

## Your Partnership With Bible League

Bible League's calling is to engage people with God's Word for long-lasting, eternal impact. We provide Bibles through evangelism and discipleship strategies that lead to church membership. Since 1938, Bible League-trained Christians have placed more than 748 million Scriptures worldwide.

### Ministry Model

Indigenous churches worldwide express their need to reach others in their communities for Christ. Through Bible League's "Project Philip," a series of Bible studies that result in people receiving New Testaments and Bibles, church leaders learn how to mobilize their members for growth—both spiritual and numeric.

Placing Scriptures through Project Philip was inspired by the story in Acts 8:26-38. Today, just as Philip discipled the Ethiopian, Christians trained by Bible League evangelize and disciple their friends, neighbors, and others through Bible studies. Project Philip is contextualized to fit each culture in which it is used, and is shared by local Christians who know the languages and customs of their regions.

### Key Partnerships

Based out of the International Ministry Center in Crete, Illinois, Bible League directors work with national staff in more than 60 countries to evaluate trends and opportunities, setting annual and long-term goals and strategies. Goals and results are reviewed annually by national leaders, Bible League executive leadership, and the Board of Directors.

Bible League ministry utilizes an extensive network of partnerships. Throughout the world, Bible League works with denominations, mission organizations, Bible agencies, translators, publishers, and others. Bible League's primary partner is the local church in any given ministry area. Bible League comes alongside churches, enabling national Christians to fulfill their calling to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others.

### Impact Measurement

Bible League's primary objectives are designed to measure outcomes rather than output. We cannot measure changes to people's hearts. We do, however, measure behaviors that indicate heart changes: people completing Bible study; new church members/baptisms; new churches established. Tracking these outcomes allows us to measure our effectiveness in bringing people into fellowship with Christ and His Church.

Our unique role as a partner with local churches, our ability to provide God's Word in more than 120 languages in 2008, and our method of tracking results all ensure that Bible League remains an efficient and sustainable ministry.

**... I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb... —Revelation 7:9**

# 2008

## MINISTRY RESULTS

### Scriptures Provided:

18,332,538

### People Completing Bible

Study:

3,246,228

### Bible Study Groups:

210,882

### New Church Members/ Baptisms:

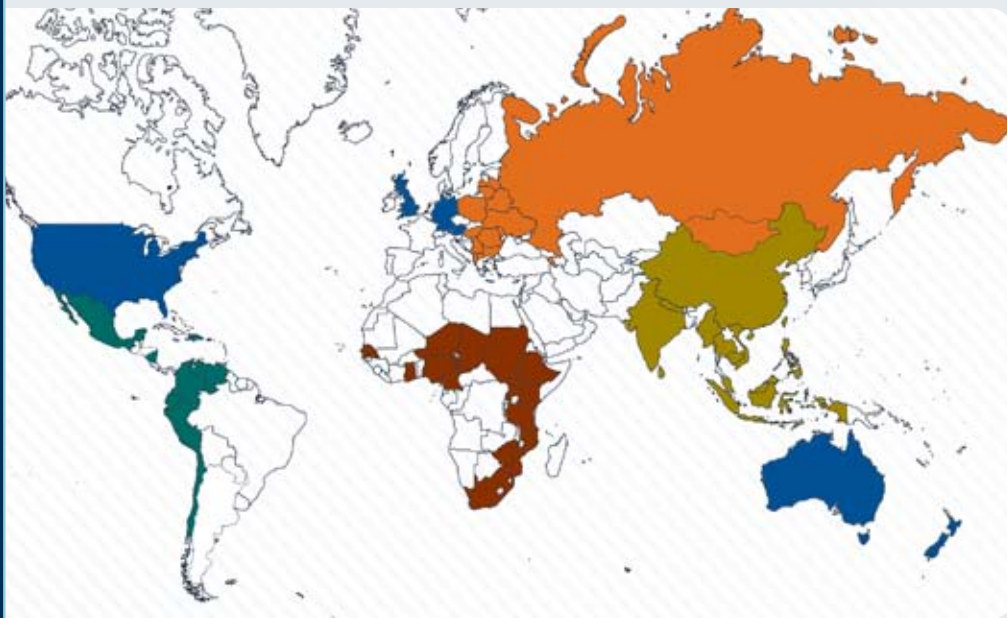
479,758

### New Churches Established:

3,905

### Nationals Trained to Share God's Word:

282,912



For security reasons, we do not list by name the Middle Eastern, Central Asian, and sensitive Asian countries in which we work.

