

Joyreport

THE LIVING WORD TRANSFORMING LIVES

Spring 2025

**You are
making a
difference!**

**Read stories that
you made possible!**

Expanding the Church *page 3*

Restored and Renewed *page 4*

Standing Up for Jesus *page 6*



You are sharing the love of God with the children in Bible Clubs in India even amidst persecution. Story on *page 7*.



Connecting Canadian donor champions like you with global champions to see maximum impact and multiplying transformation.

Bible League Canada is committed to doing missions differently. How? Through extraordinary international partnerships in almost 50 countries. Local believers, equipped through Bible-centric discipleship programs to become champions for the Gospel, are reaching their own communities with the Living Word of God.

BOX 368, GRIMSBY, ON L3M 4H8
1.800.363.9673
BIBLELEAGUE.CA

MINISTRY UPDATES

Made Possible Through Your Support

Incredible news to report: in the past 6 months, by the grace of God, your gifts provided for almost half a million Bibles. Almost 500,000 believers will hold a copy of God's Word in their hands, some for the first time, some in secret, but all with praise and thanks to God, made possible through your faithfulness!




In Myanmar, over 44,000 new believers received Bibles, and in Cambodia over 60,000 Bibles!

For Christians and new believers living in India, where it can be difficult to be a Christian, more than 94,000 Bibles will be placed in eager, waiting hands.

Your gifts also provided persecuted Christians in many countries hostile to Christianity with 127,950 Bibles

Thank you!

Follow @BibleLeagueCanada on social media.

-  Facebook
-  Instagram
-  YouTube



Expanding the Church

Pastor Luke has embraced the vision to see a church in every village in Cambodia. Sitting in the doorway of the church, he tells his story:

"I serve as pastor in this church here. Before I started with this church, I was just an ordinary church member at another church, serving God there. But then, one day, a pastor at the church in the next village, where we often stayed, moved on and there was no one taking care of that church!"

Answering God's call on his heart, Pastor Luke had recently taken training to start new churches, thanks to your support. Now he exclaims, "So I just take over leading this church! Many of the members are new believers so we use Bible studies. It helps the new believer because the studies are easy to understand."

Now Pastor Luke is standing in the doorway, his eyes bright, excited about what is happening in this church. "God has turned whole families around, so many of them. When a wife is touched by the Word of God, it turns her heart. And if the wife believes in Jesus, then God speaks through her so she can share the Good News to her family: her children, her husband, her parents. The whole family shows love for each other. Maybe the husband used to be a drunkard or be wild, but now when he shows more love to his family it's different. God turns people around."



"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 NIV

And Pastor Luke's story continues. He is working with the believers in his church, discipling them to be leaders, to accept training. "We already have some nearby villages where we have established a small group or church. And we plan to go to the further villages as well. God chooses someone else in the church, and then we equip and send them. That is how we expand the church!"

**The Living Word of God
transforming lives!**

Restored and Renewed

Pastor Ivan's church in the town of Pavlikeni had a desire to reach into their community but did not know how to start.

When he heard that an evangelist named Stoyan, trained to start new churches through your support, would be arriving in his town, he began praising God saying excitedly, "Do you know that our whole church has been praying for a month for God to send a worker to Pavlikeni, and now we see the answer to our prayers!"

It was then that Stoyan realized that God had prepared many people for him to meet there. Over five days, Stoyan personally connected with no fewer than 220 people! It was amazing!

Stoyan decided to visit the Turkish quarter of the town at the request of one of the women from the church. She told him to look for a man named Ibryam.

When Stoyan found him, he was invited in and during the conversation, Stoyan asked Ibryam, "Why has the Lord sent me to you? Who are you?"

Ibryam then began to share that 22 years ago, for 10 years, he had been the pastor of a local church. Most would say it was a very successful church, but attacks started coming against him from some very vocal church members accusing him of embezzling money, making false reports about him to the mayor, and other lies. Eventually, Ibryam simply couldn't bear it and left, abandoning the church and his faith, and without him, the church disbanded.



Stoyan gently began speaking to Ibryam and reading Scripture about restoration and returning to God. Ibryam was deeply moved and shared that in recent days, the Lord had been speaking to his heart, telling him that someone sent by Him would come to his home. Ibryam accepted Stoyan's rebuke and repented. That very Sunday he accompanied Stoyan to church, eager for opportunities to return to ministry.

