

ISSUE 2 | 2022

word@work

**YOUR GIFT OF
GOD'S WORD
IS HOPE FOR
A TROUBLED
WORLD**

**“The LORD himself will go ahead of you...
So don't be afraid. Don't lose hope.”**

—Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIRV)

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**Canadian
Bible Society**

Rupen's Reflections

■ God's loving presence provides a sure hope in a turbulent world.

"He has risen...He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you" (Mark 16:6-7, NIV).

That Sunday was a day of grief for Mary. She had seen Jesus crucified and now she was standing outside His grave. Was everything He promised still true?

And that's the moment the Good News came to her. Jesus was alive! And He was going ahead to meet her at home in Galilee.

We also live in a time swirling with uncertainties that leave us unsettled and sometimes fearful. Many others around the world face severe hardships and persecution every day. Sometimes it is hard for us to trust in God's promises.

But we have the same Good News as Mary did on Easter Sunday. Jesus is alive and He is going ahead of us, wherever we go.

At Canadian Bible Society, we have seen Jesus going ahead of us to provide financially



through generous donors like you. And He has opened new doors of ministry around the world, including Ukraine.

Thank you for helping us share God's Word with people around the world who need to know that God is going ahead and preparing a way for them, too.

In His service,

Rupen Das
President

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD." –Psalm 31:24 (NIV)



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We are a member of the Canadian Centre for Christian Charities. This means that we adhere to high ethical and operational standards. The CCCC seal is evidence that we are committed to integrity and excellence in ministry.

Threatened with death, Nadia was on the run...



■ Nadia was far from home and running for her life. She had lost her father and her home when militants attacked Mosul. Threatened with death if she refused to convert, Nadia left everything and fled to Jordan. She was grieving and angry.

That is where generous donors like you brought healing into her life through God's Word.

In Jordan Nadia was introduced to the Bible-based *Trauma Healing* program, and she was given a Bible. As Nadia read her Bible, her faith came alive. When she read John's Gospel and the news of God's saving grace, she was overwhelmed. With tears in her eyes, she said to a volunteer, "Persecution reawakened and deepened my faith in the Lord Jesus. I search for answers to my problems in the Bible, and I do not close the Bible until I find answers. My life has changed."

Nadia lost everything, but the words of the Bible gave her hope for the future. She memorizes a Psalm every day. Her favourite is Psalm 27: "The LORD is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one..."

Thank you for your gift of strength and hope through God's Word for refugees like Nadia.

"...I do not close the Bible until I find answers. My life has changed."

YOUR GIFT OF BIBLES FOR CHILDREN CHANGES LIVES

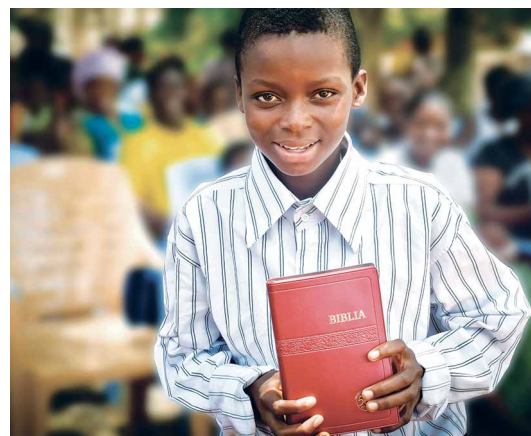
An orphan's story of transformation

■ Erasyl was abandoned by his parents shortly after he was born. He was eventually placed with foster parents who abused and beat him.

However, when Erasyl turned 12, a ray of light came into his dark existence. He received a children's Bible from Bible Society volunteers, and accepted their invitation to attend youth services. At one of the services, the speaker read from Isaiah and God spoke to the deepest longing of Erasyl's heart.

"But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed." —Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)

"God told me, 'I love you!'" says Erasyl. "I started crying and accepted Christ into my heart as my Saviour. My life has changed dramatically since that first encounter with the Bible, and I want to serve Him now by bringing His Word to other people."



YOUR GIFTS ARE CHANGING LIVES

■ We're grateful for Canadian donors like you who are helping to ease the suffering caused by the war in Ukraine. With your generous help, we are distributing 800,000 copies of Children's Bibles, New Testaments and a booklet filled with comforting Scripture passages.

"Thank you very much for coming. Very few people come to us," said one woman near the frontlines in Eastern Ukraine who was grateful to receive God's Word from the staff of the Ukraine Bible Society.