As we marked our 70th anniversary, Bible League trained more nationals, and more people completed a Bible study in 2008 than ever before in a single year. We anticipate that those numbers will grow as we accelerate “Project Philip,” our Scripture placement ministry. Our goal is to place at least 60 million Bibles, 65 million New Testaments, and 300 million Bible study booklets by the year 2020, adding to the 748,480,921 Scriptures already placed since 1938.

### AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

The scourge of AIDS, poverty, and other social ills affect life in Africa as a constant set of struggles. Bible League workers in Cameroon, Chad, and Kenya worked in the face of civil unrest. Flooding in Mozambique displaced thousands of people and delayed Bible League training.

Bible League's office in Senegal was forced to move for the fifth time in six years when Muslim landlords learned the nature of our work. There is a spiritual battleground in northern Africa where the two fastest growing religions, Islam and Christianity, are colliding. Muslims converting to Christianity risk isolation, being disowned by their families, and job loss. Christians in Zimbabwe continue

to serve the Lord despite the utter collapse of the economy and infrastructure, many unable to buy a loaf of bread.

Even in all this economic and political turmoil with people simply trying to survive, Bible League is helping to make Africa the largest Christian continent in the world.

#### ACROSS AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST IN 2008 ...

People completing Bible study per hour	58
New church members/baptisms per day	360
New churches established per month	95
Nationals trained per hour	10

### ASIA

Every major world religion is practiced across the continent, plus a wide variety of ethnic and regional superstitions or dark magic. Bible League staff, their families and board members experienced retirements of national directors, tragic deaths, brutal attacks, and murders. Inflation rates are in the double digits and the value of the dollar continues to weaken. Corruption exists in many government levels and in secular business operations. Christians in India faced increased persecution for their faith. But one believer in Orissa State expressed the resolve of many: “We have lost everything, but we will never turn away from our Jesus!”

Bible League in Malaysia was appointed a member of the Evangelism Commission, part of the National Evangelical Christian Fellowship, which represents 2,500 evangelical churches. In China, the world's

most populous nation, more than 10,000 Bible study groups gathered around God's Word—usually in secret.

Bible League-trained Christians achieved amazing accomplishments in this extremely diverse and difficult field.

#### ACROSS ASIA IN 2008 ...

People completing Bible study per hour	196
New church members/baptisms per day	557
New churches established per month	135
Nationals trained per hour	11

### EURASIA

A sense of uncertainty and instability looms over this region, especially following the conflict between Russia and Georgia. The population is aging, but all generations express concern about alcoholism, a rising divorce rate, and a breakdown in family structure. The political and religious powers in many nations threaten to close down the growth of Christianity. A continual battleground for power through oppression, the once open door for receiving the Gospel is now beginning to close rapidly.

There are budding spiritual revivals in Mongolia and Armenia. Bible study groups are emerging through ministry to orphans, the deaf, substance abusers, and prisoners. Pavel, an inmate in Moldova who experienced freedom in God's Word, says, “The Bible study helped

me to grow in faith; God helped me to follow Him!”

In nations where economic woes and political instabilities consume much of life, the Bible fills a moral and spiritual vacuum.

#### ACROSS EURASIA IN 2008 ...

People completing Bible study per hour	55
New church members/baptisms per day	56
New churches established per month	40
Nationals trained per hour	2

### LATIN AMERICA

A state of Christo-paganism pervades the traditional Church. Many “religious” people view God as unloving and unforgiving, as they focus on idol worship. Extreme poverty, political corruption and violence generated by drug trafficking leave millions looking for peace, hope, and justice.

