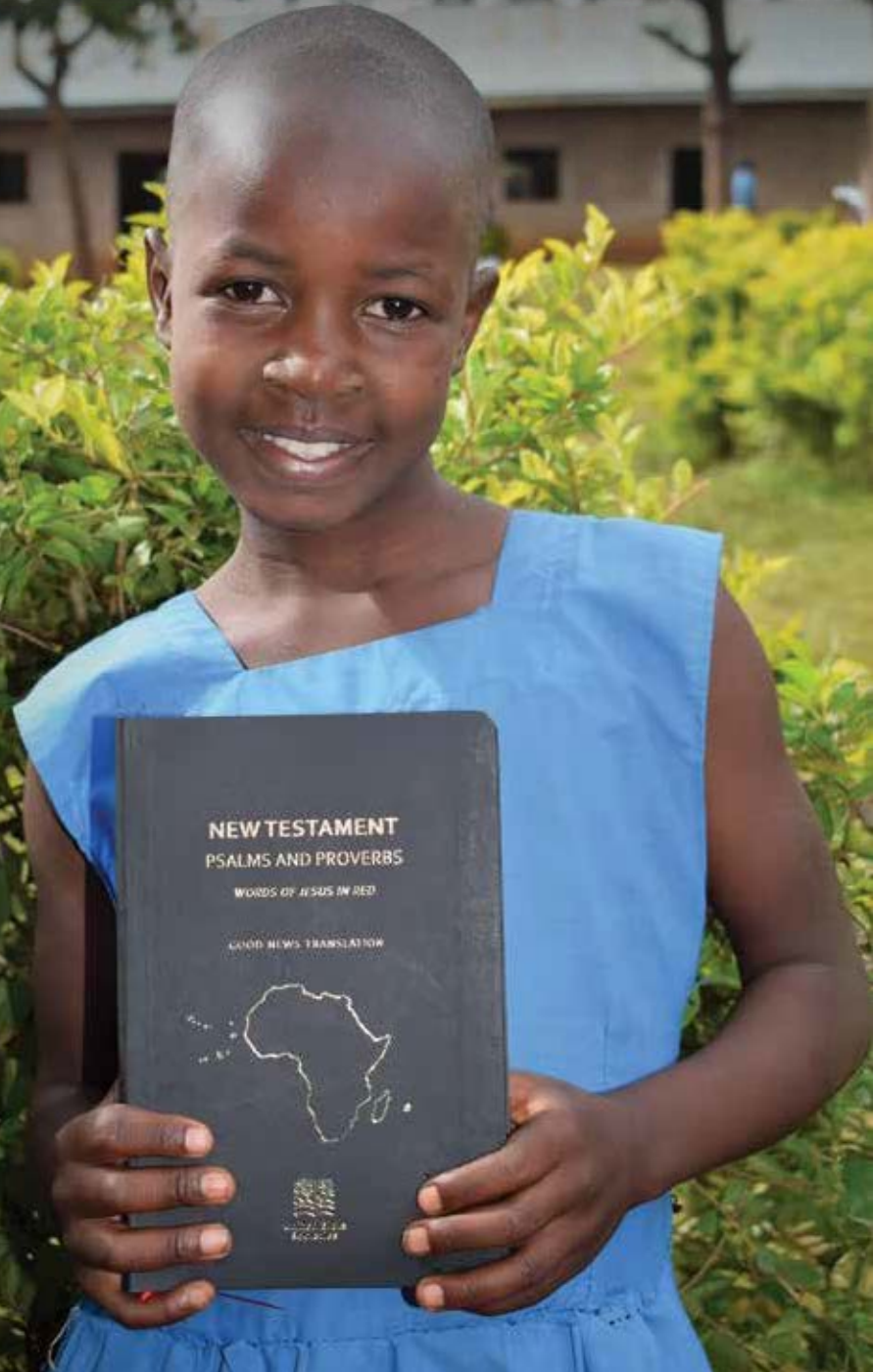


word@work

YOUR GIFT BRINGS THE HOPE OF GOD'S WORD TO CHILDREN AND THE MOST VULNERABLE

"In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish."

—Matthew 18:14 (NIV)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Lesly's first Bible
Page 3

"My kids have
come back to
life..."
Page 5

Nongishu carried her
Bible everywhere
Page 7



Canadian
Bible Society

Rupen's Reflections

Happy New Year! Let's share the light of God's Word with others in 2025

Thank you for choosing the Canadian Bible Society as your partner to help more people hear God speak to them. I am deeply grateful for you and your continued generosity that helps change lives through God's Word. Your desire to share life-changing Scripture with more people is an inspiration and encouragement to me each and every day.

You and I can see that our world is hurting today. So many people long for hope and for peace as they struggle in the midst of conflict, natural disasters, and poverty. And I know your heart goes out to the children and the vulnerable who suffer the most.

