

## HEARING GOD SPEAK IN 2020!

As the Scriptures perform their mysterious work of healing and transformation, you are a witness, a companion and a friend to those who are longing to hear God speak:

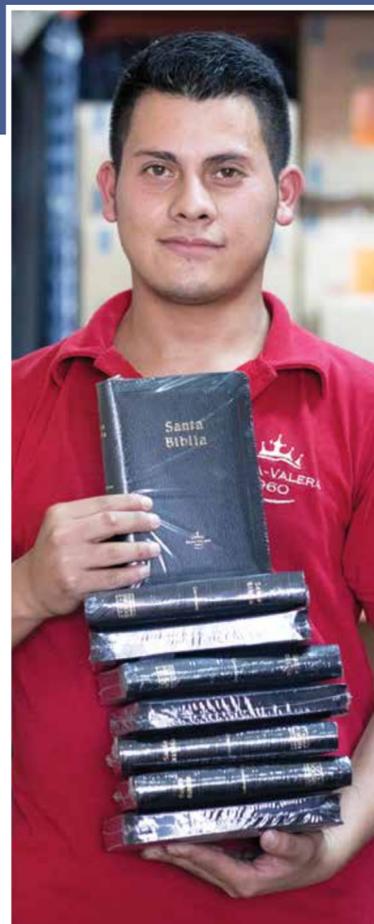
A refugee craving Good News and hope.

A community thrilled by God's Word in their heart language.

A child devouring the message of God's love.

A survivor of trauma receiving comfort from the Scriptures.

A young teacher filled with the light of the knowledge of God.



## God speaks to the hungry church

Sixty years ago, severe persecution by the Communist government forced the Cuban church underground. Bibles became scarce, worn out, and damaged.

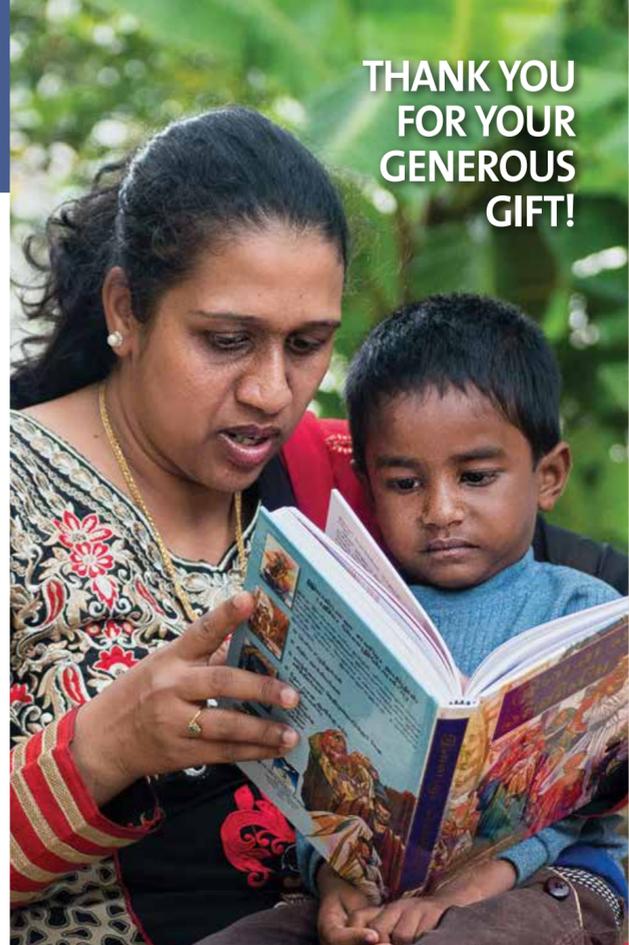
When restrictions began to loosen thirty years later, church leaders were desperate to see the Cuban people reading God's Word again, but the decades of Scripture drought could only be reversed by a seemingly impossible surge of new Bibles.

God made the impossible possible! Your faithful support of the Million Bible Mission brought 1.3 million new Bibles into Cuba, and God's Word launched an unprecedented revival in the Cuban church! The need for Bibles continues to grow. The number of believers has doubled in the past ten years, and grows exponentially every year.

