



Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2022

Seed for the Sower



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Dear Friends of Talking Bibles,

There is a mystery that surrounds the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

God's people are hard at work scattering seeds, but only God really knows who is going to respond to the Good News being proclaimed about His Son.

Talking Bibles are like seeds scattered for the unreached and food for the spirits of believers. Only God knows in advance how and for whom it will happen.

When Pastor Rosaiah gave Talking Bibles to the families in his community on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, he knew that many would come to know Jesus. He didn't, however, expect his neighbor to be one of them. And he certainly never expected her to come slithering into his home like a snake.

Pastor Rosaiah and his wife listened to their Talking Bible every day. And every day they heard their neighbor loudly chanting mantras through their thin walls. Was the Talking Bible disturbing her?

The woman worshiped a snake god. She even had a small temple in her yard where she would pray and sing. But as Rosaiah and his wife continued to listen to their Talking Bible, they noticed that the chanting would stop. It seemed that the woman was straining to hear the Talking Bible through the wall.

Little by little, the periods of silence grew longer. They knew she was interested in what she was hearing.

Then one night, as a small group of Christians gathered to pray in Pastor Rosaiah's home, the woman came slithering in. The group prayed over her for 5 hours before a demon released her. She was finally free.

Jesus says the Kingdom of God is like a man who scatters seed. It doesn't matter if he sleeps or gets up; the seed sprouts and grows, and the soil would produce a predictable crop.

Each story of a changed life is different, and yet they are all the same. Each is a story of seeds planted and fruit yielded. Only God knows where these seeds will take root and produce good fruit.

I trust you were blessed this year to read the different stories of changed lives we shared with you. Each story represents thousands of lives being changed all around the world. Each Talking Bible is a blessing God can use. And He DOES!

Thank you for being a part of making sure everyone has access to the precious Words of the Bible. God is using your gifts to reach the lost.

Because they need to hear,



Mark S. Hoekstra
President, Talking Bibles International



Bread for Believers

Lakshmi lives in a small, rural village on India's eastern coast. Her community is surrounded by commercial fishing ponds. And full of idols.

Like most people in this village, Lakshmi followed the cultural religion. She prayed to many gods. She had idols all throughout her home. She performed rituals and presented offerings to different ones each day. Despite all of her efforts and allegiance to these gods, she had no peace.

Her husband suffered addiction. *Lakshmi suffered too.* All of their money was used to buy alcohol, and his drinking made living with him difficult. When he died, Lakshmi lost everything. His death meant their family went from not having enough money to having nothing at all.

This is when some of Lakshmi's neighbors invited her to church.

She heard about Jesus, of the peace that He offers. She wanted to follow Him. And yet, she felt like she could only know the one true God when she was at church.

Lakshmi can't read very well. She didn't think she'd ever be able to read the Bible. Then her new pastor gave her a Talking Bible. That's when Lakshmi's life really began to change.

Just two weeks after receiving her Talking Bible, Lakshmi decided to fully follow Jesus. She renounced the false gods she once worshipped, and she got baptized in the name of Christ. Lakshmi's heart finally knows peace.

"It feels good listening to the Word of God. Whenever I'm at home or sitting, I can listen also," she says. "I can listen anywhere!"

She's not the only one. Lakshmi's neighbors are listening too.

Through the thin, tarp walls of Lakshmi's house, her unbelieving neighbors can hear the Talking Bible play. These neighbors follow the cultural religion Lakshmi once did. They see the change in her life. They hear the Words of her God. Now they are asking for their own Talking Bible to listen to. 📖



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Vara Lakshmi, Andhra Pradesh, India

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Bishop Amos, Kakamega, Kenya

“We have struck gold in Kakamega!”

Bishop Amos and his team serve the churches throughout his county in Kenya. His churches that once had only a few members each now have many.

What changed?

The churches in Kakamega received Talking Bibles. And everyone in the cities and the villages are being blessed by having God’s Word in their heart language.

Bishop Amos shares a long list of ways the Talking Bible is changing his community.


“People are changed. One family has become a church of 60 people! Drunks and addicts are being changed. In the prison, many are changed and some have even been discharged,” he says.

