

Celebrating
OUR
the bountiful, spiritual
INCREDIBLE
harvest
GOD
of 1999



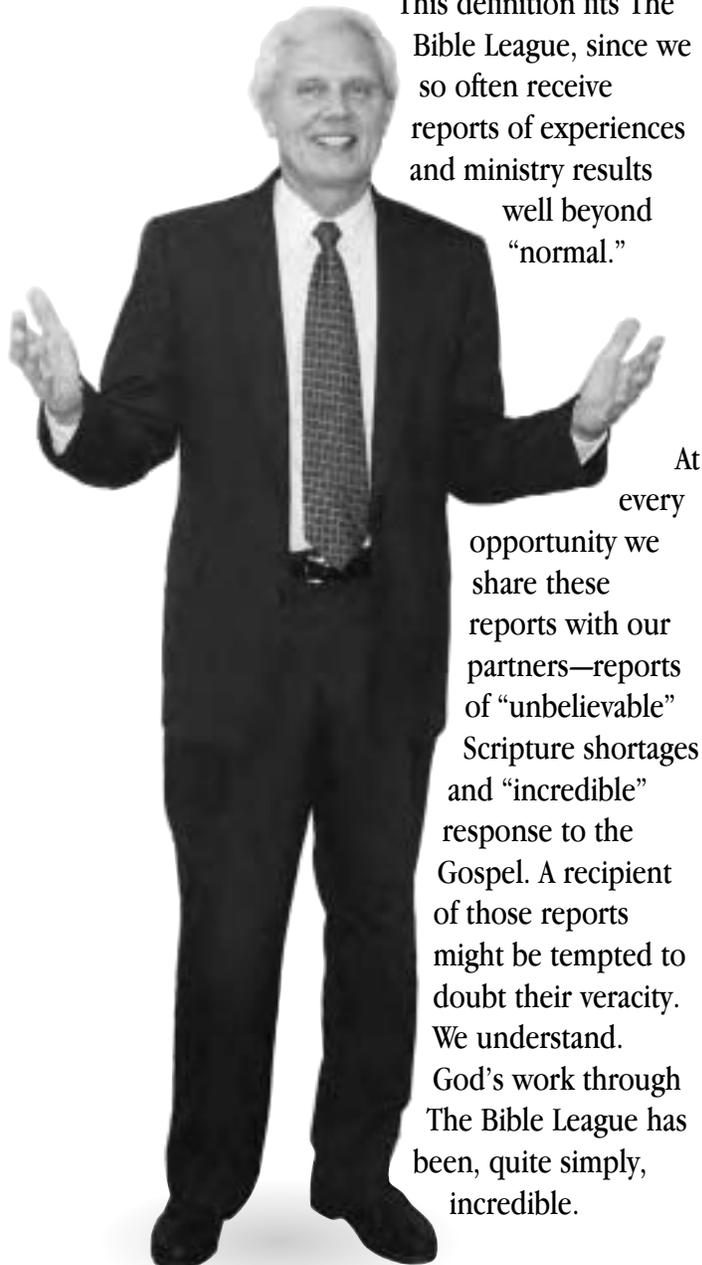
THE BIBLE LEAGUE
1999 Annual Report

A year of **Incredible Results**

teaches us again that **nothing** is too difficult for the Lord.

We at The Bible League are tempted this year to overuse the word “**incredible.**” Webster defines “incredible” as “too extraordinary and improbable to be believed.”

This definition fits The Bible League, since we so often receive reports of experiences and ministry results well beyond “normal.”



At every opportunity we share these reports with our partners—reports of “unbelievable” Scripture shortages and “incredible” response to the Gospel. A recipient of those reports might be tempted to doubt their veracity. We understand. God’s work through The Bible League has been, quite simply, incredible.

Perhaps our 1999 experiences of God’s blessings are “too improbable to be believed” because our faith in God is still growing. Or perhaps they are “incredible” because they are so miraculous. In any case, they are not the kind of events a rational person could expect or predict.

I hope that you, too, will be amazed by the results you read in this Annual Report. We have organized it by *types* of ministry The Bible League specializes in. Within those categories we have highlighted major accomplishments in various countries. If you would like more detailed information about ministry in a particular country, we can provide that to you as well.

It’s true, our 1999 ministry results are incredible. We gave God’s powerful Word to people whose hearts were prepared by the awesome work of the Holy Spirit. God’s children in local churches were incredibly eager to share His Word with their neighbors. Some

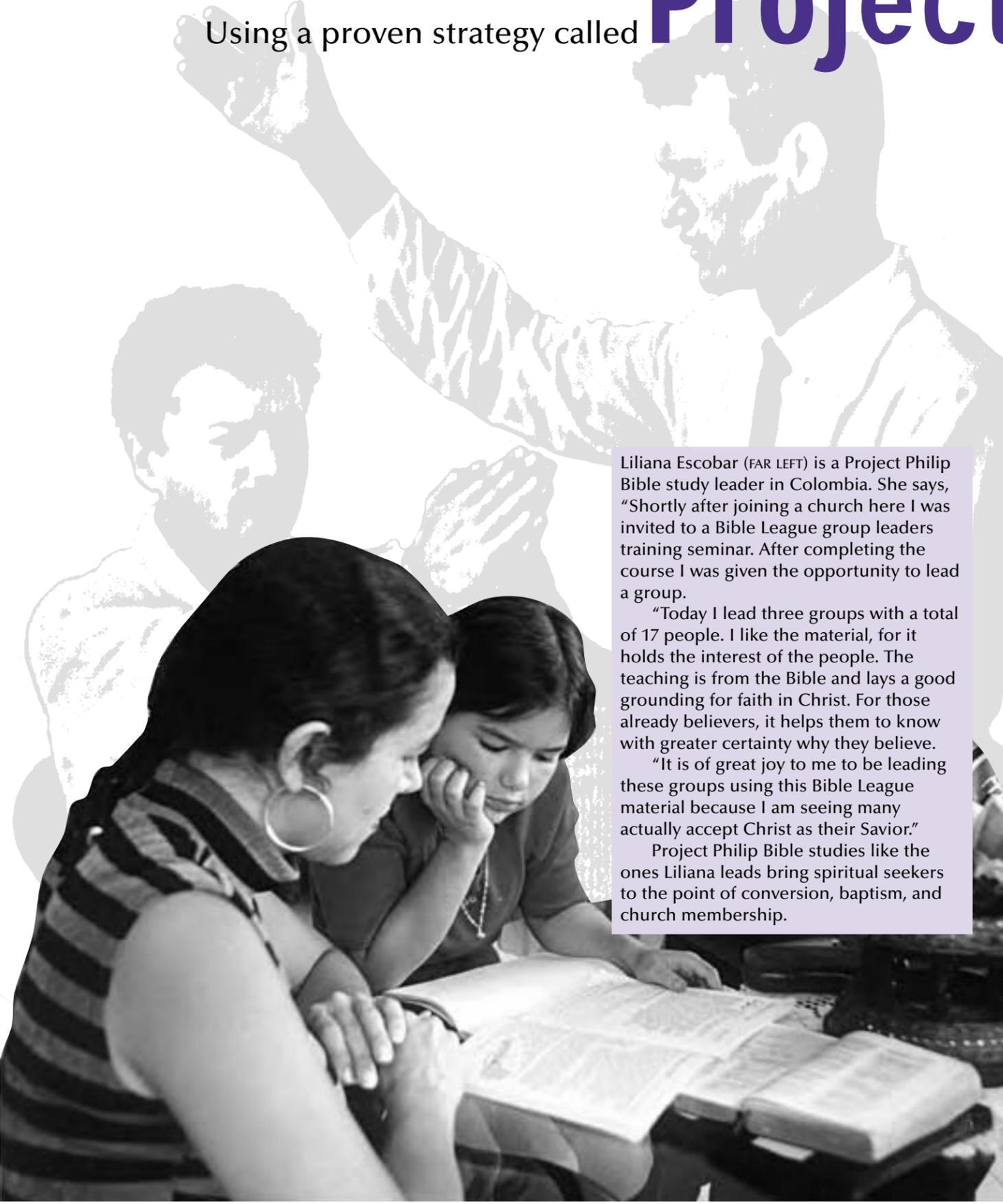
of our donors made incredible sacrifices to provide Scriptures. And our own incredibly gifted staff oversaw diverse inventories, tested new strategies, spoke diverse languages, traveled to dangerous places—all to achieve amazing results.

Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of 1999 was a **renewed awareness of how incredible our God really is.** We depend on Him to provide everything—the donors, the workers, the Bibles, the results. And we claim His promise in Habakkuk 1:5— “Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. **For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.**” Amen!

Denny

Rev. Dennis M. Mulder
President

Using a proven strategy called **Project Philip**, The Bible League combines evangelism with discipleship, giving new Christians the support they need as they start their new life in Christ.



Liliana Escobar (FAR LEFT) is a Project Philip Bible study leader in Colombia. She says, "Shortly after joining a church here I was invited to a Bible League group leaders training seminar. After completing the course I was given the opportunity to lead a group.

"Today I lead three groups with a total of 17 people. I like the material, for it holds the interest of the people. The teaching is from the Bible and lays a good grounding for faith in Christ. For those already believers, it helps them to know with greater certainty why they believe.

"It is of great joy to me to be leading these groups using this Bible League material because I am seeing many actually accept Christ as their Savior."

Project Philip Bible studies like the ones Liliana leads bring spiritual seekers to the point of conversion, baptism, and church membership.



The ultimate result of The Bible League's Project Philip strategy is that more and more people are being disciplined into God's kingdom and baptized into the fellowship of local churches. ABOVE, a Bible study group in Ethiopia meets in an open field. Throughout Africa and the Middle East last year, 155,909 people gathered in Bible studies like this; 18,363 of them became baptized church members.

We call our strategy "Project Philip," after the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8. Unlike traditional approaches, Project Philip goes beyond providing Bibles and getting "decisions." Through Project Philip, people are invited by their friends to participate in a Bible study. By completing the study, they can earn their own New Testament. By completing additional lessons, they can earn a whole Bible.

Throughout the process, these seekers are studying God's Word side-by-side with local Christians. As they complete the lessons, their interest in Scripture increases, their relationship with the local church is strengthened, and many come to faith in Christ. The Scriptures they earn and the fellowship they join then feed their new faith.

The Bible study and discipleship process is essential because faith that is not grounded in God's Word

and nurtured by fellowship with other Christians is like a seed on rocky soil. It has no root, so it cannot last.

The Bible League employs the Project Philip strategy in nearly every country where we have office staff to follow up and measure results. We use Project Philip primarily with existing churches, to help them grow spiritually and numerically (although church planters use the material as well to establish new churches in unreached areas). We provide churches the Bible study booklets, New Testaments, and Bibles they need to begin the program. But in order to receive more materials and continue the program, churches must demonstrate that they are using the Scriptures effectively. We ask them to report:

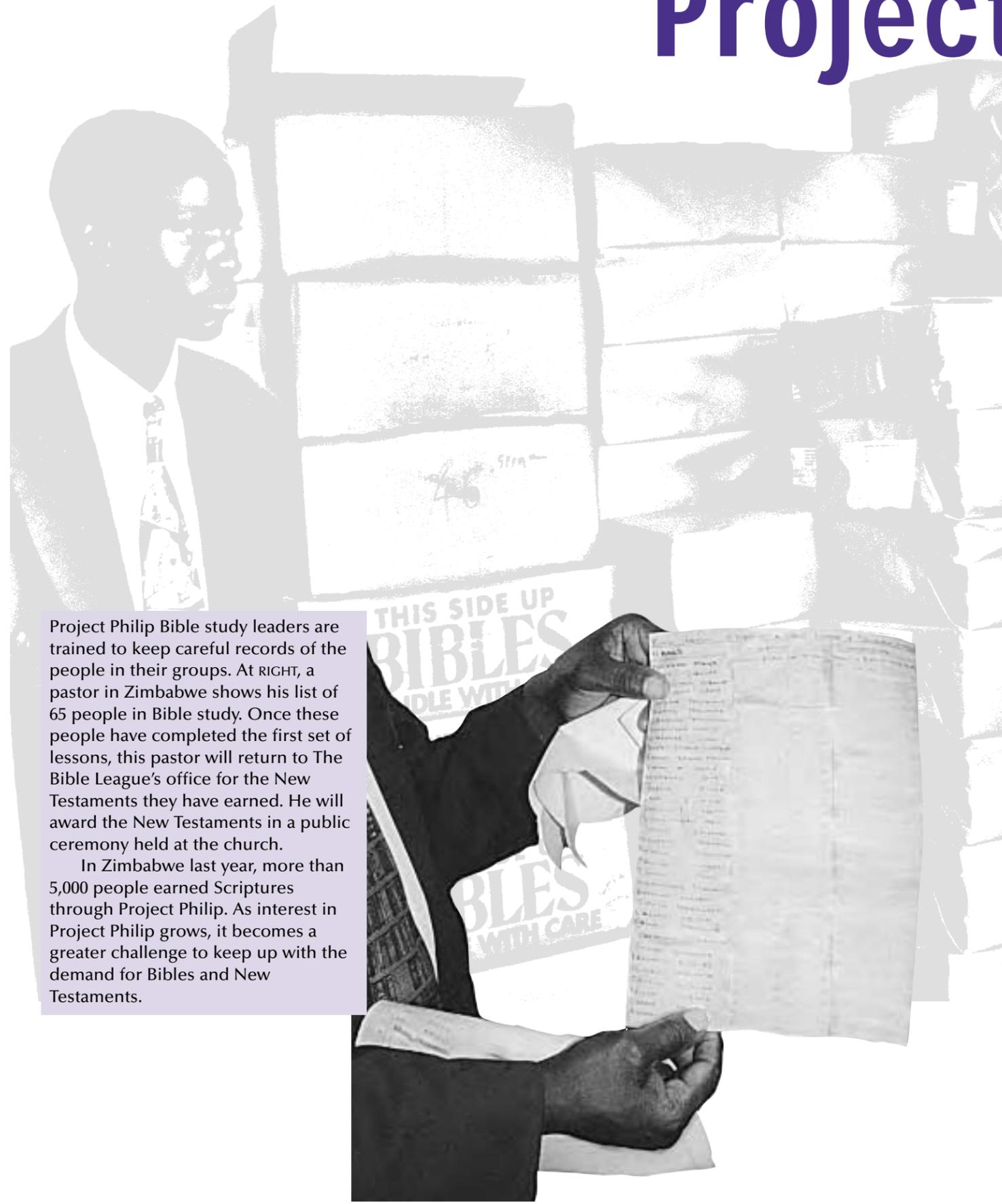
- How many Bible study groups are meeting regularly.
- How many people are in those groups.
- How many have demonstrated a deeper commitment to Christ by

joining or re-joining their local church.

The measurable success of Project Philip was most evident this past year in the continuing growth of the number of small group Bible studies conducted—120,566 (a 50% increase over 1998).

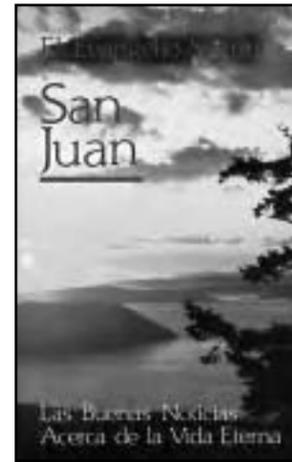
The ultimate result of The Bible League's Project Philip strategy is that more and more people are being disciplined into God's kingdom and baptized into the fellowship of local churches. This year 1,374,491 people participated in these Bible studies, working with local Christians to earn their own copy of God's Word; 151,010 became committed church members.

Project Philip continued



Project Philip Bible study leaders are trained to keep careful records of the people in their groups. At right, a pastor in Zimbabwe shows his list of 65 people in Bible study. Once these people have completed the first set of lessons, this pastor will return to The Bible League's office for the New Testaments they have earned. He will award the New Testaments in a public ceremony held at the church.

In Zimbabwe last year, more than 5,000 people earned Scriptures through Project Philip. As interest in Project Philip grows, it becomes a greater challenge to keep up with the demand for Bibles and New Testaments.



"What a great tool [the Spanish NIV Gospel of John] is. It's very understandable, and the questions are very good. It is a remarkable evangelistic tool because it is in a language they can understand and relate to. I am grateful for ministries like yours because you help me accomplish my ministry," says a Bible League partner who is using our Spanish materials to evangelize and disciple Spanish-speaking people in Rockford, Illinois.