The Dominican Republic was victim of four hurricanes but the ministry survived, in fact, it thrived! “There has been a revolution in our church,” says one pastor. “This [Bible League] strategy is an instrument for us to experience glorious growth.” Children are leading other children in Bible studies, grandmothers are teaching prisoners the Bible and men are in Bible study groups learning to care for their families.

Where extreme poverty has made the Bible unaffordable or inaccessible, Bible League's ministry of placing God's Word is the answer to the plagues of society.

#### ACROSS LATIN AMERICA IN 2008 ...

People completing Bible study per hour	59
New church members/baptisms per day	339
New churches established per month	54
Nationals trained per hour	7

## AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST



	SCRIPTURES PROVIDED	PEOPLE COMPLETING BIBLE STUDY	BIBLE STUDY GROUPS	NEW CHURCH MEMBERS/BAPTISMS	NEW CHURCHES ESTABLISHED	NATIONALS TRAINED TO SHARE GOD'S WORD
Cameroon	103,000	39,903	670	22,629	113	19,455
Chad	11,000	11,863	443	174	-	3,121
Ethiopia	376,124	46,367	6,718	7,694	-	4,459
Ghana	318,075	41,302	3,113	2,150	12	3,890
Kenya	147,890	56,958	8,692	22,624	98	20,073
Mozambique	64,000	32,672	2,251	6,245	162	923
Niger	64,225	3,082	302	-	-	88
Nigeria	505,807	119,811	6,783	6,380	120	12,164
Senegal	12,200	4,470	357	711	-	2,089
South Africa	117,002	40,522	2,349	12,246	26	3,697
Southern Sudan	80,272	38,819	3,170	32,639	107	5,526
Uganda	138,758	28,739	2,397	3,871	76	13,824
Zimbabwe	220,000	13,420	1,592	3,222	145	4,330
<b>MIDDLE EAST*</b>	<b>356,200</b>	<b>38,705</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>11,061</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>1,779</b>

## ASIA



	SCRIPTURES PROVIDED	PEOPLE COMPLETING BIBLE STUDY	BIBLE STUDY GROUPS	NEW CHURCH MEMBERS/BAPTISMS	NEW CHURCHES ESTABLISHED	NATIONALS TRAINED TO SHARE GOD'S WORD
Cambodia	503,660	67,484	6,712	8,290	344	10,650
China	1,867,371	372,000	10,403	10,264	91	117
India	1,194,561	274,754	13,811	82,365	293	47,815
Indonesia	145,250	32,585	1,063	1,502	30	3,016
Malaysia	127,332	34,450	2,052	31,927	57	9,666
Nepal	94,200	9,617	806	6,962	8	2,843
Philippines	1,969,701	835,122	30,353	52,131	514	17,116
Sri Lanka	35,110	4,332	47	254	-	1,383
Thailand	371,800	21,418	452	3,468	71	2,002
Vietnam	71,300	55,141	999	3,386	38	1,704
*Sensitive Asian Countries	523,200	14,550	3,144	2,827	178	5,650

## EURASIA



	SCRIPTURES PROVIDED	PEOPLE COMPLETING BIBLE STUDY	BIBLE STUDY GROUPS	NEW CHURCH MEMBERS/BAPTISMS	NEW CHURCHES ESTABLISHED	NATIONALS TRAINED TO SHARE GOD'S WORD
Albania	90,700	10,731	294	503	8	386
Armenia	15,477	2,441	212	644	38	93
Belarus	19,100	3,778	335	200	1	616
Bulgaria	132,828	14,298	461	1,620	41	430
Central Asia*	350,570	28,862	877	2,312	45	1,074
Hungary	57,126	8,984	332	376	3	377
Latvia & Lithuania	3,000	700	92	174	16	85
Macedonia	10,000	1,705	66	119	11	135
Moldova	26,000	8,037	203	191	4	477
Mongolia	29,760	13,241	1,652	1,769	14	2,178
Poland	29,258	1,644	98	78	4	689
Romania	410,792	226,997	7,900	5,820	122	7,351
Russia	459,634	91,249	6,481	5,307	144	7,873
Serbia	49,000	3,599	77	764	1	780
Ukraine	211,620	74,509	1,890	887	37	246

