

# TALKING BIBLES

SUMMER/FALL 2026 NEWSLETTER

## HEARING GOD'S WORD *Changes Lives*

*"He who has ears to hear,  
Let him hear."* MATTHEW 11:15

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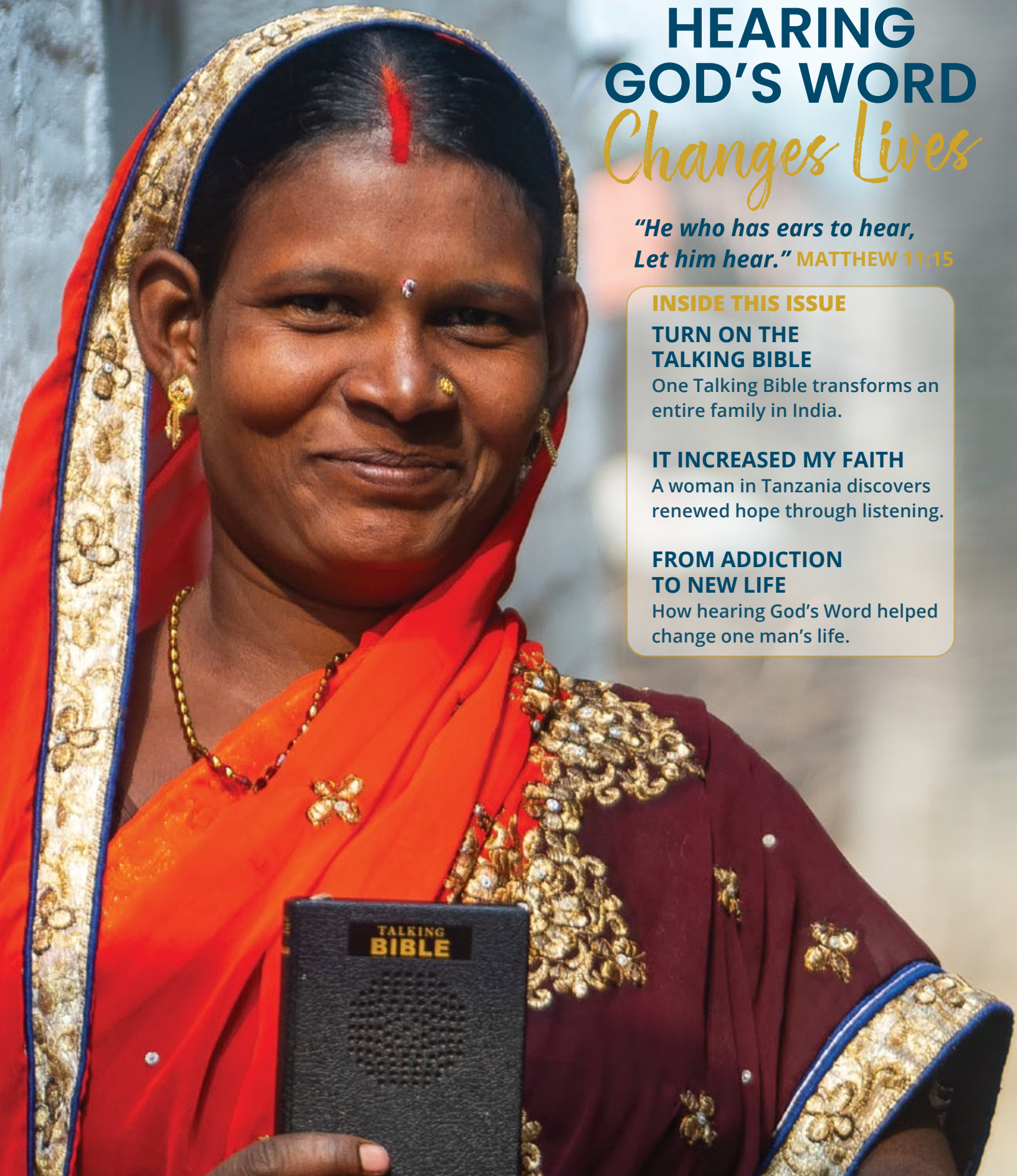
One Talking Bible transforms an entire family in India.

#### IT INCREASED MY FAITH

A woman in Tanzania discovers renewed hope through listening.

#### FROM ADDICTION TO NEW LIFE

How hearing God's Word helped change one man's life.





## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*Dear Friends of the Bible,*

Every day, people around the world are hearing God's Word for the very first time through the Talking Bible.

For many non-readers and oral learners, hearing the Bible in their own language opens the door to personally connecting with Jesus. Through the simple act of listening, hearts are being changed, faith is growing, and families are finding new hope.

In this newsletter, we are blessed to share stories that reflect the life-changing impact of hearing God's Word. These stories come from different countries and cultures, yet they share the same truth: faith grows when people hear God's Word.