The Project Philip strategy was developed in the **Philippines**. Bible League staff there continue to equip churches to ground their members in God's Word through discipleship and Bible study. In 1999, more than 1,100 Filipinos each day completed a Project Philip Bible study course and turned to The Bible League for the Scriptures they had earned. It has also been exciting to see our Philippines staff share their expertise with staff in other Bible League offices who want to achieve similar results in their own countries.

In **Myanmar**, **Cambodia**, and **Indonesia**, nationwide networks of Project Philip workers were established, and materials were prepared and produced. At least 125 new workers in these three countries are now promoting the Project Philip model of evangelism and discipleship. In Indonesia alone, more than 65,000 people are in Project Philip Bible studies.

Project Philip has also been implemented and is already showing impressive results in **Mexico**, the

Dominican Republic, **Colombia**, and **Venezuela**. For the first time in The Bible League's history in these four countries, spiritual seekers can earn New Testaments and Bibles through a systematic discipleship program that leads them all the way through conversion, church membership, and baptism. Hundreds of thousands of Latin Americans began that process and joined a Bible study this year.

In **Nigeria**, **Kenya**, and **Zimbabwe**, Bible League staff began Project Philip programs in English, Shona, Swahili, and Luo. As a result, tens of thousands of people who otherwise would not have the Scriptures are studying God's Word and growing in faith. Churches are growing in faith and numbers.

Project Philip continues to grow slowly in **Albania**, where new Scriptures and study materials have recently been developed. The crisis in Kosovo opened up many opportunities for our staff in Albania to share the Gospel. One Christian worker at an aid station told of a man who pulled

him aside and said, "We are Muslims. Why is God doing this to us since we're Muslims and believe in Him?" It is our prayer that the seeds we plant and nurture through Project Philip will blossom into Truth for seekers such as this man.

Another exciting development this year was the introduction of **Project Philip "Junior"** in Indonesia. Using the same strategy as the original program, Project Philip Junior offers children the opportunity to earn a children's Bible by completing a series of Bible study booklets. Our staff in Indonesia tell us the children's Scriptures are so popular, it has been impossible to keep up with demand. Late in the year we began translating the materials so we can begin Project Philip Junior ministries in **Bulgaria** and **Romania** as well.

Through our **Church Planter Training** programs, The Bible League gives national Christians the Scriptures and training they need to establish new churches in unreached parts of the world.



The Bible League's church planter training combines classroom learning with practical experience. These students in Ukraine (BELOW), for example, spent an afternoon in nearby parks and streets practicing what they had just learned about evangelism. At the end of five days of training and practice, they received a supply of Scripture tools to take back to their villages and begin the initial stages of planting a church.



Church Planter Mike Onaiwu of Nigeria says, "Oh, if only I had known years ago the methods and principles [The Bible League] taught me, what a difference it would have made!" He had tried for years to plant churches, but none lasted. Armed with a supply of Scriptures and a new understanding of how to use them, he planted his first church in Edo State in 1995. That church continues to grow today.

In many parts of the world there are places where the Word of God has never been shared and there is no established Christian presence. In such places, The Bible League believes it is necessary to help nearby Christians plant a church. Planting a new church gives seekers a group of people to turn to for help and answers. It offers a structure where new Christians can grow in their faith. And it provides an outlet of service for believers who are eager to use their gifts.

The Bible League's role in establishing new churches in unreached areas is to provide Scripture tools and practical training. Throughout the world there are Christians who are eager to share their faith and reach the lost. The Bible League's church planter training program shows them how.

Our program is unlike any other:

- It is a hands-on training

program, not a theological school.

- It teaches through small group interaction, not lectures.
- It is designed specifically for lay Christians, not just pastors.
- It is kingdom-centered, not denominational.

The training takes place over the course of one or two years in a series of training "modules." In each module the students learn only the skills they need for the upcoming phase of their work.

For example, in Module 1 students learn the skills they need to make basic evangelistic contact with people. They spend a few days learning the skills and practicing them on each other. Then they return to their target areas and begin putting those skills to work. In a few months they reconvene for Module 2, where they learn how to form and lead small group Bible studies. After a few days of training, they again return to their target areas

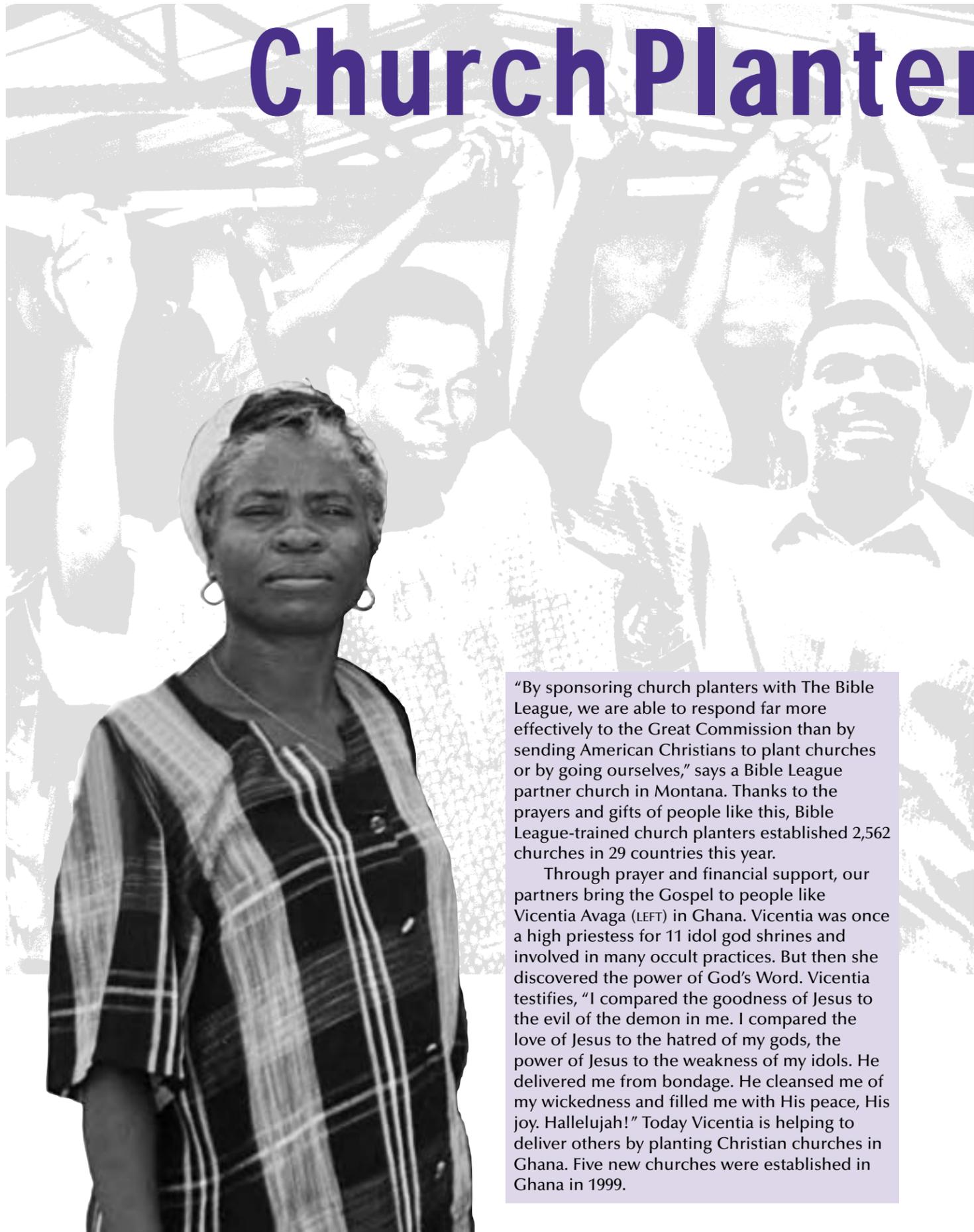
and begin gathering their evangelistic contacts into small group Bible studies. Each skill builds on the previous one, and each is taught just at the time it will be needed.

As with our Project Philip program, The Bible League expects measurable results from the students who enroll in our church planter training program. After each stage of the training, they must report:

- How many people were contacted with an evangelistic invitation.
- How many people joined a small group Bible study.
- How many small groups are meeting.
- How many people have publicly expressed a new faith in Jesus Christ.

