



They Need
GOD'S WORD!



TALKING
BIBLES[®]

Dear Talking Bible friends and prayer partners,

There were no fans! No wind. No windows.

Seeing I was overheating, someone picked up a little piece of cardboard to fan the back of my neck. Even though the sweat was running down my face, I was deeply intrigued and touched by the stories I heard.

My brother Paul and I just returned from India where we were stirred by the personal testimonies of lives changed by God's Word. As I listened to each story, I was reminded over and over again why it is so important that Talking Bibles get into these homes.

The women we met were especially vulnerable. Frequently, young girls are forced to marry men they have never met. After the marriage, the young women find out who they are married to. For women who are paired to men who are angry and violent, there is little hope for a better future. *They have no refuge. Some resort to suicide. Some even light themselves on fire to escape. These women have only ONE hope: that their husbands would follow Jesus and change their behavior. They can't get out of their marriage. Their only chance at a better life is for God to change their husband.*

Kumari wouldn't call herself a believer, but there she sat in that hot, little room holding her Talking Bible and told me her story. I could hear the cry of her heart as she described the cruel man she lived with and the hopeless situation she lived in. She and her eight-year-old daughter were trapped. There was no escaping this man she had been forced to marry.

Kumari wants to go to church, but her husband won't let her go. When he gets drunk, he gets mean. He beats her, accusing her falsely about many things she has not done. He hates the church and everything it stands for. Even so, Kumari sneaks off to church from time to time.

Kumari is just beginning her new life with God. In His own quiet, gentle way, God is calling Kumari. But like all of us, she needs the Bible to help guide her into a lasting relationship with God that will help her stand the trials and temptations in this life. But Kumari can't read. Without a Talking Bible, the Bible is a closed book for her. Unaccessible.

By the time Kumari is ready for baptism, she will have listened to the whole New Testament on her Talking Bible several times, while her pastor disciples her.

Kumari has seen the change in other men in her village. She wants that for her husband. Our prayer is that her husband will notice the change in her heart and soften his heart. We have seen this happen many, many times.

I believe part of God's plan is to reach these men through their wives. In a country where the churches are full of women and children, how do we reach the men with the Good News about Jesus? It is through their wives and the Talking Bible.

Because they need to hear,



Mark S. Hoekstra
President, Talking Bibles International



AFRICA

One day, Deng Chuol and his family left the refugee camp to visit some relatives in town. Just outside of Gambella town, the overcrowded minibus crashed into another vehicle. Deng was among those injured. Nineteen people were killed, including Deng's wife and child.

He was devastated. His family left all they owned to run away from the conflict in South Sudan to refuge across the border in Ethiopia. They still had each other, and that was enough. Now even his family was taken from him. Deng withdrew and would not speak to anyone.

The pastor came to see him again on the fourth day after the tragedy. The pastor did not know Deng well, because Deng did not often come to church with his wife, who had come faithfully. Deng still had no words for anyone. He did not speak to his pastor. The pastor gave his condolences, and then left Deng with a Talking Bible to listen to. "He told me that he would come back the next morning to visit and to collect the Bible," remembers Deng, "I listened all night and God was speaking to me."

"I was very angry with God," Deng continues, "If he loves me, why did he take my wife and child? I did not know what to do and did not want to speak with anyone. When I heard the Talking Bible, it was a very big help for me. In the morning, the pastor came and I told him that I was very thankful for the Talking Bible. Two verses changed my life when I listened to them."

For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. (Romans 14:7-9)

"From this I knew that nobody dies by his own, and nobody dies without knowing by the Lord. Even though my wife passed away, the Lord is with us."

But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. (Matthew 24:36)

"I know these words are for me. It helps me to realize each day and every day belongs to God. This Talking Bible it has helped me a lot. Now I know the Lord and serve him and my church as my wife did."



How can you share the Talking Bibles ministry?

Share with Your Church:

Order our NEW Talking Bibles Sunday Kit to give to your pastor or missions director. Inside they will find simple instructions on how to play our new video for your congregation and take an offering to place Talking Bibles with people who can't read. Visit us at talkingbibles.org or call (760) 745-8105 to order your packet now!

TALKING BIBLES
SUNDAY
SHARE THE MINISTRY WITH YOUR CHURCH

Share with Friends and Family:

Talking Bibles has plenty of free resources to share with your friends and family. You can access our stories and new video online at talkingbibles.org. Call us with additional requests at (760) 745-8105 or email us at info@talkingbibles.org.

A Bible for Those Who Can't Read



The Solar Talking Bible

- Easy to use
- Powerful speaker
- Solar powered

To order additional copies of this newsletter for your friends or church, please email info@talkingbibles.org or call (760) 745-8105.

Joy and thanksgiving for 23 new believers!

Duba is a young evangelist in Ethiopia. Talking Bibles were recently placed in his village. He is amazed at the results. "Before we had Talking Bibles, I would walk a long way to visit people and preach the gospel. Very few people would want to listen to me, and the response was small."

"Now we call these Talking Bibles 'missionaries,' because we send them out to these same people. The people hear it eagerly and many people will gather to listen to the message."

In the five months since the village received the Talking Bibles, 23 people have believed in Jesus Christ. Those who were previously skeptical are now curious to hear God speaking to them.

Help us place Talking Bibles in villages to share God's Word with people who do not know His love and grace.

Give today at www.talkingbibles.org.

Talking Bibles International is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization completely dependent on God's people. Your donation is much appreciated and is tax deductible.



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