

NEW BELIEVERS NEED GOD'S WORD



Summer/Fall 2023
Newsletter



Salina & Yohan

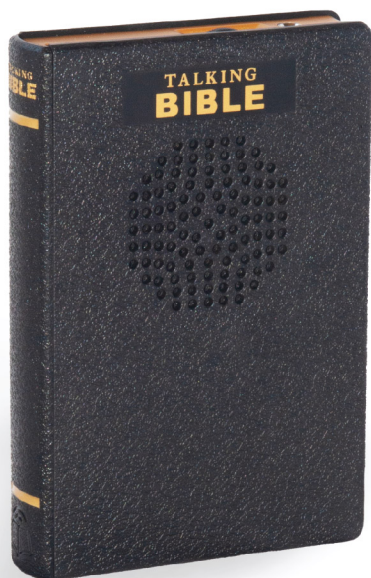
DESIRING GOD!

Hearing the scriptures read to them in their language finally gave Salina her desire.

Ram & Sajo

NEW DIRECTION

With the knowledge of God at their fingertips, Ram and Sajo are headed in the right direction!



Dear Friends

OF TALKING BIBLES,

It's an exciting time in the life of a new believer; there is nothing like those first moments of discovering Jesus.

As Christ slowly introduces Himself to new believers, they are filled with hope, joy, and a great desire to learn more.

For many new believers, their first question is, "Now, what do I do?" That excitement of being a part of something so wonderful and so enormous, that we naturally ask, where is my place in all this?



New Believer + Bible = Growth



New Believer - Bible = Struggle

With that God-given desire to know more and grow in Christ comes the need for the Word of God. Having access to the Bible as a new believer is crucial. With God's guide to how to live, where we fit in, and how it all works, we grow.

Without access to the Bible, new believers can grow discouraged and often lose their momentum for the Lord.

The longer a new believer goes without access to the Bible, the more discouraged they can become.



**How sweet are Your words to my taste,
Sweeter than honey to my mouth!**

**Through Your precepts
I get understanding;
Therefore I hate every false way.**

Psalm 119:103-104 KJV

Having many questions and not having the answers can also stunt the new believer's growth.

By providing Talking Bibles to these new believers who can't read, their desire to know God better is fed, and their path is set in the right direction towards Jesus.

The Bible is an essential part of our walk with God. Everyone needs access to it.

Here are two stories of new believers that cannot read and how having access to a Talking Bible gave them momentum in their new life with Christ.

Thank you for your support and prayers as you join us in equipping new believers with the Word of God! We thank you, and they thank you!

Because they need to hear,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark S. Hoekstra'.

Mark S. Hoekstra
President, Talking Bibles International

Wandering through life without God's Word is frustrating and tiresome. A Bible for a new believer is sweet relief in a chaotic world, giving hope and joy in our daily walk with the Lord.



Salina & Yohan

DESIRING GOD!

Salina struggled with seizures for years, and her daily life was constantly interrupted; she rarely experienced rest or peace. Salina's husband, Yohan, watched his beautiful bride grow weaker and discouraged as everything they tried proved useless.

Neither knew anything about Jesus, yet Yohan understood that their neighbor was a man of God who, he believed, could help. He didn't know how or why, but God was drawing him near. As his neighbor engaged in fervent prayer for Salina, his wife was powerfully healed!

After being transformed by God through their neighbor's prayers, Salina and Yohan listened to what he had to tell them about Jesus. Salina remembers him quoting from Matthew 11...

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Twice a week, she would meet with her neighbor and try to memorize everything she heard; she desperately wanted to grow in her faith. Yet, Salina never felt satisfied; it was never enough to fill her desire to learn more about Jesus.


She had never attended school as a child and could not read the Kiswahili Bible she was given. Salina's husband, Yohan, had completed four years of school and would occasionally try reading the Bible to Salina, but he struggled too much for either of them to understand.

With her desire to learn more and what seemed like an impossible roadblock, Salina turned to prayer.