Let us continue working together in 2025 to help satisfy the hunger of the most vulnerable who long for God's Word.

"...if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday" (Isaiah 58:10, NIV).



Thank you for responding with your gifts of love and compassion this past year. As you read your **word@work** newsletter, I hope your heart will be warmed as you see how your generosity is shining a light of hope around the world.

In His service,

Rupen Das
President

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



Canadian Bible Society

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

TO DONATE:

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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.

GOD'S WORD BRINGS HEALING TO A NEGLECTED GIRL IN GUATEMALA

Your generosity changed Lesly's life

■ Thank you for investing in the next generation. God is using your gift of Bibles to change the lives of children all around the world. One of these children is Lesly, a 14-year-old girl who was neglected and then abused by her own family members.



“When I grow up, I want to help girls who are in need, just like I am now.”

When Lesly was a young child, her family moved from Honduras to Guatemala. But soon after, her parents joined a local gang and were subsequently arrested, convicted, and sent to jail.

Young Lesly was sent to live with her aunt and uncle, and sadly was abused in their care.

“It was the most terrible thing to happen to me,” she says. “I then had to find the courage to tell my family, and the only solution was to move into a [shelter]. It was heartbreaking because I then lost all my family.”

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

That is when the gift of a Bible put Lesly on a journey of spiritual and emotional healing at the shelter.

“Every Thursday a group from Bible Society of Guatemala came to give us Bible workshops,” she says. At first Lesly did not want to listen because she thought it wouldn't help her, but she kept going to the study group. Then one day she heard a Scripture verse that changed her life:

“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it” (Proverbs 4:23, NIV).

“It was there I realized that even if anything happened to me in the past, I can take care of what goes into my heart,” Lesly says. “This changed my outlook and my life for the better. When I grow up, I want to help girls who are in need, just like I am now.”

Thank you for providing Lesly — and so many other girls like her — with a first Bible. With God's help and through your generosity, Lesly has a new perspective on the past and is moving forward in her life today.

Learn how Naa met Ruby

■ You are a vital member of a powerful community of donors who love sharing God's Word. We are delighted that so many of you responded to help put 7,000 Bibles in the hands of girls who are at risk of harm in Ghana.

Naa is one of the girls who recently received her first Bible through your compassion and care. That precious gift is helping her choose a safer, healthier path in life.

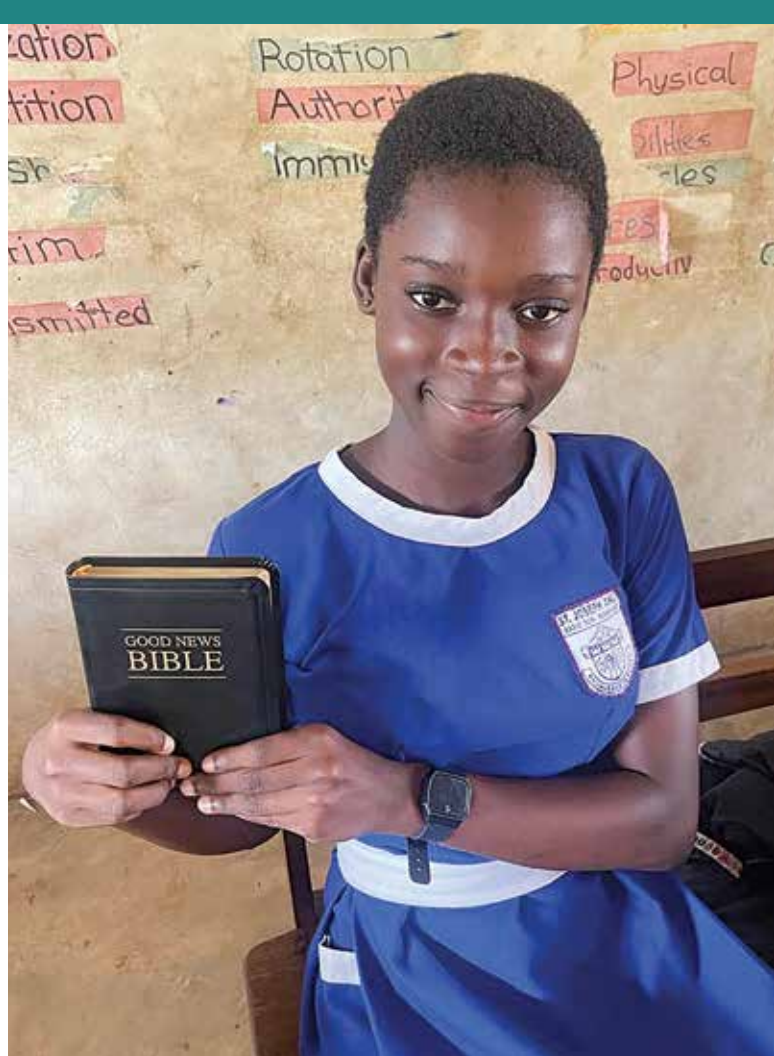
As a young girl, Naa lived with her mother who worked as a fishmonger. Unfortunately, her mother's job kept her away from home for days at a time. As Naa grew older, and with little parental guidance, the young teen fell in with a group of friends who loved to party at nightclubs.

