact that Lei lived in a remote area and spoke Miao, not Mandarin. A Miao speaker trying to read the Bible in Mandarin is like an English speaker trying to read the Bible in Latin—the script is familiar but incomprehensible.

Fortunately for Lei, although the Miao Christians around him lacked the Bible in their language, they did have some handwritten Bible passages and Christian hymns. These scraps of Scripture had been hidden during the Cultural Revolution, kept safe to preserve the faith. The group shared these precious words, each carefully copying them into their own journals. Lei is grateful for these Scripture snippets, because, as he says, “Through these we came to know God.”

Still, these pieces of the story weren’t enough; he longed to read all of God’s Word to him.

Over the past 30 years, Lei has grown a lot in his faith. He’s learned to trust God alongside his wife, in sickness and in health. He’s grieved bad crops with God and sung praises to God when He provided in abundance. And he’s faithfully prayed with his Miao community—God, bring us Your Word.
Over the past 30 years, Lei spent many late nights asking God to reveal Himself. He’d wrestled with decisions, wishing he could turn to God’s Word for wisdom.

In 2018—thanks to partners like you—a miracle happened. Bibles in Miao were distributed in Lei’s community.

At age 60, Lei received his first Bible. Holding his answer to prayer in his hands, Lei choked back emotion. “This is spiritual food for me,” he said grinning.

All the practice Lei put into reading is paying off. “Now that I have my own Bible, I’m really going to read it,” he says. And he does. He reads it aloud every day, soaking in the words he’d missed for so long.

Now, Lei and his wife have a place to turn for guidance and comfort. They—like the other Christians in their community who finally received Bibles—are thankful for the translators and financial partners who made it all possible.

“I am so happy and grateful for this Book.” Lei Zhang

PRAY FOR LEI

You are sitting under a brisk summer sky on a carved wooden stool. A man named Lei Zhang is sitting across from you bowing his head, asking you to pray for the spiritual and physical health of his household.

You pray for Lei and his wife: God, we thank You for the blessing of Your Word that points us to ultimate truth. Thank You for opening the doors so the Zhang family could receive a Bible in their language. Please draw them closer to You. Help them be a blessing to other Miao believers as well as to those who do not yet know You. Amen.

“Name changed

Only 15 of over 200 minority language people groups in China have the New Testament or a full Bible in their language. Bring God’s Word to waiting Christians in China at give.bible/china

To only know Elsie in this way, however, would be to miss the heart that drove her. Elsie was born into a Ukrainian American family that loved the Lord above all else. In turn, Elsie considered God and family her most important pursuits. She was faithful to give to her church and multiple charities and to live out the Good News of Jesus wherever she went. She saw the Bible as the key to success and looked to it for truth and guidance, just as she’d seen her parents do. “Our family’s values very much came straight out of the Bible,” says Elsie’s nephew, Peter Sokol.

At age 92, Elsie’s earthly life came to an end, but her passion for sharing God’s Word lives on. That’s because Elsie planned ahead to continue honoring God after she’d passed on to be with Him by naming American Bible Society in her Will. Elsie chose to pay homage to her ancestors by ensuring that generations to come also have access to the life-changing message of God’s Word. Her legacy is as powerful as her Christian heritage.
SHARING GOD’S WORD IN UKRAINE

Elsie’s biblical worldview was directly tied to the strong faith of her family. Growing up, she was surrounded by God’s Word. Elsie’s niece Lois Wessel says, “There must have been 20 Bibles in that house, so that was a very big influence in all of their lives.”

Jacob Sokol, Elsie’s father, would read to the family from the Good Book every day, filling the house with the whispers of Scripture. Jacob was also a natural evangelist, passionate about building the church and sharing the Bible.

A desire to share the Good News is what drove the family back to Galicia, now a part of present-day Ukraine, when Elsie was four years old. Jacob and his wife, Annastazia, were excited to share the Bible through the local Evangelical Baptist Church. They involved the entire family in sharing about the God of Scripture. Unfortunately, the family’s time as missionaries was short-lived. The family received threats of kidnappings or worse if they didn’t cease their work with the church. When murmurs of World War II threatened to tear apart the relative stability of what is now Western Ukraine, the Sokols decided to move back to the States. Still, this formative time gave Elsie firsthand experience sharing the life-changing message of God’s Word—something that became a lifelong pursuit for her.

A GODLY HOME IN AMERICA

Back home in the States, Elsie learned the joys of American baseball and hot dogs, as well as Ukrainian hard work and vareniks (pierogies). She also learned that one thing transcended culture: the Bible. As she grew up and saw earthly success, Elsie never lost her footing; she stayed grounded in God’s Word. Peter says, “I think Elsie saw the Bible as the formula for success. To be successful in this life, you had to gear yourself to be successful in eternity.”

Elsie learned about true success from her father and mother. Jacob and Annastazia invested in her—showing her what it meant to serve God as they read (and cried) over Scripture. Peter says, “Every evening following dinner, they would study the Bible together. And that was the environment that Elsie lived in.”

As Elsie got older, her faith matured. Eventually, as her parents aged, the responsibility of care shifted to Elsie, and she made sure Jacob and Annastazia were well supported—physically and spiritually. She would spend hours with her father in the garden, reading from the Bible. Even when she had pressing work commitments, she’d always make sure her Pop, as she called him, was well fed with food and Scripture. “Elsie was a model for honoring family,” says Peter.

HONORING THE PAST GENERATION, HONORING THE FUTURE

For Elsie, giving back to a Christian organization was a way of honoring the parents and God she so adored. Lois says, “Giving to American Bible Society was a way for Elsie to honor her parents, my grandmother and grandpop.”