The next day, Ibryam shared that God had placed a desire in his heart to seek out each of the 80 people from his scattered church and start a new church.

*"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;
I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."*

EZEKIEL 36:26 NIV



Standing Up for Jesus

One man, a former national security officer, shares his powerful testimony of faith and perseverance in the face of intense persecution. His journey to Christianity began with tragedy.

His mother was killed by religious extremists when he was just a teenager, leaving him with so many unanswered questions about his religion's claims of peace.

Years of struggling and searching led him to Jesus, who transformed his life.

He connected with fellow believers through social media and found a community in Christ. However, this newfound faith came at a great cost. His wife and children were kidnapped by his family, to remove them from his "influence."

Then he was arrested, detained, and tortured by officials for three days. Before releasing him, they implanted a tracking device in his arm to monitor his movements. As he lay bleeding in his cell, he had painted the words, Christ Alone with the blood that had pooled on the floor. That is his testimony. That is who he serves.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

MATTHEW 5:10 NIV

Yet his prayer is not for release from persecution. "I want to be a shining example for other Christians in my country, inspiring hope and resilience in the face of this persecution. I will stand up for Jesus. Please, will you join me in this prayer?"

His conviction and perseverance are a powerful demonstration of the courage of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Your support makes it possible to provide them with the Scriptures and training they ask for to spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in this intimidating environment.

Turning Used Goods into Bibles



Your donations are converted to cash and used to transform people's lives through the Living Word of God.

Shop, Donate Goods or Volunteer today!
Proceeds from Mission Thrift Stores go to Bible League Canada.

MISSION
THRIFT STORE
BFM Foundation

missionthriftstore.com

Momentary Troubles

Four years ago, Sumeda knew that she needed Jesus as her personal Lord and Saviour. With training made possible through your support and compelled by her love for Jesus, Sumeda began to faithfully serve as a Children's Bible Club leader at the young age of 18. Why? "God has blessed me, so I want others also to be blessed with the love of God," Sumeda shares.

But the journey hasn't been easy.

Anti-Christian activists came to Sumeda's village and interrogated her. Sumeda found herself being questioned about her faith and the Children's Bible Club that she led. Many Indian states have enforced the Anti-Conversion Law that prohibits the conversion of someone from one religion to another by force, allurements, or fraudulent means. Anti-Christian activists use it as a means to harass Christians.

Sumeda stood firm, facing their questions and accusations with confidence. Yet, the interrogation ended with Sumeda and her whole family being expelled from their village, and the Bible Club forced to close. Additionally, a fine of 25,000 rupees (over \$400) was declared for anyone who attempted to maintain a relationship with Sumeda or her family.

Sumeda's firm foundation in Jesus while facing persecution is a testament to the Holy Spirit's work in her life. As the months pass by since Sumeda was first expelled from her community, she and her family are comforted by the promises from God they read in their Bible.



"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-17 NIV

Each day they pray that Sumeda will find a way for ministry to continue, and that the hope that overflows in her life, by the power of the Holy Spirit, will be a testament to everyone she meets.

**The Living Word of God
transforming lives!**

Church Leaders with No Bibles

Imagine attending church or your small group without your Bible — or looking around the room and seeing that no one has a Bible, including the leader!

But that is what is happening to church leaders in Africa. Leaders, discipling new believers, without Bibles.

One pastor sums it up, saying, "I can see the light of Christ in my congregation. But I need Bibles!"

You can place a Bible in their hands, for just \$5.
And, if you give before April 30, 2025, your gift will be matched! \$5 will place 2 Bibles!

Please use the enclosed reply card,
call 1-800-363-9673, or visit
BibleLeague.ca/Transforming-Africa/



SCAN TO GIVE

YES! I want to provide Bibles.

☐ Here is my gift to provide Bibles, and ministry programs, **where most needed.**

\$

☐ I'd like to give Bibles and training every month. **Here is my first monthly gift of:**

\$

Every \$5
you give
provides
a Bible!

BIBLE LEAGUE CANADA
BOX 368, GRIMSBY ON L3M 4H8
1.800.363.9673 | BIBLELEAGUE.CA