Your gifts have also made it possible to support churches and organizations who are providing emergency food, water, and other

Generous Canadians provided Children's Bibles, emergency food and water, and other necessities.

supplies in Ukraine and among refugees in Poland, Hungary, Moldova, and Romania. Together with our partners, we're also laying the groundwork for the trauma healing and counselling ministries that will be needed in the region for years, whatever the course of the conflict.

Already, your gift of God's Word is bringing comfort and changing lives in Ukraine. "After I experienced all the horrors of the war, God opened Himself to me," says Artem, a Ukrainian soldier. "I am so thankful to Him that I am here, alive, and for the Bible I received."

Thank you again for helping to meet immediate needs and providing the healing, comfort, and hope of God's Word to hurting people. Please continue to pray for peace in Ukraine.



BRAILLE BIBLES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH BLINDNESS

"My heart was overjoyed" with the gift of a Bible

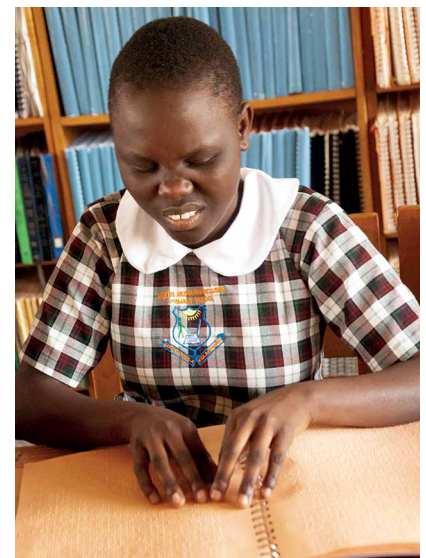
■ Ajok Joyce is a visually impaired teacher at Gulu Primary School, which is blind inclusive. The only Braille Bible she ever knew was the one in the school library.

One day Joyce was asked to do a reading at a women's prayer breakfast in Gulu. So she took the school's Bible and read from Esther, chapter 4. The women were amazed that Joyce could still read from God's Word despite not having sight. In appreciation, the prayer director

promised to get Joyce a Braille Bible of her own.

"My heart was overjoyed at this news! As the women cheered for me, my heart was singing," says Joyce. "Imagine my joy again when the administrator of the Bible Society called me to say that the Bible was on its way to my home!"

Thank you for your generous support that makes it possible to translate, produce, and provide Braille Bibles for people like Joyce.



“This is no ordinary book – it is the Word of God”

■ Not that long ago, 65-year-old Granny Yuan Guiying spent her days dancing and playing mah-jongg without a care for anything or anyone. Then a crisis struck: her son-in-law was in a serious car accident that left him fighting for his life in the hospital.

Yuan’s daughter remembered that a friend had told her about Jesus Christ, who came to heal and to save.



Yuan Guiying

In her desperation, she prayed: “Dear Jesus Christ, please heal my husband and I’ll believe in you.”

Miraculously, Yuan’s son-in-law began to recover so quickly that Yuan’s daughter was convinced that Christ had indeed answered her prayer. As Yuan witnessed her son-in-law’s healing and her daughter’s faith, she began to take an interest in finding out more about the Christian God. Yuan started to attend church and participated in church activities.

“Jesus changed me and made my life meaningful,” she says. Yuan adds that she gave her life to Christ and was baptized last year.

Later, Yuan received a pleasant surprise. Her local church planned to distribute free Bibles from the Bible Society. She will never forget that day when she received her first Bible. “I was a little overwhelmed when I held it in my hands,” she says, “because this is no ordinary book — it is the Word of God!”

“The Word of God gave me real satisfaction and joy which cannot be derived from dancing or winning at mah-jongg tables,” Yuan says.

“Thank you for this gift of the Bible! You have given us, the Chinese people, access to the door of salvation. I am convinced that through prayers, more people could be saved by reading the Word of God. Amen!”

YOUR GIFT PROVIDES HOPE AND CARE FOR SUFFERING PEOPLE

Hannah will never forget the night of the attack...

■ The sounds of gunfire woke Hannah suddenly from her sleep. Her town was under attack!

“While all the gunmen had been screaming and running out of the building, all in one direction, we had been silently praying for God’s guidance to help us escape,” she remembers.

Hannah and her family were able to escape, but like so many refugees from the Middle East, they were left with nothing. Millions of citizens of this Middle Eastern country have fled because of the ongoing violence and danger.

Thank you for your gifts that have helped provide Scriptures to thousands of refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Israel, and Canada. Through your generosity, traumatized people are finding hope and healing through God’s Word.