These friends gave Naa the sense of belonging she was desperate to feel, but they led her into risky and dangerous situations. One night, Naa narrowly escaped from a group who attempted to attack her.

So, when another friend invited her to a Friday night Girls' Club Bible study, led by Ruby Akama, she chose to go there instead of a nightclub.

She was deeply touched by a particular Scripture the group studied one evening:

"Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm"
(Proverbs 13:20, NIV).



Thanks to your generosity, Naa received her own Bible that is helping her follow Christ. And with growing confidence, she has found the strength to cut ties with negative influences and focus on doing well in school.

Thank you for making that possible!

A WORD FROM GHANA'S GIRLS' CLUB BIBLE STUDY LEADER:

■ I am always excited to meet these girls on Fridays. Sadly, some of them lack proper parental care and have experienced trauma within their own homes. It breaks my heart to see such vulnerable young souls facing these challenges.

However, through the Rescue the Girl Mission project, we have witnessed positive changes in their behaviour and noticed improvements in their studies. By providing them with a safe and supportive environment through the weekly meetings, we hope to empower them to make better choices and build a brighter future for themselves.

—Ruby Akama, volunteer leader with Bible Society of Ghana



Canada Summer Camp Report



■ Thanks to generous donors like you, children and young people in Canada have received the life-changing Word of God. Here are just some of the highlights of the impact of your generosity this past summer:

- You put Bibles into the hands of over 200 children and teens who attended seven camps for African and Muslim children during July and August.
- At Camp Kadesh, kids stayed up late with flashlights to read the great stories they discovered in the Bibles you helped provide.
- Campers at Birch Bay Ranch were thankful and happy to receive the Bibles you helped put in their hands.
- At Camp Evergreen, one of the kids got a Bible and he would not stop reading before bedtime. The counsellor sent him to brush his teeth and when he returned he immediately started reading his Bible again!

GRIEVING FAMILIES FIND HOPE AND HEALING THROUGH GOD'S WORD

Trauma healing in Ukraine

■ Over the past two years, you have opened your heart to the needs of people suffering as a result of the war in Ukraine. We are so grateful for your gifts that have helped meet physical needs and invited traumatized children and adults to find healing in the presence of God through His Word.

Recently, your support made it possible to conduct a camp in Ukraine for families who have lost loved ones in the conflict.

Oksana, a woman who lost her husband this year, has seen her two daughters withdraw into their own pain and grief. And because of that, she said, "Since he died, I haven't felt anything but anger."

But during the camp, Oksana saw a change in her daughters and then in her own heart. Through God's Word and being part of this community, Oksana's daughters began to open up and rediscover a sense of joy.

"Thank you for bringing our kids back to life," she says, "because for the first time since their dad passed, the girls were truly happy."



Thank you for responding so generously and compassionately to the needs of people during these dark days in Ukraine.

LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED BY GOD'S WORD

Your generous support helps more people hear God speak to them through His Word. Here are just a few of the ministries featured in your winter **word@work** newsletter. Your support in 2025 is vital as they continue to minister to others in the name of Jesus.



The Message of God's Hands

The Bible Society of **Guatemala** supports this vital work to translate the Bible into Guatemalan sign language, providing first-time access to God's Word for thousands of hearing-impaired Guatemalans.



Rescue Mission

In **Ghana**, Rescue Mission liberates vulnerable teenage girls from prostitution and potential prostitution by providing life skills and leading them to discover God's truth about themselves through His Word.



Word of Hope to Families in Crisis

Word of Hope partners with the **Ukrainian** church to help family members to find peace, guidance, and encouragement in God's Word.



Hope for the Blind

In **Sri Lanka**, Hope for the Blind delivers the Word of God in Braille and audio formats to visually impaired Sri Lankan students, giving them the opportunity to receive their own copy of the Scriptures and learn how to engage with them.

Notes of GRATITUDE

Danila is 10 years old and studying at the School for the Blind in Rathmalana, Sri Lanka.

Complications at birth left tiny Danila with a detached retina. She is legally blind, but an excellent student. She loves taking part in extracurricular activities and is an avid reader. But Braille books are difficult to get in her community. That is why Danila's mother, Pramila, is so grateful for the Braille Bible her daughter received from the Bible Society:

"These Bibles can greatly aid children in learning more about Jesus Christ. We are very grateful to Ceylon Bible Society for giving my daughter a Braille Bible."