Through her generosity, Elsie honored not only her immediate family but also her extended family of Christian brothers and sisters around the world. Through her support, Elsie sent Bibles to orphans in Ukraine, to hurting hearts in Rwanda, and to waiting believers in China. Through her Will, she continues to bolster this important Bible ministry. We remember her now as an example of a strong businesswoman who faithfully lived and faithfully gave to see God’s Kingdom come. On behalf of future generations, thank you, Elsie!

Elsie’s Ukrainian Heritage

Elsie’s beloved father, Jacob Sokol, was in the Austro-Hungarian Army. While on leave in the United States in 1914, Jacob learned that war had broken out in Austria-Hungary. Soon, that skirmish escalated into World War I, and sea travel was blocked. There were no ships to carry Jacob back home.

Over those years away from Ukraine, Jacob became accustomed to life in America. He met his wife Annastazia (also Ukrainian), got married, and started his family in New Jersey. One of the reasons Elsie had such a heart for global ministry was this connection to her homeland across the ocean. She wanted everyone—here in the U.S. and abroad—to know the saving power of Jesus.
2020 Daily Bible Reading Guide

One of the best ways to grow in your relationship with God is to read His Word each day. Use this guide to read through the Bible this year, as God illuminates His truths to you and helps you live for Him.

### January
- **1** Acts 1:1-17
- **2** Rom 1:1-17
- **3** Rom 2:1-16
- **4** 2 Tim 3:1-17
- **5** Matt 1:18-25

### February
- **1** 1 Cor 1:1-17
- **2** Rom 1:18-32
- **3** Rom 2:1-16
- **4** 2 Tim 3:1-17
- **5** Matt 1:18-25

### March
- **1** Eph 5:1-23
- **2** Matt 7:1-17
- **3** Matt 8:1-17
- **4** Matt 9:1-17
- **5** Matt 9:18-38

### April
- **1** Ps 46:1-11
- **2** Ps 46:1-11
- **3** Ps 47:1-12
- **4** Ps 47:1-12
- **5** Ps 49:1-13

### May
- **1** Acts 1:1-17
- **2** Acts 2:1-17
- **3** Acts 3:1-26
- **4** Acts 4:1-26
- **5** Acts 7:1-17

### June
- **1** 1 Cor 1:1-17
- **2** 1 Cor 2:1-27
- **3** 1 Cor 3:1-27
- **4** 1 Cor 4:1-27
- **5** 1 Cor 5:1-27

### July
- **1** 1 Cor 1:1-17
- **2** 1 Cor 2:1-27
- **3** 1 Cor 3:1-27
- **4** 1 Cor 4:1-27
- **5** 1 Cor 5:1-27

### August
- **1** 1 Cor 1:1-17
- **2** 1 Cor 2:1-27
- **3** 1 Cor 3:1-27
- **4** 1 Cor 4:1-27
- **5** 1 Cor 5:1-27

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IN MEMORIAM

in memory of my father
Jere Lawrence Crook Jr.
given by Jere L. Crook III
in memory of
Larry and Jean Elliott
given by Richard Small
in memory of my husband
Harold L. Felte
given by Joleita J. Felte
in memory of my husband
Olan Forker
given by Kathleen Forker
in memory of my mother
Ethel Mae Geller
given by Dennis Geller
in memory of my wife
June Handwerker
given by Bob Handwerker
in memory of my husband
Elroy Kelle
given by Eloise F. Kelle
in memory of my father
Henry P. Leonard Jr.
given by Lisa Pritchard
in memory of
Anne Ruth Lansing
given by Zoraida A. Portillo

in memory of my father
Norlan Nelson
given by Susan Nelson
in memory of our daughter
Karla Rae Peter
given by Dean and Marlene Plooster
in memory of
Lester J. Reed
given by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Warner
in memory of my husband
Hans Schafft
given by Lillian Schafft
in memory of my mother
Charlotte Young
given by David Young
in memory of our mother and mother-in-law
Charlotte Young
given by Jill and James Morse
in memory of my parents
Charles and Charlotte Young
given by Bruce and Judith Young
in memory of my parents
Charles and Charlotte Young
given by Steve and Mary Young

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Jesus
Christ is the answer!

These brothers included American Bible Society in their estate plan to tell future generations about Jesus.

“Jesus Christ is the answer!”

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“The Bible contains more than words—it is the divine revelation of our Creator.”

At just five years old, brothers Bob and Joe Ellis were captivated by their grandfather’s zeal for God’s Word. Now retired, the two brothers never forgot their grandfather’s example—and never stopped loving the words of their heavenly Father.

“The Bible is something to be shared.”

Bob and Joe have been encouraged by American Bible Society’s 203-year legacy of Bible ministry. They want this ministry to continue for generations to come.

“He provided all that we have in order to accomplish our heavenly Father’s Great Commission.”

Bob and Joe found a way to keep sharing God’s Word long after they leave this earth to join their heavenly Father—by naming American Bible Society as a beneficiary in their estate plan.

“We pray that this pledge will bring His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Thanks to Bob’s and Joe’s planning, generations to come will meet Jesus in God’s Word, long after the Ellis brothers have joined their Lord in heaven. What a legacy!

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Many faithful partners like you have already remembered American Bible Society in their Wills—ensuring that the work of sharing God’s Word continues for generations to come.

If you have already taken that important step, thank you! We would love to hear about your decision.

If you would like more information on Wills, we can send you a Will Information Guide—at no cost! Supplies are limited, so act now!

WE’D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

☐ Yes! I have named American Bible Society in my Will.

☐ Not Yet! Please send me my free Will Information Guide.

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