# BUILDING Community of A FAITH



### Dear Ministry Partners,\_\_\_\_

As we place Talking Bibles with non-readers, our goal is to build a community of faith.

The stories of what God is doing with His spoken Word in the Talking Bible strengthen my faith. When I hear how powerful God's Word is and how God is using it to communicate with His people, my faith grows. If others are having a life changing experience with His Word so can I.

As you read through this special report, I trust you will be blessed.

**Talking Bibles International is a fully integrated ministry.** That means the ministry raised the money needed to manufacture and load the different languages in the Talking Bibles as well as putting together the needed structures to place them in the homes of people who need to hear.

**Everything starts with your gift.** That is why we keep coming to you for your help and prayers. People hungry to know what the Bible says have absolutely no way to know unless you help.

Talking Bibles International shares their stories in the hope that you will be blessed by hearing what God is doing and your faith strengthened. **Talking Bibles is building a community of faith.** Not just overseas, but here in America as well.

Every thank you letter I sign, I pray that God will not only use the gift to bless many who have yet to hear, but I also earnestly pray for you, that God will bless you and strengthen your faith, because you cared.

Because they need to hear,

Mark S. Hoekstra President, Talking Bibles International

### WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



Your financial support makes what we do possible. Your gift helps place Talking Bibles with people who can't read—both to reach those who have never heard the Good News and to help believers grow in their faith and share with others.

Share Talking Bibles with your church. We can help you plan a **TALKING BIBLE SUNDAY** in your church and provide the resources needed. Tell others about the important task of sharing the Good News and how they can partner with Talking Bibles.



Share stories of changed lives from Talking Bibles with your friends on Facebook. Start a fundraiser on Facebook. Start a "Givalanche" with your gift. Share our posts with your friends so others can have the opportunity to share God's love around the world with non-readers.



Monthly gifts provide reliable revenue so we can continually send Talking Bibles where they are needed. It's easy to set up and a hassle free way to donate each month. Visit **talkingbibles.org/donate** to set up a monthly gift.

## THE **Distribution of** TALKING BIBLES

# INDIA

### **HOW IT WORKS**



NATIONAL COORDINATOR

The National Coordinator plans and coordinates the distribution of Talking Bibles throughout India. He identifies, recruits, and trains new State Coordinators, plans leadership training and distribution meetings, and travels to locations where the distributions are taking place.

#### STATE COORDINATOR

Each State Coordinator is responsible for outreach in their state and identifies and oversees District Coordinators working in that state.

#### **DISTRICT COORDINATOR**

District Coordinators identify and recruit people who will serve as recipients and Bible Study Listening Group leaders. They arrange training meetings and invite Talking Bible recipients to attend.

#### **BIBLE LISTENER**

The recipients of the Talking Bibles are encouraged to play the Talking Bible in their home and for their neighbors and friends. Many are trained to lead Bible Study Listening Groups.



Mary - Prasamapadu, Vijayawada India

**Mary** is a young woman and excited to share God's Word. Mary is educated and can read her Bible. She wants to read her Bible every day, but she works very hard. She works many hours each day and does not have time. She now listens to her Talking Bible while she works. She enjoys hearing God's Word throughout the day.

Mary's husband is uneducated and cannot read. He asks Mary frequently if she will read the Bible to him. "Please, read the Word of God," he says. But Mary is too busy. Now her husband listens to the Talking Bible. Every day he listens and his faith is growing. Though he still is an unbeliever, she prays that he will soon accept Christ.

A friend recently was visiting as Mary was listening to her Talking Bible. The friend was overjoyed to hear God's Word. Mary is thrilled she can share God's Word with her family and friends nearby.

# TALKING BIBLES AFRICA

#### **EAST AFRICA DIRECTOR**

The East Africa Director oversees distribution to churches, mission groups, and individuals. He trains leaders in churches and Christian organizations to use and distribute Talking Bibles. He plans and organizes future work in East Africa including distribution and language recordings.

#### **CHURCHES & MISSION GROUPS**

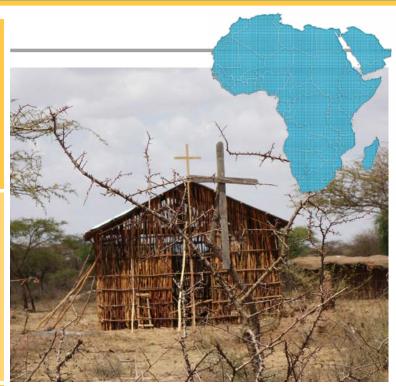
Churches and Mission Groups, along with pastors and evangelists, distribute Talking Bibles to trained individuals who will play the Talking Bibles for their family, friends, neighbors, and communities. They organize trainings, distributions, and visits to Bible Study Listening Groups to assist in discipleship and evangelism.

#### **TALKING BIBLE FACILITATORS**

Talking Bible Facilitators are trained individuals who organize Bible Study Listening Groups in their neighborhoods and communities. Together they regularly listen to the Talking Bible that is assigned to them for a few weeks or months.

#### LISTENERS

Listeners agree to meet together and listen through the New Testament. Most often they are not able to read and are hearing the New Testament for the first time. Sometimes listeners will become Talking Bible Facilitators and start new groups after they have been a listener in a group.









#### How did a Talking Bible reach a remote village and change the whole community?

A small village sits in a remote part of Ethiopia. There are 70 households in the village and many more people in the surrounding area. *There are no schools. Few people are educated and most can't read.* 

One of the sons from the village, Kura, left the village to go to school. He heard about Jesus for the first time and became a believer. He joined a church family. Kura, with the support of his church, was able to bring one Talking Bible back to his village. **The people of his village finally had an opportunity to hear about God and His plan for salvation.** 

People received the Talking Bible warmly and eagerly listened. Many were becoming believers. Kura's home church designated 14 more Talking Bibles to be distributed in this village and other surrounding villages and sub-villages. They helped set up Bible listening groups so people could listen together and discuss what they heard. An evangelist was placed in the area to help answer questions and shepherd the groups.

Previously there was not a single believer in this area, but now there are 74 believers and 45 of these have been baptized. The evangelist is organizing the believers from the listening groups to form a church. Now they have started gathering wood to build their first church building. God used a young schoolboy to bring the light of His Word to this remote area.

This story is being repeated all over East Africa. Talking Bibles are making their way through the Borana villages in South Ethiopia spreading the message of salvation. The refugee camps filled with refugees from South Sudan are receiving healing and peace through hearing God's Word on Talking Bibles. Blind communities finally have access to scriptures by listening to a Talking Bible.

Your partnership and prayers have helped send Talking Bibles by the thousands to spread the Word of God, to reach the unreached, to grow the faith of non-reading Christians and to comfort and heal the hurting with the saving grace of God.

## A Bible for Those Who Can't Read





The Solar Talking Bible

- Easy to use
- Powerful speaker
- Solar powered

To order additional copies, email info@talkingbibles.org or call (760) 745-8105.



**Ruth dreams of sharing her faith.** She works in a factory with 40 coworkers who have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. Since she can't read, Ruth doesn't feel like she can teach them. *She prayed desperately for almost 10 years for a way to share the love of Jesus with her coworkers*.

**Three months ago her prayers were answered** when her pastor presented her with a Talking Bible in her native language of Hindi. Now she plays the Talking Bible at work and her coworkers listen and ask questions. Many are becoming Christians. Ruth says, *"The Talking Bible allows someone like me to be able to explain who Jesus Christ is to others like me."* 

Help us place Talking Bibles with non-readers like Ruth so they have confidence to share their faith with their community. Give today.

Read the rest of Ruth's story on our website 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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