Nongishu, who lives in Kenya, never had the chance to attend school.

But she was determined to read and learn from the Word of God. And after Nongishu received a Maasai Talking Bible as an adult, she took it everywhere she went. Her knowledge of God's Word has been growing stronger and stronger every day. A friend in her community says:

"Nongishu is learning to read as her children help her to press on daily to know more. She says there is nothing she desires more than to know His Word in abundance! She is so thankful for her Bible."

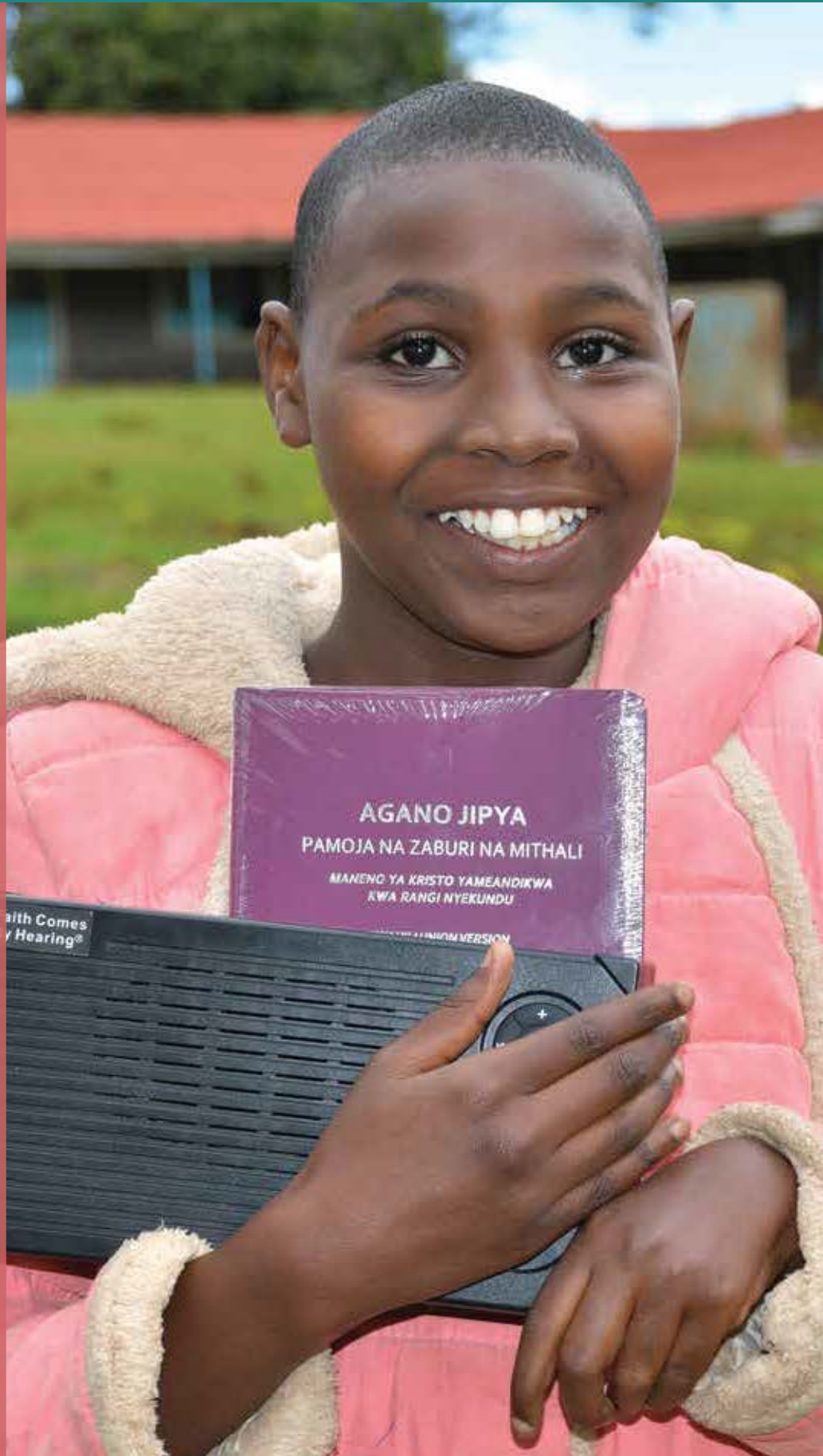


We champion the Bible as the voice of God, revealing Jesus Christ, the Living Word, all because of your support. Thank you for the opportunity to help transform lives!

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**Please respond
generously so
more children
can find strength
from God through
His Word.**

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