Then came the answer to her situation, they received a Talking Bible.

Salina and Yohan were amazed by the Talking Bible. Not only could the Talking Bible read the scriptures to them better than anyone else they knew, but it also read the scriptures in KiTatoga, their mother tongue.

Hearing the scriptures read to them in their language from the Talking Bible finally gave Salina her desire to understand Jesus better than ever before. She finally had the access to God for which she was searching.

"I am feeling better now that I am in Jesus. There was no good things in my life before," Salina says. "For me, I am growing in my knowledge of the Word of God. That is important because there is life in learning the Word. I see myself, I see how God is continuing to protect me, because there is no more sickness." 

Ram & Sajo

NEW DIRECTION

Ram had heard about Jesus years ago and even believed him to be a true god, but that was the extent of his knowledge. Ram didn't have access to the Bible, never heard a sermon in a church meeting, and only knew a few Christians in his small farming village in Bihar, India.

Even though he was introduced to Jesus, he didn't have a way to learn more, and without access to a Bible or the church, his thoughts about Jesus faded, and he soon forgot about Him.

"I used to walk according to my wish," Ram said, "I thought I was my boss." He lived like many of us did before we knew Jesus, without direction and understanding. As a result, there were many problems in his life and marriage.

Then everything changed - Ram was given a Talking Bible. After listening to the Talking Bible, he and his wife, Sajo, learned that God alone is almighty. With their unquenchable desire to learn more about Jesus, they listened to their Bible constantly.

"I received eternal life and was forgiven of all the sins, and I want to lead a new life now that I am born again," says Ram.


He especially enjoys listening to Genesis and how God created the world. Through listening, he learned to trust God and gave his life and marriage to Jesus.

With the knowledge of God at their fingertips, Ram and Sajo now know what God wants of them and how to live. They are finally headed in the right direction!

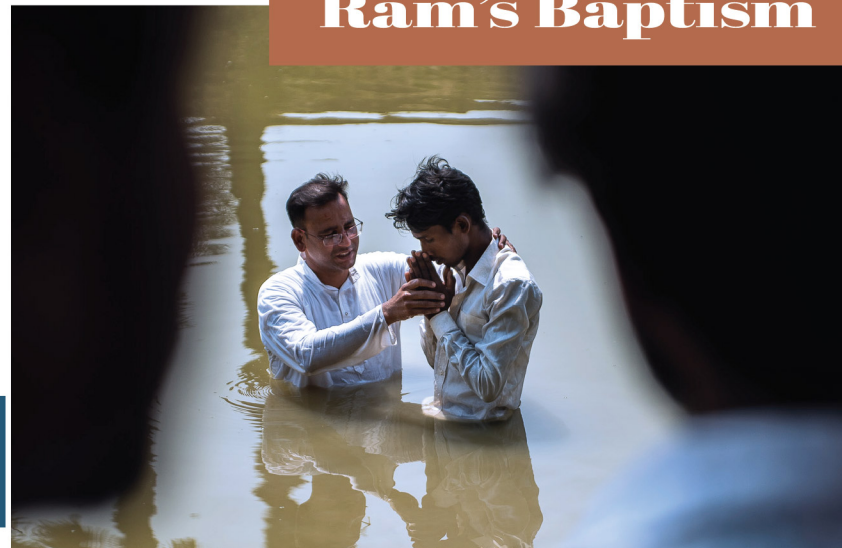


They both were baptized and now their marriage is full of joy and peace; they even welcomed their first child.

Without access to the Bible, Ram and Sajo would struggle deeply in their new Christian faith. We praise God that they have His Word, an essential for growth, understanding, and knowing who God is.

Discipling new believers with audio Bibles is a perfect way to set them on the path to Jesus Christ. It tears down misunderstandings and reading barriers. Thank you for helping provide Talking Bibles to new believers worldwide! 

Ram's Baptism



Check out our new website!

Scan the QR code using the camera app on your phone.



Want to share our newsletter? Email: info@talkingbibles.org, and we'll gladly send you extra copies!

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