Now is a time of incredible spiritual hunger and need. This new year, help us bring more Bibles into Cuba, that many more may hear God's voice calling them to life!

**"Cuba... has no technology to print its own Bibles and no Christian bookstores, but it does not stop the growth of its Church. The soil is ready and we are ready as well."**

—ALYSNEY RODRÍGUEZ GALÁN,  
FROM THE CUBAN BIBLE COMMISSION



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
GENEROUS  
GIFT!**



**Canadian Bible Society**  
The Word. For Life.

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**NOTE:** Some photos and names in this newsletter have been changed for personal privacy and security reasons.



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

## Bible @ Month

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Please invest in one or more of these initiatives in Canada and abroad.

Join our Bible-a-Month program today or consider increasing your monthly gift.

**\$50** will bring God's comforting Word to 5 persecuted believers.

**\$100** will supply paper for 64 Bibles in China

**\$500** will provide Scripture materials for 5 Bible-based workshops for young abused women.

**\$700** will help provide a full Braille Bible for the visually impaired.

### TO DONATE:

**CALL TOLL FREE:** 1.800.465.2425

**DONATE ONLINE:**  
biblesociety.ca/wawjan20

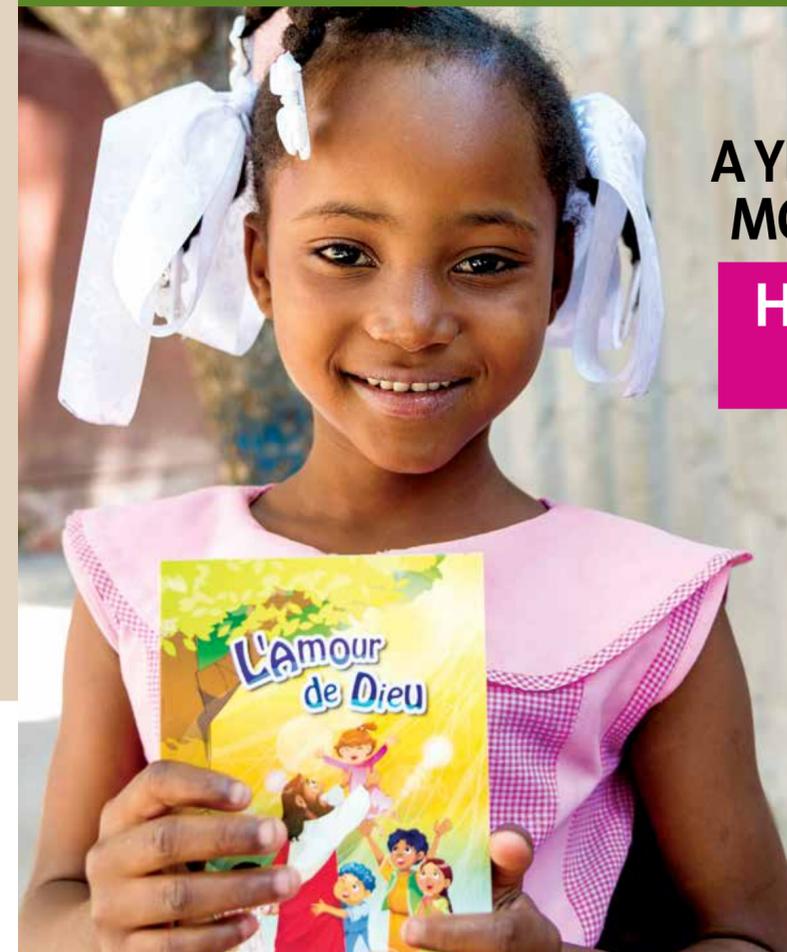
**MAIL TO:**

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**"And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son..."** HEBREWS 1.2 (NLT)

# word@work

2020 – ISSUE 1



**2020  
A YEAR TO HELP  
MORE PEOPLE**

**HEAR GOD  
SPEAK**

**"Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son."**

HEBREWS 1.1-2 (NLT)

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The Word. For Life.