Since 1987 more than 17,000 churches have been established. **This year alone Bible League-trained church planters established 2,562 new churches.**

Church Planter Training continued



"By sponsoring church planters with The Bible League, we are able to respond far more effectively to the Great Commission than by sending American Christians to plant churches or by going ourselves," says a Bible League partner church in Montana. Thanks to the prayers and gifts of people like this, Bible League-trained church planters established 2,562 churches in 29 countries this year.

Through prayer and financial support, our partners bring the Gospel to people like Vicentia Avaga (LEFT) in Ghana. Vicentia was once a high priestess for 11 idol god shrines and involved in many occult practices. But then she discovered the power of God's Word. Vicentia testifies, "I compared the goodness of Jesus to the evil of the demon in me. I compared the love of Jesus to the hatred of my gods, the power of Jesus to the weakness of my idols. He delivered me from bondage. He cleansed me of my wickedness and filled me with His peace, His joy. Hallelujah!" Today Vicentia is helping to deliver others by planting Christian churches in Ghana. Five new churches were established in Ghana in 1999.



This year The Bible League continued developing our church planter training program in North America. Response to the first training seminars has been positive, and we look forward to measurable results in the coming years.

The Bible League's church planter training program has gone through a period of tremendous growth over the past several years. More and more national Christians are eager to enroll in the program. And more and more North American donors are eager to support them with prayer and financial gifts. The overall result has been an increase in church planters trained, which will in the coming years result in more new churches established.

The Bible League provides church planter training in 31 countries. This year saw the graduation of the first class of church planters in Laos. As a result of their work, 12 new churches were established in the midst of great persecution. Two of our church planting students were only recently released from prison for their evangelistic activity. Give thanks to God that His work goes on unstopped, and ask for His continued strength and blessing.

Church planter training in Myanmar (Burma) has seen incredible growth. In 1998, 64 Burmese

Christians enrolled in the training program. Last year 445 enrolled! The result so far has been an increase in the number of new churches established—140 this year (70 last year). More new churches will appear throughout the coming months as these students complete their training.

In Venezuela, a relatively new ministry area for The Bible League, we began training our second class of church planters. It was gratifying to see our national staff take on the responsibility for all the training of this class.

Church planters in Moldova face much opposition—even beatings—from local people under the influence of the Moldovan Orthodox Church. A few have been threatened with death, and their children have been warned not to play in the streets. But the Holy Spirit is working in Moldova. Bible League-trained church planters persevered, and seven new churches were established in 1999.

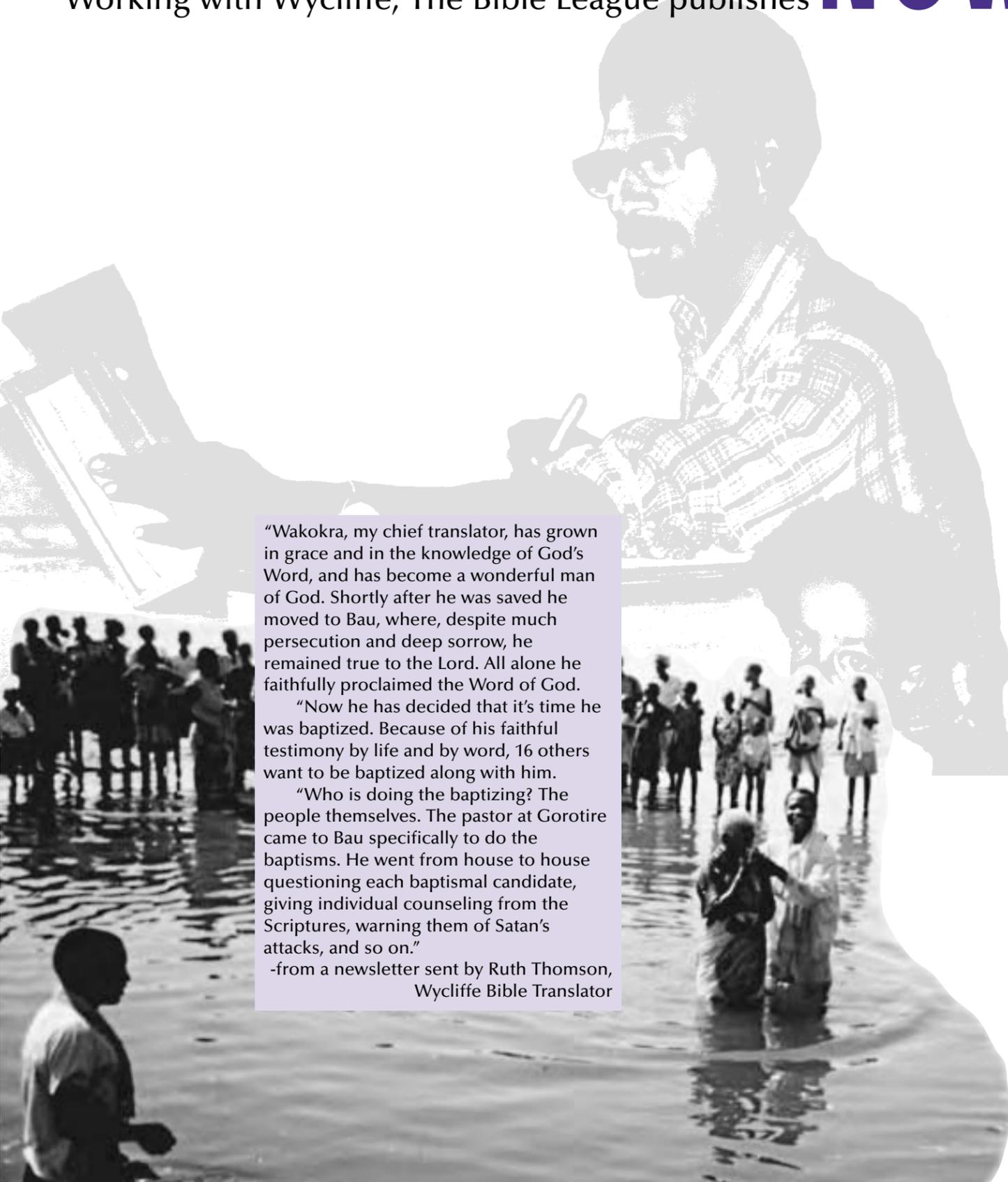
The Bible League's offices in Russia face a variety of church planter training challenges. The

Evenk people near Blagoveshchensk, for example, are nomads; if they left to attend a training seminar for two or three days, they might never find their tribes again in the vast tundra. Our Novosibirsk office has a waiting list of people who want to receive training, but funding shortages limit the Scriptures and training we can provide. An apartment complex near our office in Volgograd was bombed this year, displacing many of the church planters in training. In the face of these challenges and others, Russian church planters established 152 new churches.

Central Asia is also a difficult field. Islamic communities in Chechnya and Dagestan resist Christian church planters with as much vehemence as the Orthodox Church does.

In Liberia, Nigeria, and other African nations, hundreds of new churches were established, many in areas tightly bound by Islam and the occult.

Working with Wycliffe, The Bible League publishes **New Translations** for people who have never had the Word of God in their own language.



“Wakokra, my chief translator, has grown in grace and in the knowledge of God’s Word, and has become a wonderful man of God. Shortly after he was saved he moved to Bau, where, despite much persecution and deep sorrow, he remained true to the Lord. All alone he faithfully proclaimed the Word of God.

“Now he has decided that it’s time he was baptized. Because of his faithful testimony by life and by word, 16 others want to be baptized along with him.

“Who is doing the baptizing? The people themselves. The pastor at Gorotire came to Bau specifically to do the baptisms. He went from house to house questioning each baptismal candidate, giving individual counseling from the Scriptures, warning them of Satan’s attacks, and so on.”

-from a newsletter sent by Ruth Thomson, Wycliffe Bible Translator



Alejandro Antich and Esteban Wisum are two of the three Huambisa men who worked on the revision of the Huambisa New Testament, first published in 1975. The revised edition includes the book of Psalms and was dedicated in a special ceremony in Peru in September 1998.

Since 1962 The Bible League has been partnering with Wycliffe Bible Translators to provide newly-translated Scriptures to people who have no other way of receiving the Good News. Wycliffe members translate Scriptures into many little-known languages. **The Bible League takes those translated manuscripts and turns them into printed Bibles, New Testaments, and Gospels.** The Bible League publishes more than half of all the translations Wycliffe produces.