## LATIN AMERICA



	SCRIPTURES PROVIDED	PEOPLE COMPLETING BIBLE STUDY	BIBLE STUDY GROUPS	NEW CHURCH MEMBERS/BAPTISMS	NEW CHURCHES ESTABLISHED	NATIONALS TRAINED TO SHARE GOD'S WORD
Chile	194,288	8,921	1,547	4,186	-	5,344
Colombia	388,690	74,812	9,526	20,531	80	5,692
Dominican Republic	1,208,837	25,897	3,495	4,024	61	5,214
Ecuador	474,214	38,740	7,572	4,127	114	4,187
Haiti	295,037	128,139	23,005	14,710	91	13,060
Mexico	2,733,331	179,261	25,327	68,054	247	10,675
Nicaragua	153,152	6,170	1,144	767	18	2,182
Peru	358,494	15,292	2,130	823	15	7,232
Puerto Rico	97,592	13,653	1,615	1,976	15	1,411
Venezuela	579,254	9,177	2,847	2,416	6	5,319
<b>U.S.A. HISPANICS</b>	<b>156,173</b>	<b>17,305</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2,426</b>

\* For security reasons, we do not list by name the Middle Eastern, Central Asian, and sensitive Asian countries in which we work.



**From the Office of the President**  
**Advancing VISION 2020**

By Robert W. Cole  
 President of Bible League

**God never ceases to amaze me.** As you'll see in this report, your gifts and prayers contributed mightily to the growth of God's kingdom in 2008. Thank you!

The ministry results we report in this document offer a snapshot in time of Bible League's impact on lives around the world. Because of the accountability systems we have in place, we have confidence that the Bible impact numbers we report are accurate. Of course, we will only realize the full impact of our work together when we one day all gather around the throne of God. What a privilege it is to partner with you to lead people worldwide to a saving faith in Jesus Christ and to membership in His Church by placing His life-transforming Word in their hands through Bible studies.

These results will also serve as a measuring stick to gauge progress as we advance Bible League's VISION 2020. As we continue to take steps in faith to follow God's call, we do so with friends like you who share our commitment to follow Jesus' Great Command to "Go and make disciples."

We project that it will require 60 million Bibles, 65 million New Testaments, and 300 million Bible study booklets to make VISION 2020 a reality. Other needed requirements will include:

- EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERSHIPS WITH CHURCHES, DENOMINATIONS, AND SCRIPTURE PUBLISHERS ALL AROUND THE WORLD
- ADDITION OF NEW MINISTRY FIELDS
- NEW AND INCREASED FUNDING RESOURCES
- DEVELOPMENT OF NEW SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES TO IMPROVE OUR EFFICIENCIES AND EFFECTIVENESS
- REFINEMENT OF OUR ALREADY STANDARD-SETTING ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS TO HANDLE THE MINISTRY'S ANTICIPATED EXPONENTIAL GROWTH
- UNCEASING PRAYER

This past year, as we marked our 70th anniversary, we reflected on the awesome ways God has used Bible League ministry around the world. I look forward to seeing how God will use all of us—Bible League, churches, organizations worldwide, and you—to fulfill His call to train 10 million national Christians to engage 100 million people in the study of His Word. Thank you for all you do to build God's kingdom on the solid foundation of His Word.

International Funding Countries of Bible League

Christian leaders in other nations are united to work toward a common ministry goal. The following countries are part of our worldwide family of partners:

Australia | Germany | Great Britain | The Netherlands | New Zealand | Singapore

Board of Directors

Hundreds of Bible League staff members and volunteers are accountable to our Board of Directors. These committed board members help to protect your ministry investment through their supervision of Bible League's mission and VISION 2020.