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To all people – at all times – in all circumstances.  
**GOD SPEAKS TO THE BROKEN**

The Bible is full of powerful moments when God speaks. In the Garden of Eden, God seeks a relationship with a heartfelt, "Where are you?" On Mount Sinai, God's voice thunders as he declares his presence to Israel. Throughout the Gospels, the words of Jesus express God's heart for the downtrodden and oppressed.

Our ministry is founded on the belief that God still speaks through his Word today. He is not far off. Everyone needs a chance to hear what he has to say.

Reflecting on 2019, we celebrate the transformation that occurred in thousands of hearts as spiritually hungry people encountered Jesus through a Bible you helped us place in their hands.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to help us share God's Word with those desperate to experience his truth and love in their lives!

As we head into the New Year, we ask for your prayers and your renewed support. CBS is unwavering in its passion to deliver God's Word at the intersection of faith and life, and together with you, we will ensure many more hear God speak to them through his living Word!



## God still speaks today, and here are the stories of those who heard His voice!

### God speaks through a cab driver

■ 66-years-old Li Yanjing has been in active Christian service for over ten years. He received his first Bible from his father-in-law who had prayed for his conversion for many years.

Before he knew Jesus, Li had only one objective in life: the pursuit of wealth. When the Word of God began to slowly take root in Li's life, he began to see the emptiness in his past pursuits. He learned how to put a check on his hot temper and readily make peace with his "enemies". Since then, he thirsts for the Word of God and reads the Bible at every chance he can.

Convinced by the transforming power of the Word of God, Li said, "The Bible has become my precious companion and I treasure it dearly."

Li, who is a taxi driver, puts copies of the Bible in his cab. To passengers who show interest in reading the Bible, he gives a free copy, on the condition that they promise to drop off the copy at any nearby church if they change their mind about reading it.

Once Li was greatly encouraged when a passenger became a Christian after reading the Bible he gave her in his taxi. This further strengthened his faith that God's Word truly convicts and transforms everyone.

"...HE HAS SPOKEN TO US THROUGH HIS SON..."

HEBREWS.1.2

1,135 THE NUMBER OF LANGUAGE GROUPS THAT HAVE SOME PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE AVAILABLE IN THEIR HEART LANGUAGE.

### God speaks in dire situations

■ When Faiza was a young girl, her mother died, leaving her devastated and overwhelmed. A few years later, Faiza's ordeal worsened when her father began to sexually abuse her on a daily basis.

"My life which was full of hope and dreams at age thirteen started to fade before my very eyes. I had no one to turn to." Thankfully, at a Bible Society program, Faiza encountered God's Word, and it gave her the courage to report what was happening in her home.



"I was rescued from the home and received hope from God's Word. I was broken, but God spoke and restored me through His Word."

Having Scriptures freely available in local languages is essential to the success of such programs. This year, will you help us provide Bibles to these ministries that meet every manner of human need? Your gift will ensure others like Faiza experience the true hope and transformation offered by God's Word.

### God speaks in Cree

■ Dolores Sand, Cree Bible Engagement Advocate for CBS, is an experienced translator and educator who desires to see Scripture engagement in her heart language, Cree.

"I continue to reach out to school boards, First Nations and church organizations, to further... Bible engagement [in Cree]."

Thanks to your generosity, Dolores has been able to further her mission to see people engage with Cree Scriptures by reaching out and connecting with many organizations. She reads Scripture in Cree during church services and utilizes audio Bibles and smartphone apps. She also leads the development of a set of thirty Bible stories in Cree for children.

Your continued support will further the spread of God's Word in many heart languages across Canada.

### God speaks to a new generation

■ In Armenia, Susan grew up during what she calls the nation's "atheist years." She yearned to connect with God, but did not know where to turn, until one day someone gave her a Bible.

"I read that Bible like a thirsty human being. The Spirit of God filled my house and my joy was inexpressible!" Now a school teacher, Susan and other teachers have an unprecedented opportunity to feed an entire generation with God's Word. Armenia has made religious education a part of public-school curriculum, and each year all grade five students in the country are taught about the Bible.

Your support has helped the Bible Society in Armenia to provide Scriptures to teachers and equip them to teach God's Word effectively to young schoolchildren.

"We are grateful to the Bible Society for the help we had in previous years. All materials produced by the Bible Society are of good quality and we trust them."