In 1999 The Bible League published 30,100 Scriptures in 32 languages, making God’s Word available to **742,600** people who had never had it in their language. Approximately 30% of these people were Christians. (Often conversions begin happening before the translation is even completed, and these new Christians are among the first to receive the

published Scriptures when they become available.) The other 70% who received Scriptures were non-Christians who had never before been exposed to the Gospel.

Providing new translations is one of the most exciting parts of The Bible League’s worldwide ministry. It allows us to plant the seed in fertile soil that has lain fallow for generations. As a result, the spiritual harvest is often dramatic and bountiful.

But it usually takes years or decades for these brand new believers to organize themselves formally into a church. Until they do, there is no structure for The Bible League to work through. The Bible League fulfills its purpose by working through established local churches.

Still, in publishing new translations we measure what results we can. Frequently after people receive the Word in their language, there are immediately a number of new converts we record. In

other cases the results take longer. The Bible League occasionally has opportunity to revisit—decades later—the people who received Scriptures for the first time through our ministry.

The Aguaruna people of **Peru**, for example, first received Scriptures in their language in 1975. Today, 24 years later, there are more than 8,000 believers worshipping in more than 100 churches.

In 1981 The Bible League published a New Testament for the Blaanspeaking people in a remote, mountainous area of **the Philippines**. Today there are 55 churches established there.

In 1979 there was only one Javanese church in **Suriname**, with fewer than 50 believers. Today, after having received the first portions of Scripture in their language, over 750 Javanese believers worship in 9 indigenous churches.

Reporting Results

By measuring and **Reporting Results**, The Bible League works to ensure that resources entrusted to us are used efficiently and effectively.

The measurements considered by The Bible League to be most important are indicated on this map as follows:

☐ **Scriptures** (Bibles, New Testaments, study booklets)
These are the basic tools needed to accomplish other ministry results.

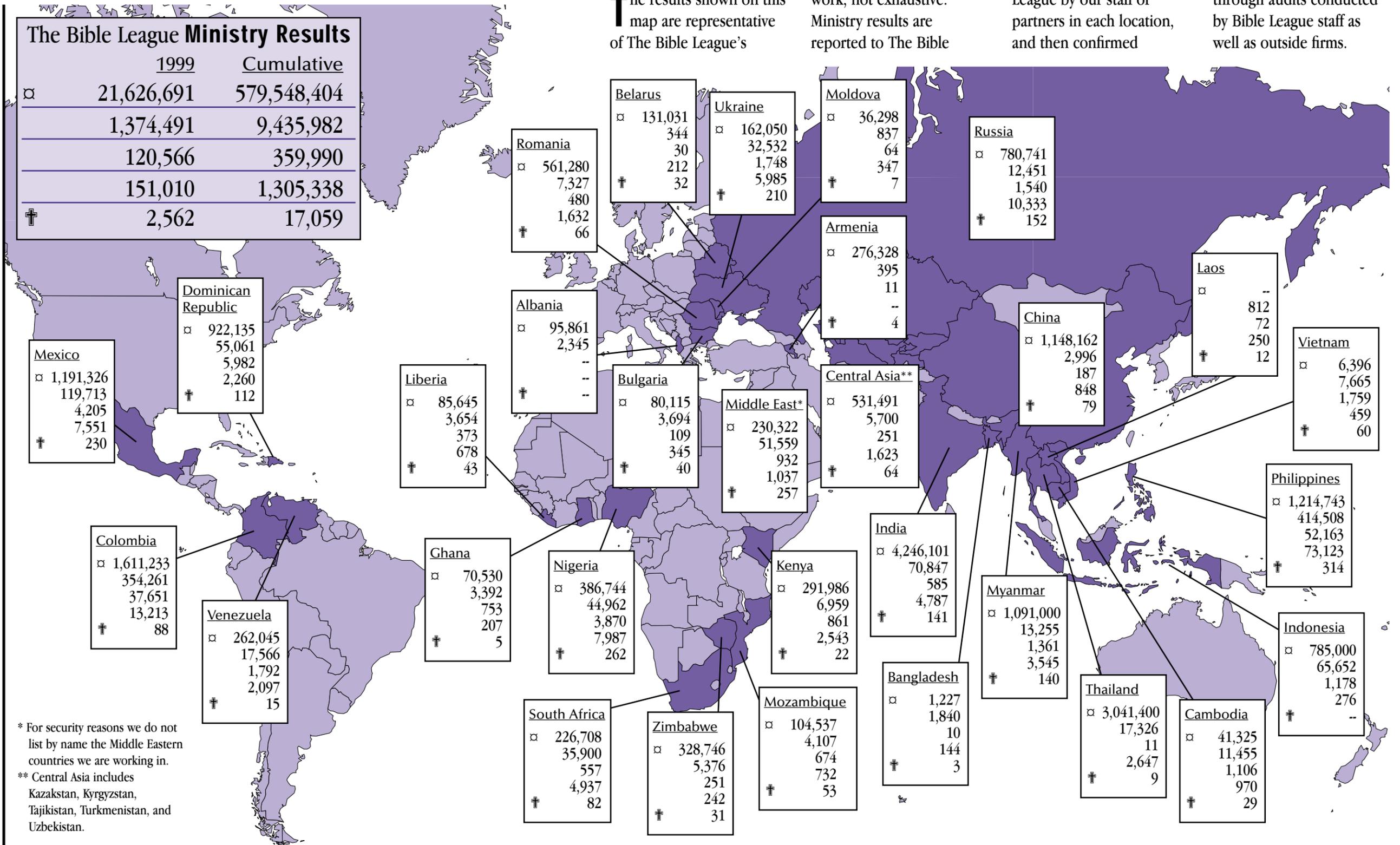
† **People in Bible study**
Gathering seekers and new converts in Bible study groups helps ensure that they receive the discipleship they need.

☐ **Bible study groups**
Bible League trainees are often the leaders of these study groups, but they soon begin training others to continue and expand the work.

† **New church members**
Often church membership is signified by baptism, and it usually comes after a lengthy discipleship process.

† **New churches planted**
Once a group of Christians begins meeting weekly for worship, has identified a pastor and/or other leaders, and is continuing to grow in faith and in numbers, it is considered an established church.

The Bible League Ministry Results		
	1999	Cumulative
☐	21,626,691	579,548,404
☐	1,374,491	9,435,982
☐	120,566	359,990
☐	151,010	1,305,338
†	2,562	17,059



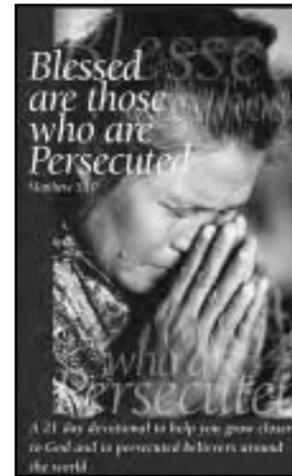
Serving the Persecuted Church, The Bible League provides the two things suffering Christians ask for more than anything else—prayer and Scriptures.



India has been in the headlines because of a few incidents of very visible persecution. The world grieved, for example, when Missionary Graham Staines and his sons were torched inside their car at the hands of angry Hindus. More common and less publicized forms of persecution in India include:

- tax laws that no longer encourage Christians to engage in charitable work;
- delays in extending basic citizenship rights to low-caste Christians;
- government-endorsed re-writing of school textbooks to promote Hindu traditions;
- slow response by law enforcement officials when Christians are in trouble;
- verbal threats by Hindu militants;
- disruption of prayer meetings and worship services by village and district officials.

Indian Christians who suffer persecution do not ask that their North American brothers and sisters react politically. Instead, they ask for prayer and Scriptures.



The Bible League developed new resources to educate North Americans about persecution. One pastor told us, "Our people were very touched by the persecuted church presentation. The service went well, and the congregation appreciated the devotional so much that we didn't have enough for the second service!"

He then ordered an additional 200 copies of *Blessed are Those Who are Persecuted*.

As remote and impossible as it may seem to us in North America, Christians around the world today are suffering for their faith. World Evangelical Fellowship reports that more people have died in circumstances related to their faith in this century than in all the 20th Century wars combined. The Global Evangelism Movement believes there are currently an estimated one million people in prison for religious reasons. And Authors James and Marti Hefley claim there have been more martyrs in the 20th Century than in all the previous 19 combined.