THE BIBLE IS CHANGING LIVES IN CHINA

Scriptures help heal Li's broken heart

■ “Every time I read this book I feel like God is talking to me personally,” says Li Layun. She lives in very poor conditions in rural China and works on a farm. As a widow, she faced heartbreak when her husband died and she was left to raise their children alone. Later, one of Li's sons died. She experienced severe depression.

Thankfully, a Christian in her village began telling Li about Christ. Little by little, Li listened. She accepted Christ into her life, but



my husband. I know God loves me, and his plan is perfect.”

wanted to know more about God and how to live for him. Li received her very first Bible when our local partners on the ground visited her village! She was filled with joy and thanksgiving.

“Every time I read this book I feel like God is talking to me personally. I find peace in this book,” she says while clutching her copy of God's Word. “I am now at peace even with losing

Your gifts help people hear God speak
of His love for them.

Sharing the hope of Christ with Canadian youth

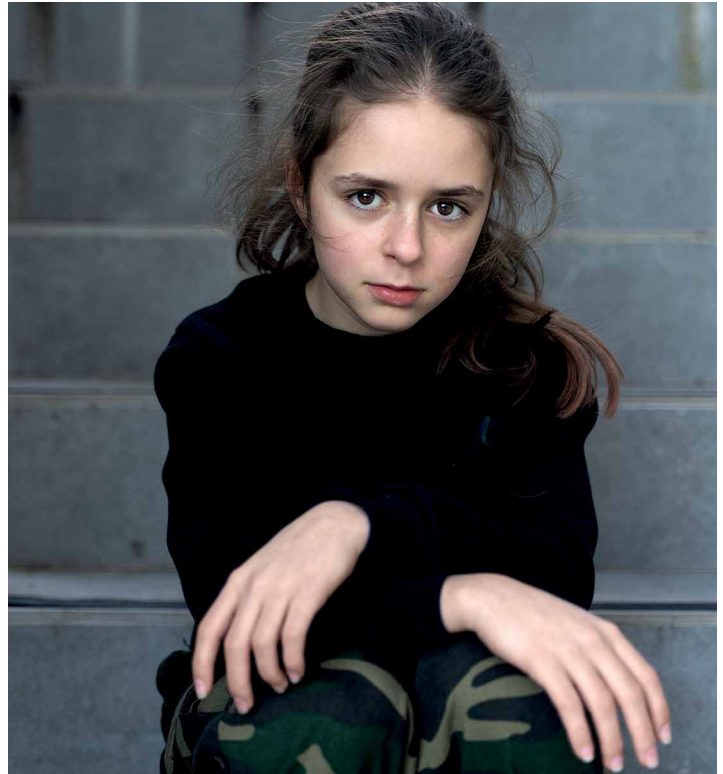
■ “If God is real, then why did my mother kick me out of the house when I was 13 years old?”

That is the difficult question a struggling teenage girl asked Jason Pino, Executive Director of *Restoring Hope Ministries*. The young girl was staying at the shelter operated by the ministry.

In response to her question, Jason says, “I took one of the Bibles that Canadian Bible Society had given to us and shared some Scripture with her about God’s love.” He went on to explain to her that the same love motivates the shelter staff to provide her with food, clothing, and shelter.

As a result, “She took the Bible and spent some time reading it in bed before going to sleep,” says Jason. “Perhaps she was re-reading some of the Bible stories she had heard as a child, and they were coming alive to her again.”

Thank you for providing *Restoring Hope Ministries* with Bibles and resource materials that help young Canadians hear God speak to them.



Scripture Untangled



RICK TOBIAS
EP. 01



DANIELLE STRICKLAND
EP. 05



CHARLES PRICE
EP. 06

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A PODCAST BY THE Canadian Bible Society

Scripture Untangled brings you interviews with culture leaders, leaders in ministry, and Bible thinkers to inspire you to dive into the Bible and understand it.

AVAILABLE ON



www.scriptureuntangled.ca

There are people still waiting to hear God speak



Throughout the world, people still hunger for the Good News.

In many parts of the world, Christianity is growing and the demand for Bibles is far beyond what is currently available. In other parts of the world, people are waiting for

a Bible to be translated in their language. Like you, they need the comfort, hope, and healing that only Scripture can provide.

You can make a difference by helping people in Canada and around the world hear God speak through His Word!

**HELP PROVIDE BIBLES IN CHINA, CUBA, AND
WHEREVER PEOPLE ARE LONGING TO HEAR GOD SPEAK.**