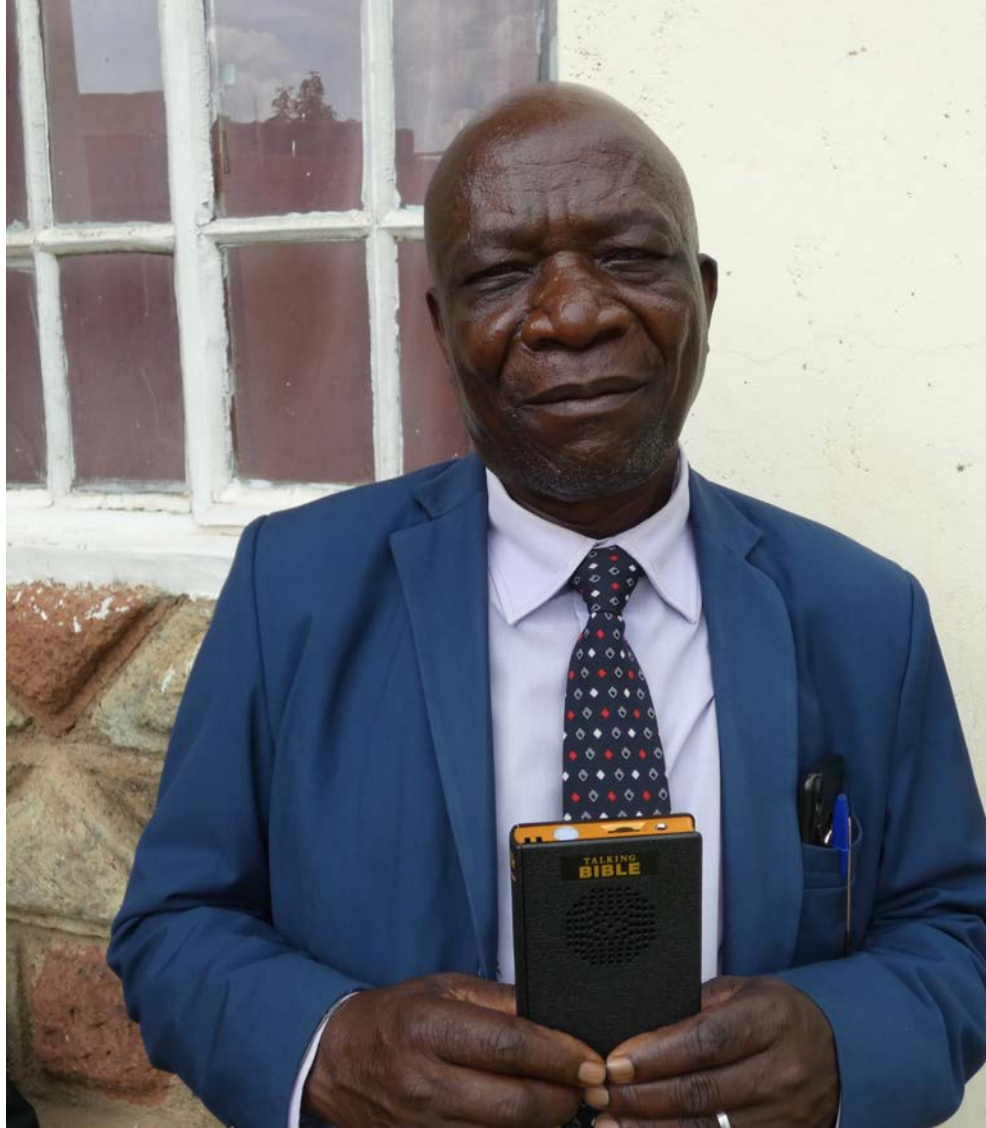
Praise God! This is the power of His Word.

Many of the people in Amos’ community cannot read—his family included. According to Amos, they’ve never shown an interest in church. But even they are listening to God’s Word on a Talking Bible.

Pastors who did not have a Bible now have a Talking Bible. Non-readers can finally hear God’s Word. The elderly are happily listening to Scripture and sharing what they hear with others. Motorbike riders are starting Bible listening groups. Young people are joining the church.

When people encounter the Living Word of God, they cannot be the same as they were before. God is using the Talking Bible to speak to the hearts and minds of the people in Kakamega. He is speaking to them in the language that they know and love.

“The audio Scripture can be shared anywhere and at any time,” says Bishop Amos. “When you share it, the people will not forget you. They will invite you to come again.” 



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