Remarkably, the plea we hear over and over from persecuted Christians is not "Stop the persecution," but instead, "Pray for us. And send us Bibles so we can be strong."

A couple ministering in China listed five reasons the Bible is so important to persecuted Christians:

- 1: It grounds new Christians in their faith;
- 2: It helps Christians

continue to mature in faith;

- 3: It is the foundation of church doctrine;
- 4: It equips Christians for evangelism and discipleship.

These four reasons testify to the power of God's Word as a tool of instruction and evangelism.

The fifth reason, however, testifies to the need for God's Church to minister to each other. This couple explained,

5: "When Christians live from day to day in a world that hates and persecutes them, it seems that all the world is against them. It makes a person feel hopeless and helpless. But when, in the midst of that despair, a believer receives a Bible from someone who lives in a free country, suddenly this Christian feels a rushing sense of hope. This Bible says that someone out there cares about the hatred and persecution I experience every day. I am part of the body of Christ that really cares

about me!"

In 1999 The Bible League invested considerable resources to make the Body of Christ in North America aware that persecution still happens. Through radio campaigns, church information kits, and special pledge programs, we highlighted the need for Scriptures and prayers for the Persecuted Church. The response has been a great encouragement to our brothers and sisters around the world who suffer for their faith. As Augustin B. Vencer, Jr., International Director for World Evangelical Fellowship, told us, "The Bible League—through its Scripture placement and church planting ministries—plays a major role in supporting persecuted Christians throughout the world."

Persecuted Church continued

There is a growing intolerance for the Christian faith around the world. The "Open Doors World Watch List" of "Top Ten" nations where persecution is severe and widespread is:

- Saudi Arabia
- Afghanistan
- Sudan
- China
- Yemen
- Morocco
- Iran
- Libya
- Tunisia
- Egypt

The Bible League ministers discreetly in many of these countries (as well as others where persecution continues), providing Scriptures and training church planters.



A Bible League ministry coordinator in China was sentenced in 1997 to a two-year prison term. Upon his release this year, he shared the joys of his experience rather than the hardships. For example, he said, the prison authorities at first allowed him to keep his Bible; he read it through five times before they took it away.

After 10 days of imprisonment and torture earlier this year, a Bible League courier in **North Korea** paid the ultimate price for his faith. With the crack of an iron pipe on his head, he died at the hands of communist officials. This courier is one of many who are determined to bring God's Word to those who hunger for it. Through their committed service, The Bible League provided tens of thousands of Korean Bibles this year.

Muslim extremists hold a tight rein on most Christian activity in **Sudan**. But earlier this year a group of Christian university students obtained permission to hold a Christian book display at Khartoum University. The Islamic Students Group, however, attacked the Christians, setting fire to the books and Bibles on display. Several students were hospitalized, and all their material was destroyed.

Of the 30,000 communities in **Egypt**, 29,000 have no evangelical Christian witness. Several militant Islamic movements threaten many areas of

Egyptian society, and believers continue to face discrimination on many levels. Despite the obstacles, The Bible League's network of contacts continued to evangelize and disciple seekers. In fact, throughout the **Middle East** we provided 230,322 Scriptures and helped establish 257 churches.

In spite of a major government crackdown on religious groups in **China**, we provided 1,148,162 Scriptures and helped establish 79 churches.

In **Central Asia**, where church planters have been beaten by mobs, training continued, and 64 new churches were established. The Bible League provided 531,491 Scriptures to these fledgling churches.

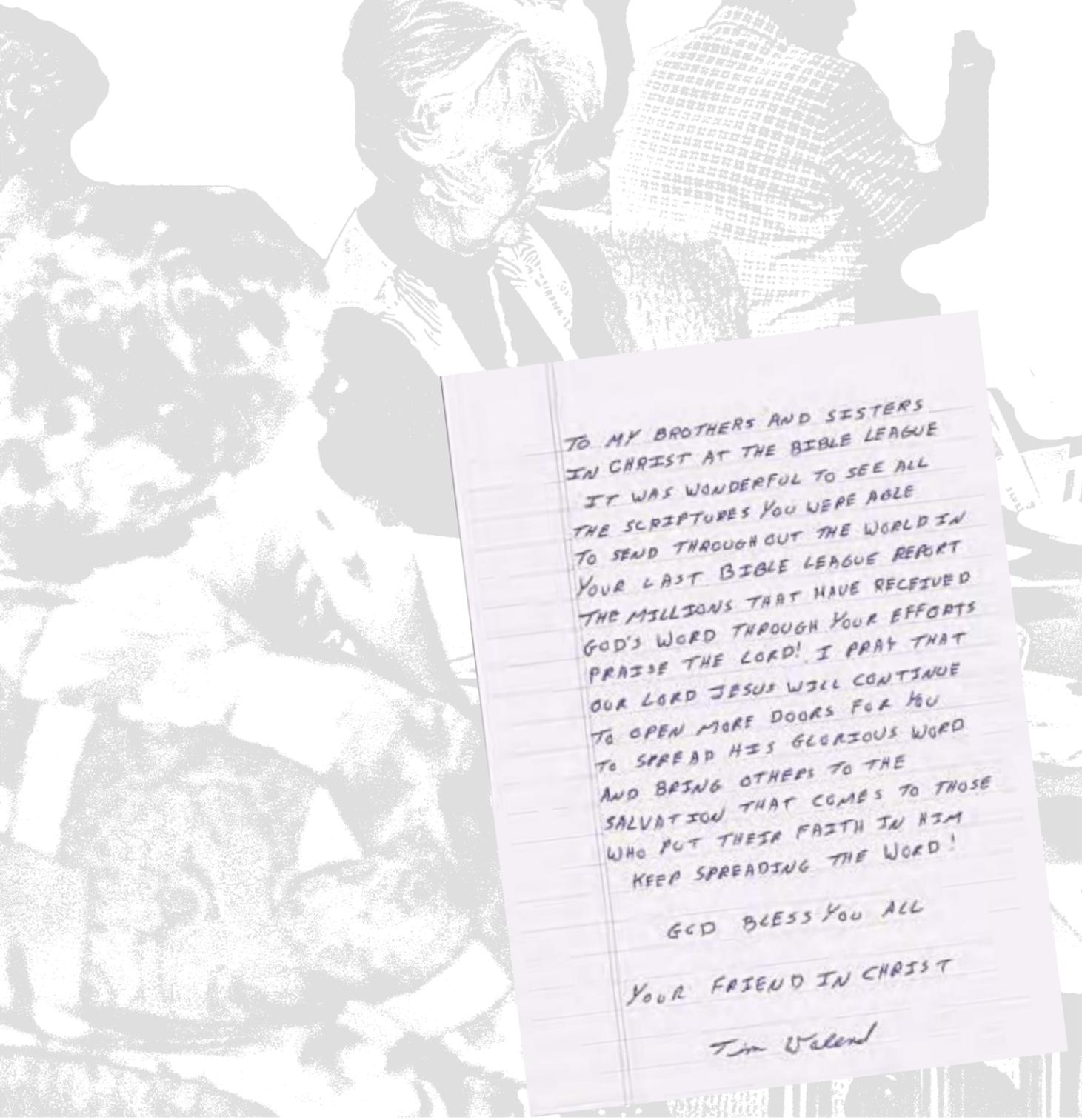
In **Vietnam** Bible League-trained church planters were forced to flush several pages of statistics down the toilet when the police suddenly raided their home. In other countries people associated with The Bible League have been questioned or imprisoned. Persecution makes it difficult for us to expect detailed reports

from those who use our Scriptures.

In fact, the reports we receive probably do not reflect the true scope of the results of our work. New Muslim converts, for example, are particularly reluctant to publicize their new faith because they know they will be denounced by family and friends, run out of town, or even killed. (The father of one young Muslim convert feigned acceptance and agreed to participate in his son's baptism ceremony. During the service, however, the minister discovered he was hiding a knife under his coat and murder in his heart.)

Stories like these make it clear why The Bible League's ministry to persecuted Christians is so critical. When Christians are a targeted minority, they need encouragement from God's Word and from the broader Christian community. The Bible League stands with them by responding to their need.

Offering a variety of Partnership Opportunities, The Bible League invites people of all ages, races, incomes, backgrounds, and abilities to work together to provide Scriptures that bring people into fellowship with Christ and His Church.



TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS
IN CHRIST AT THE BIBLE LEAGUE
IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE ALL
THE SCRIPTURES YOU WERE ABLE
TO SEND THROUGH OUT THE WORLD IN
YOUR LAST BIBLE LEAGUE REPORT
THE MILLIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED
GOD'S WORD THROUGH YOUR EFFORTS
PRAISE THE LORD! I PRAY THAT
OUR LORD JESUS WILL CONTINUE
TO OPEN MORE DOORS FOR YOU
TO SPREAD HIS GLORIOUS WORD
AND BRING OTHERS TO THE
SALVATION THAT COMES TO THOSE
WHO PUT THEIR FAITH IN HIM
KEEP SPREADING THE WORD!

GOD BLESS YOU ALL

YOUR FRIEND IN CHRIST

Tim Walend



When five-year-old Abby Bailey learned of the need for Bibles in the Philippines, she wanted to help out. "That is when the idea of a lemonade stand was born," wrote her mother. "Our daughter learned many things [from the experience], the most important being that she, a five-year-old in Houston, could make a difference in someone's life across the world."

Bible League partners are special people. They are **generous**, not just with their financial gifts, but also with their prayers and their time. They are "**doers**," not content to write a check and let someone else spend it, but instead eager to participate in the work. And they have **high expectations**. Having entrusted us with valuable resources, they expect a return on investment.

The Bible League meets the expectations and demands of our partners with a variety of programs, partnerships, and materials. This year we used the postal service, e-mail, and telecommunications to respond to numerous requests for information about specific **prayer needs** as well as financial needs. We watched as God poured out blessings in answer to those prayers.

In turn, many of our partners also requested that we uphold them in

prayer. Family crises, unemployment, and health problems all threatened to affect people's ability to provide God's Word. Unwilling to succumb, and recognizing the integral role they play in this ministry, many of them asked us to join them at the throne of grace.

Approximately 1,000 people participate in The Bible League's mission by volunteering at **Bibles For Missions Thrift Centers**. Eight Bibles For Missions Thrift Centers throughout the United States donate their profits to The Bible League. In 1999, profits from all eight centers provided more than 400,000 Scriptures to spiritually hungry people.

The Thrift Center volunteers are the first to admit they get as much out of the venture as they put into it. "I enjoy working now without pay more than I did before for pay!" said a worker in Michigan. "How 'bout that?"

Other partners find **creative ways** to raise money and awareness. One woman donated the proceeds from her garage sale. A retiree pledged to give "a Bible a day" for a month. A young boy found odd jobs to earn money he could send in. Several other children donated their allowance. A Bible school teacher used five days of Bible school to share five stories of lives changed through the power of God's Word. A businessman donated his annual bonus. Another, demonstrating incredible faith, donated his severance pay. A new pastor who had recently purchased a case of books for his office, donated an equal amount to send Study Bibles to pastors in China.

Over and over again Bible League partners have shown their passion for getting God's Word to people around the world. We have been blessed to witness it.

The Bible League's **Ministry Staff**, Board of Directors, and International Association of Bible League offices are experts in their fields and uniquely gifted to serve the mission.

International Association of Bible Leagues

The Bible League - USA (International Headquarters)

Rev. Dennis M. Mulder, President, 16801 Van Dam Road, South Holland, Illinois 60473

The Bible League - Australia

Bob Cole, President, P.O. Box 71, Werrington NSW 2747

The Bible League - Canada

Rev. David Tigchelaar, President, P.O. Box 5037, Burlington, Ontario L7R 3Y8

The Bible League - Great Britain

Sir John Savage, President, 9 Parkland Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 9AP

The Bible League - New Zealand

Mandy Page, Director, P.O. Box 77-047, Mt. Albert

The Bible League - the Netherlands

Dick van Vuuren, President, Postbus 142, 3140 AC Maassluis

The Bible League - Germany

Reinhard Kannenberg, President, Lindenweg 12, D-74545 Michelfeld

The Bible League affiliations



The Bible League is a charter member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability,



and a member of the Forum of Bible Agencies,



Christian Service Organizations of America,



the National Association of Evangelicals,

and the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.

The Bible League mission statement

We are called by God to provide Scriptures and training worldwide, so that people prepared by the Holy Spirit will be brought into fellowship with Christ and His Church.

We accomplish our purpose effectively by:

- Providing Bibles and related materials through cost-efficient placement systems.
- Promoting personal, family, and small group Bible study.
- Partnering with churches and mission organizations, supplying them with Bibles, related materials, and training in church planting and Scripture placement.
- Protecting donor investments through accountability systems that measure and report the results our ministry partners achieve, through the grace of God.



"I am deeply impressed with the quality of people who make up The Bible League staff—in North America, in the other offices of the International Association of Bible Leagues, and in our various ministry offices around the world. God has truly brought together an incredible blend of talent, experience, and commitment to achieve His purposes for this ministry."
-Rev. Dennis M. Mulder, President

The Bible League staff, International Headquarters

President: Rev. Dennis M. Mulder; Executive Vice President of Ministry: Rev. David Stravers; Executive Vice President of Development: Edward McCarthy; Vice President of Administration: Roger Van Beek; Executive Director of Church Planting Ministries: Rev. Ron VanderGriend; Assistant Director of Church Planting Ministries: Alex Munro; Director of China Ministries: Rev. Andrew Harbert; Director of Southeast Asia Ministries: Rev. Ken Van De Griend; Director of Africa Ministries: Rev. Joseph Owens; Director of Nigeria Ministries: Rev. Bankole Akinmola; Director of CIS Ministries: Rev. Waldemar Kurz; Director of Central Asia Ministries: Rev. Wally Kulakoff; Director of Central/Eastern Europe Ministries: Bob Martin; Director of USA Ministries: Rev. Steve Elzinga; Director of USA Ministries: Rev. Henry Reyenga; Director of Latin America Ministries: Tim De Vries; Executive Director of Bibles For Mexico: Dan Dorn; National Director of Church Relations: Andrew Rietveld; Vice President of US Field Operations: Douglas Bright; East District Manager: John Davids; Regional Field Director, Northwest: Steve Chittenden; Regional Field Director, West: Dan Meek; Regional Field Director, West: David Unruh; Regional Field Director, Midwest: Gaylin DenOuden; Regional Field Director, Southeast: Ron Brown; Regional Field Director, Central: John Hoffman; Regional Field Director, Northeast: Arvid Cowell; Regional Field Director, Michigan: Dan Dorn; Regional Field Director, Michigan: Scott Holt; Regional Field Director, Mid-Atlantic: Jim Gurley; Regional Field Director, Ohio Valley: Rick Guttenberger; Regional Field Director, Southwest: Jack VanVessem

The Bible League Board of Directors

Eleanor Bennett, Homemaker in Alabama; Raymond Bolhouse, Secretary/Treasurer of Swibco, Inc. in Illinois; Daniel Chapman, Vice President of Sunrise Farm Stores, Inc. in Illinois; Herman A. Chapman (Chairman), President of Sunrise Farm Stores, Inc. in Illinois; Jack Dabner, Owner of 7 Star Productions in California; Chester L. Evers, Jr., CEO of Evers Business Group in Indiana; G. Richard Hostetter, Venture Capitalist in Tennessee; Kenneth Jipping, Insurance Agent for State Farm in Michigan; Dennis Johnson, CEO of the Johnson Group in Illinois; Henry Kamp, Owner of Catalina Construction Corporation in Illinois; Paul T. Moore, Business Consultant in Virginia; James Nyhof, Designer/Builder in Michigan; Walter Olsson, General Partner at Roney & Co. in Michigan; Martin Ozinga, III, President of Ozinga Brothers, Inc. in Illinois; Russ Paarlberg (Secretary), Partner at Van Der Aa, Lanting & Paarlberg, Ltd., Attorneys at Law in Illinois; Richard Schepel, Owner/Operator of Schepel Buick/GMC Truck in Indiana; Kevin Stulp, Self-employed in Texas; Edward Van Drunen, Owner of Van Drunen Farms in Illinois; James K. Van Drunen (Vice Chairman), Private Investor for Wholesale Lumber Business in Illinois; Lawrence J. Van Drunen (Treasurer), Part Owner of Dreyer, Ooms & Van Drunen, Certified Public Accountants in Illinois; Earl Witmer, President of S. E. Witmer Associates in Georgia

Exercising **Good Stewardship**, The Bible League uses resources efficiently but also effectively, always striving to accomplish the greatest results with what we've been given.