Jesus said in Matthew 11:15,  
**"He who has ears to hear, let him hear."**

Thank you for helping make God's Word accessible to people who cannot read. Because of your prayers and support, lives are being changed as people hear the Bible in their own language and discover the hope found in Christ.

Respectfully,

Paul D. Hoekstra  
President, Talking Bibles International

***"Faith grows  
when people  
hear God's Word."***

## TURN ON THE TALKING BIBLE

*India*



In a rural village in India, the only church meets inside Shobha's home.

Her brother-in-law, a local pastor, leads small prayer gatherings there, but for years Shobha and her family refused to participate. Because of their Hindu background, they wanted nothing to do with Christianity—even though the meetings were taking place under their own roof.

Still, **Shobha could not ignore what she was witnessing.**

One after another, sick villagers came to the prayer meetings seeking help. Again and again, she watched them leave healed.

Then the struggle became deeply personal.

Shobha's sister began suffering from what the family believed was demon possession. Desperate for relief, she visited numerous witch doctors, but nothing helped. Finally, Shobha urged her sister to attend one of the prayer meetings in their home.

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## TURN ON THE TALKING BIBLE (continued)

There, after prayer in the name of Jesus, her sister was healed.

For the first time, **Shobha began to understand the power of God.**

Not long afterward, Shobha herself was healed from years of chronic abdominal pain through prayer. The healing transformed her life and awakened a deep hunger for God.

*"If I leave prayer for even two days, I don't feel good," Shobha says. "When I pray, I simply feel like praying longer."*

Although her husband and children were grateful for her healing, they remained distant from the church and reluctant to join the prayer meetings.

Then her brother-in-law, the pastor who led the small church in their home, placed a Talking Bible into Shobha's hands.

Because she could not read, **the Talking Bible gave her the opportunity to hear God's Word for herself in her own language.**

Every morning and evening, she played it in her home while the family gathered nearby.

As God's Word filled their house day after day, something began to change.

After only a month of listening together, Shobha's husband accepted Jesus.

Now, each night before bed, he asks her to turn on the Talking Bible so the family can listen together. Even their children—who once refused to attend prayer meetings—now gather eagerly to hear God's Word.

**What began with one Talking Bible has transformed an entire family.** 📖

*"Now, each night before bed, he asks her to turn on the Talking Bible so the family can listen together."*



## FROM ADDICTION TO NEW LIFE

India

Before Sandeep met Jesus, his life was controlled by addiction, anger, and broken relationships.

*"I was addicted to alcohol and smoking," Sandeep shares. "I would mistreat my wife and live in anger. At the time, I didn't even realize how wrong those things were."*

Everything began to change after Sandeep came to know Jesus.

Today, he and his wife faithfully follow Christ, and Sandeep says hearing God's Word through the Talking Bible has helped strengthen his faith and transform his daily life.

***"When I listen, I share the truth of God's Word with others."***

As Sandeep regularly played the Talking Bible in his home, his sister also decided to follow Jesus.

Through the power of hearing God's Word, lives and families are being transformed across India. 📖

**"He who has ears to hear, let him hear." - Matt 11:15**



# "IT INCREASED MY FAITH"

## Tanzania

For 15 years, Medadi lived in fear and suffering.

Growing up in Tanzania, Medadi had known about Jesus as a child, but after marrying into a family devoted to traditional spiritual practices, **she was no longer allowed to attend church**. Her husband feared that honoring Jesus would anger the ancestral spirits his family worshiped.

When Medadi began experiencing spiritual torment and chronic pain, her husband sought help from witch doctors and traditional healers. But despite years of rituals and treatments, nothing brought her peace or healing.

Finally, Medadi was allowed to return to a local church.

There, she began finding hope again through prayer and fellowship with other believers. Yet even as her faith grew stronger, she still longed for complete freedom and healing.

Recently, an evangelist from her church placed a Talking Bible into Medadi's hands. Because Medadi had only attended school for a few years as a child, reading was difficult for her, but now, with her Talking Bible, as she works on the family farm or cares for responsibilities around her home, **she is able to listen to God's Word in her own language**.

Last week, Medadi listened to Matthew chapters 8 and 9 and heard story after story of Jesus healing the sick, delivering those oppressed by evil spirits, and responding to the faith of those who came to Him. **The words touched her deeply.**

*"Ordinarily, I just go to church and come back," Medadi says. "After listening to the Talking Bible, it increased my faith."*

Through the power of hearing God's Word, Medadi has found renewed hope in Jesus and confidence that He sees her suffering and cares for her future.

**Even in difficult circumstances, the Talking Bible is helping people personally connect with God's Word — and discover hope through listening.** 



*"After listening to the Talking Bible, it increased my faith."*



*Medadi and members of her church family in Tanzania*



### BECAUSE OF YOU...

Your prayers and support are helping people around the world hear God's Word in a way they can understand.

- ✓ Families are listening to the Bible together.
- ✓ Non-readers are personally connecting with Jesus.
- ✓ Faith is growing through hearing God's Word.
- ✓ Lives are being transformed worldwide.

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



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