— Solvita, school teacher

We do not know how much longer this door will remain open. Will you help us flood this nation with God's Word? Your gift today will help Armenian children hear God speak through his Word!

"I read that Bible like a thirsty human being... my joy was inexpressible!" — SUSAN



ONE BRAILLE BIBLE CONSISTS OF 40 SEPARATE BOOKS, WEIGHS A COMBINED 40 KG, AND COSTS \$700!

"Even though I am physically blind, I am glad that I can see Jesus through my Braille Bible." — ALEX LUKWAGO

### God speaks in the darkness

■ Around the world, there are about 285 million people with visual disabilities. Most of them live in developing countries where resources to meet their needs are not readily available, including Bibles that would help them through their spiritual and emotional struggles.

Braille Bibles are expensive! One Braille Bible consists of 40 separate books, weighs a combined 40 kg, and costs \$700!

In Uganda the Bible Society has implemented the *People with Visual Disability Project* to help visually impaired people attain Braille literacy and get easy access to the Scriptures in Braille; and it is incredibly successful!

98% of participants reported spiritual growth and a deeper relationship with God because the Braille Bible you placed in their hands helped them find encouragement and comfort through his Word.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity. Your continued support of this incredible program empowers many visually impaired people to hear God speak in the darkness to the deepest needs of their heart!

"I was humbled when I received my Braille Bible... I can now read without relying on anyone." — Alex Lukwago



### God speaks in the midst of suffering

■ Syria is in the midst of a civil war. Many parts of the nation have suffered massive destruction, and 400,000 lives have been lost to violence. Those who survive face the invisible battle of trauma, fear, and hopelessness.

A psychiatrist from Aleppo recently shared about a little boy who was so depressed, he jumped from the third floor to kill himself! Thankfully the boy did not succeed, but the grief that overwhelmed him is common to many children and adults facing the horrors of war.

To combat this, the Bible Society has launched several programs designed to rebuild the people of this war-torn nation. One program trains and provides materials to help Sunday schools reach children with the love of Jesus. Another provides trauma healing and conflict resolution to Syrian communities through a Bible-based curriculum. Yet another courageously provides Bibles to persecuted churches.

People who have suffered so much, now hear Gods speak to them through the Scriptures, some for the very first time. In the midst of the suffering, there is an extraordinary demand for Bibles. Your generosity today will help Syrians facing deep inner wounds and trauma find hope and comfort in God's Word!

"People who have suffered so much, now hear God speak to them through the Scriptures..."

— A BIBLE SOCIETY STAFF

TO LEARN MORE VISIT [www.biblesociety.ca](http://www.biblesociety.ca)

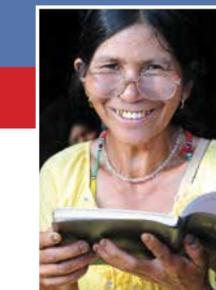
## 2020 PROJECTS



"THANK YOU FOR MY BIBLE - IT HAS CHANGED MY LIFE!"

### THE WORD IS AT WORK

- 01 ARMENIA – Scriptures for schoolchildren
- 02 CANADA – Scripture Translation, Bibles for camps and for newcomers
- 03 CHILE – Scriptures for the next generation
- 04 CHINA – Bibles for Millions and for the visually impaired
- 05 COSTA RICA – Braille Bibles and Bibles for immigrants
- 06 CUBA – Bible distribution and Sign Language Bibles for the Deaf
- 07 EGYPT – Scripture engagement for children
- 08 GHANA – Bibles for victims of sexual exploitation
- 09 INDIA – Bibles for women and orphans
- 10 IRAQ – Scripture distribution
- 11 KENYA – Audio Bibles for the poor
- 12 LITHUANIA – Scriptures for the deaf and the vulnerable
- 13 ROMANIA – Scriptures for the gravely ill and children with Down Syndrome
- 14 RWANDA – Bibles for street children
- 15 SYRIA – Bibles for Syrian refugees
- 16 UKRAINE – God's Word to the military and gravely ill children



### LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED WHEN GOD SPEAKS

As a supporter of CBS, you know the power of God's Word.

Your gift today will ensure that many more can experience the transformation that comes from hearing God speak through his Word!