Herman Chapman (Chairman Emeritus), Founder, Sunrise Health Foods, IL

James K. Van Drunen (Chairman)  
 Private Investor/Land Developer, IL

Kenneth Jipping (Vice Chairman)  
 Insurance Agent, State Farm, MI

Russ Paarlberg (Secretary), Partner, Lanting, Paarlberg and Associates, Ltd., Attorneys at Law, IN

Lawrence J. Van Drunen (Treasurer)  
 Co-Owner, Dreyer, Ooms & Van Drunen, CPAs, IL

Raymond Bolhouse, Secretary/Treasurer, Swibco, Inc., IL

Daniel Chapman, President  
 Sunrise Health Foods, and Redd Remedies, IL

Deb Dobben, Operations Manager, Van Drunen Farms, IL

Ronald Dykstra, Genesis Creative Group, MI

G. Richard Hostetter, Attorney/Businessman, FL

Dennis Johnson, Chairman, Lingonberry Consulting Group, President, Stockholm Inn, LLC, IL

Walter Olsson, Investment and Financial Advisor, MI

Martin Ozinga, III, President, Ozinga Brothers, Inc., IL

Wesley Potts, Retired, Holland Printing, IL

Kevin Stulp, Self-employed, CA

Tom Van Prooyen, Vice President, Schepel Auto Group

# 2008

## RESOURCES AT A GLANCE

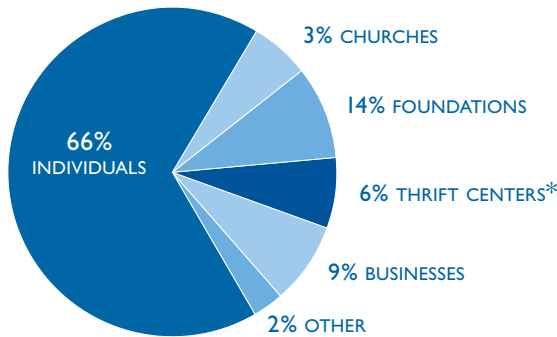
Bible League is committed to accountability and transparency—critical to the relationship we have with all our partners.

Bible League ministry operates on the basis of an annual budget for each country of ministry. We utilize an integrated strategy for annual funding from various streams, which include individual donors, churches, planned giving, businesses, foundations, direct mail, Internet, radio, telecommunications and e-Communications.

The average worldwide cost to place a Bible is \$4.00; a New Testament costs \$1.50. This includes all administration, development, shipping, training, and placement costs.

*So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.* —Romans 12:5

### GIFTS RECEIVED FROM BIBLE LEAGUE U.S. DONOR PARTNERS



\* Bibles For Missions Thrift Centers are operated by more than 1,000 volunteers. Each Center "adopts" a country of ministry, for which it provides Scriptures from proceeds.

Bible League is a charter member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, a member of the National Association of Evangelicals, and Christian Service Charities.



### COMBINED STATEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR BIBLE LEAGUE AND BIBLE LEAGUE FOUNDATION

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditures</b>	
Partner contributions	\$25,939,000	Scripture placement	\$24,956,000
Bibles for Missions Thrift Centers	1,612,000	Church planter training	<u>4,745,000</u>
International Association of Bible Leagues	3,797,000	Total Ministry Programs	29,701,000
Gifts-in-kind	488,000	Development**	6,473,000
On-field*	6,349,000	Administration	3,436,000
Legacies and bequests	749,000	<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>\$39,610,000</b>
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>\$38,934,000</b>	<b>Net Assets</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	
Scripture sales	394,000	Undesignated	4,043,000
Other	34,000	Land, building and equipment	10,790,000
<b>Revenue Total</b>	<b>\$428,000</b>	Board designated—annuities & other	4,964,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$39,362,000</b>	<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>\$19,797,000</b>
		<b>Temporarily Restricted</b>	
		Scripture placement & church planter training	2,799,000
		Pledges, Annuities & Trusts	226,000
		<b>Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,025,000</b>
		<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$22,822,000</b>

\*In many foreign locations, 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.

\*\*Includes planned giving expenses and partial expenses for other funding countries.

# Bible League

God's Word in Action



## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

### 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.

### VISION 2020

In our role of helping people come into fellowship with Christ and His Church, Bible League will endeavor to train 10 million nationals to engage 100 million people in the study of God's Word through the placement of Bibles and New Testaments by the year 2020.