



*Celebrating*  
**30**  
*Years*



TALKING  
**BIBLES**

*Winter / Spring 2020 Newsletter*

# TALKING BIBLES-30 YEARS

Talking Bibles International has been placing Talking Bibles with non-readers around the world for 30 years. Here are just a few examples of places in the world that you can find Talking Bibles. Praise God for His faithfulness!

## Sharing God's Word - Worldwide

Talking Bibles' online listening website – [www.listen.talkingbibles.org](http://www.listen.talkingbibles.org) – has audio scriptures available for worldwide use.

In 2019, over **1.8 million chapters** of the Bible were listened to in **129 different languages**. The listening website was **accessed 211,313 times**. Each time the average listening time was **42:19 minutes per session**.



### Abang Ajak - Ethiopia 2019

Before receiving a Talking Bible, Abang attended church but did not understand who God is. Now, as she listens in her heart language, she feels God is revealing himself to her and her faith is growing. Abang hosts a listening group with 7 new believers. She also shares the Talking Bible with her grandchildren and hopes they will believe in Him too.

### Lambadi Women - India 2018

These Lambadi tribe lead women are spreading the Word of God among the small groups of the Lambadi Banjara tribes in India.

### Pastor Purrush - India 2018

Pastor Purrush faithfully pastors a congregation in a rural area in India and is developing other church plants nearby. It is a hard area to work; Christians are frequently threatened and intimidated in the Hindu-majority region. Most of the people in Pastor Purrush's churches are poor and uneducated. The Talking Bible has done amazing things in his ministry. Now, non-readers can listen to God's Word, safely, and grow in their faith. Pastor Purrush estimates in his region, there is one house church for every 25 or 30 villages. His hope and prayer, with the help of Talking Bibles, is to plant a church in every single village.

\*LANGUAGE USED

Visit [talkingbibles.org](http://talkingbibles.org) to read more stories.

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Dear friend of Talking Bibles,*

Talking Bibles were little missionaries. *Audio Bibles that could travel to the far corners of the world.* Each one proclaiming the Good News about Jesus.

What if all the International students who became believers while studying in the United States could take an audio Bible back to where they came from? Like little missionaries.

That was the question thirty years ago! In 1989, America was full of American Christians ministering to young people who spoke a different language with different religious backgrounds.

International students seem to be everywhere: in the universities, colleges and our homes. *American Christians had an opportunity to share the Gospel. And they did!* Those who received it and believed it would no doubt be anxious to share it with their families when they returned home.

The Bible, an eyewitness account of what Jesus said and did in spoken format, was just what was needed. An audio Bible in the language spoken by the family of the student could be carried back home, making it easier to share the Gospel with family and friends.

*In 1989, Audio Scriptures International was formed to meet this need.* In 2005, the ministry changed its name to Talking Bibles International to better reflect the worldwide ministry it had become.

*Now, thirty years later, Talking Bibles are all over the world proclaiming the Good News about Jesus.* Audio Bibles in hundreds of languages have been recorded all around the world and thousands upon thousands of Talking Bibles have been made in those languages.

**The blind listen. People who never learned to read listen. Some listen alone and some listen in groups. People living in faraway countries listen. Lonely people living in retirement homes right here in America find great comfort from listening to His spoken Word as well.**

Others walk two days to get one. Some will cry when they hear it play. Some will dance. Some will turn it on and listen all day from beginning to the end. *Hungry to know what God says, they turn on the Talking Bible and listen. And listen! And listen!*

Some of you reading this have been a part of the Talking Bibles ministry for a long time now. Others have just recently joined with us. Others have yet to become ministry partners. You can help with that. ***Tell someone about Talking Bibles.***

Last year the Talking Bible ministry was able to make and place more Talking Bibles in more homes and Bible listening groups than any previous year.

Our best year - so far - was 2019! Thank you, God. *And thank you all who heard His voice beckoning us to make His Word available to all who cannot read.*

You have blessed many around the world with access to God's precious saving Word in a format and a language that many need to hear—in a Talking Bible.

Because they need to hear,



Mark S. Hoekstra  
President, Talking Bibles International



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call (760) 745-8105



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