Who gave?



In 1999 The Bible League maintained the following worldwide average Scripture costs:
 Bibles\$4.00
 New Testaments ..\$1.00

These figures include all administrative, fundraising, production, and placement expenses.

Through efficient use of funds and integrity of reporting, The Bible League makes sure that at least 75% of every dollar donated goes directly into ministry programs.

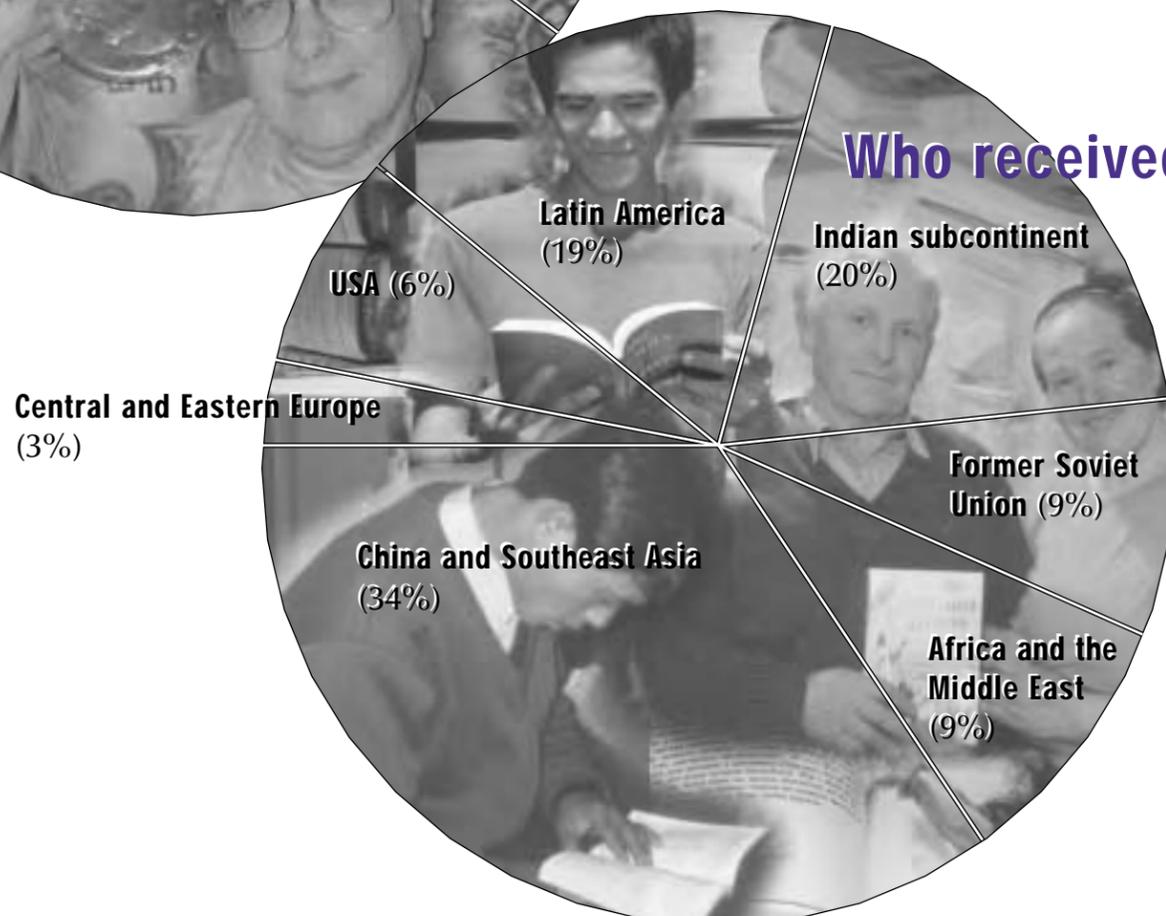


Ministry expenses (77.6%)

Development expenses (18.9%)

Administration expenses (3.5%)

Who received?



Income:

Contributions	\$22,008,347
International Association of Bible Leagues contributions	2,279,288
Gifts-in-kind	855,037
On-field*	2,706,972
Legacies and bequests	<u>78,401</u>
	27,928,045

Revenue:

Scripture sales	1,171,035
Investment income	161,734
Other	<u>105,119</u>
	1,437,888
Total—	\$29,365,933

Expenditures:

Scripture placement	\$18,358,394
Church planter training	4,345,865
Administrative	1,022,789
Development	<u>5,515,289</u>
Total—	\$29,242,337

Excess of income over expenses: \$123,596

*In many foreign locations, The Bible League asks a small contribution or payment from those receiving Scriptures who can afford it. As shown here, these contributions are re-invested in the local ministry.

Hundreds of **Partner agencies**, including those listed on this page, work with The Bible League to bring God's Word to the world.

Albania

Church Multiplication
International
Perimeter Church

Bangladesh

Bengali Evangelical Association

Bulgaria

Alliance for Saturation Church
Planting
Bulgaria Evangelical Alliance
Minnesota Coalition for Eastern
Europe
Reformed Church
Southern Baptist Church

Cambodia

Cambodia Bible Society
Cambodia Christian Services
Pentecostal Holiness Church
United Methodist Church

China

Accelerating International
Mission Strategies
China Harvest
Chinese Church Research
Center
Christian Communications, Ltd.
Free Methodist Mission
Global Strategy Missions
Association
Open Doors
TransWorld Radio

Colombia

Action International Ministries
Assemblies of God
Christ for the City
Christian Missionary Alliance
Church of God
Colombian Bible Society
DAWN 2000
Foursquare
Full Gospel Church
Latin America Mission
Lutheran Church

Dominican Republic

Christian Missionary Alliance
Christian Reformed World
Missions
DAWN 2000
Evangelical Free Church
Methodist Church
Pentecostal Church

Cuba

Consejo de Iglesias
United Bible Society

Ethiopia

Forum of Bible Agencies
SIM International
Wolaitta Kale Heywot Church

Ghana

Bible Church of Africa
Christian Outreach Fellowship
Evangelical Church of Ghana
Ghana Evangelism Committee
Ghana Institute of Linguistics
SIM International
WEC International

India

India Bible Literature
India Evangelistic Crusade
India Gospel League
Mission India
People India

Kenya

Bible Society of Kenya
Kenya Christian Student
Fellowship

Mexico

AD 2000
Christian Reformed Church
Conservative Baptist
Hosanna
Mexican Bible Society
Mission to the World
Presbyterian Church in America
Reformed Church

Visión Evangelizadora Latino

Americana
Wesleyan Church
Wycliffe Bible Translators

Mozambique

Bible Society of Mozambique
Evangelical Seminary of
Mozambique
TransWorld Radio

Nigeria

Christian Reformed World
Missions
Church of God
Evangelical Church of West
Africa
Evangelical Missionary Society
SIM International
World Outreach Mission

Myanmar (Burma)

Campus Crusade of Myanmar
Christian Reformed World
Missions
Myanmar Baptist Convention
New Life League
Tribes and Nations Outreach

Papua New Guinea

Wycliffe Bible Translators

Peru

Wycliffe Bible Translators

Philippines

Action International Ministries
Christian and Missionary
Alliance of the Philippines
Christian Reformed World
Missions
Philippines Bible Society

Romania

Alliance for Saturation Church
Planting
Campus Crusade for Christ
JESUS film
Romanian Evangelical Alliance

South Africa

Africa for Christ
Bible Society of South Africa

former Soviet Union

Alliance for Saturation Church
Planting
Apocalypses Missionary Society
Baptist Union
Center for Christian Assistance
Christian Reformed Church
Elmbrook Church
Frontiers
Kabardin Balkar Christian
Humanitarian Society
Licht im Osten
Lithuanian Christian Fund
Little Samaritan Mission
New Life League
Northern Ossetian Mission of
Christian Charity
Presbyterian Church in America
Ray of Hope
Reformed Church
Svet Evangelia
Ukrainian Center for Christian
Cooperation
Union of Evangelical Churches

USA

Advancing Churches in Missions
Commitment
International Bible Society
International Day of Prayer for
the Persecuted Church

Vietnam

Accelerating International
Mission Strategies
Assemblies of God of Vietnam
Pentecostal Holiness Church

Zimbabwe

Bible Society of Zimbabwe
DAWN 2000