

**‘Til the Whole World Knows: Bibles for the Nations**

**Fall 2018 Radio Campaign – Talking Points and Fast Facts**

Please encourage your on-air staff to use these talking points and fast facts compiled by Bible League International (BLI) during your station’s radio campaign.

**Worldwide**

* In 2017, over 1.8 million people have been reached with the Gospel by Bible League International In Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and the U.S.
* Nearly 115,000 Christians worldwide were trained in 2017 to share God’s Word
* Over 1,750 new churches were planted in 2017 by church planters using Bibles and training from Bible League. Over 5,200 people were trained as church planters worldwide.
* In 2017, nearly 40,000 people worldwide were given the gift of literacy by learning to read and write through Bible League International’s Bible-based literacy program
* In our modern-era, 2017 was the most violent year for Christians worldwide
* Fewer than one in three people around the world has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
* More than a quarter of the world’s population is under the age of 14
* The influence of Islam exists on nearly every continent. Relational evangelism has been a key to the explosive Church growth among Muslims.
* Two out of three illiterate adults worldwide are women
* Many new Christians today often begin their new life in Christ without a Bible
* The growth of God’s Church is weakened by inadequate discipleship and leadership training
* Christians need God’s Word to resist the pull of traditional religious beliefs, occult practices, secularism, materialism, and other influences
* Millions of believers suffer for following Jesus. Some face physical violence, while others are denied basic necessities, such as water, electricity, and financial support for schooling.
* The world population is 7 billion. Of the 60 million people added annually, 90 percent are born in less developed countries where poverty is prominent.

**Africa**

* Bible League’s programs are active in the African countries of Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe
* People still live in the grips of witchcraft, ancestral spirit worship, and traditional religion
* Remote churches often advocate syncretism, a blend of Christian faith and pagan practices
* Islam is seeking to increase its footprint in many predominantly Christian countries like Uganda
* Africa is the world’s second largest continent in land mass, as well as its second most populous
* Africa is a linguistically diverse continent, with more than 1,000 spoken languages
* Africa is the world’s poorest, least-developed continent, and its population is youngest in the world
* HIV and AIDS are a scourge in the lives of many people across sub-Saharan Africa, and leave millions of orphaned children in its wake
* Over 364,000 people have been reached with the Gospel in 2017 by Bible League International
* Nearly 12,000 believers in Africa were trained in 2017 to share God’s Word

**Asia**

* Bible League’s programs are active in the Asian countries of Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam
* More than one-half of the world's population lives in Asia
* Four in 5 people in Asia do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
* The vast majority of people in Asia follow Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, or no religion at all
* Asia is a vast and diverse region with more than 2,000 languages spoken; China has 850 million speakers of Mandarin
* Believers in Asia are being persecuted because of their faith. Some face physical violence, while others are denied basic necessities, such as water, electricity, and financial support for schooling.
* More than 1,000 new churches in Asia were planted in 2017 by church planters using Bibles, Biblical resources and training from Bible League; over 3,900 people were trained as church planters
* Over 687,000 people have been reached with the Gospel in 2017 by Bible League International
* In 2017, nearly 31,000 people in Asia were given the gift of literacy by learning to read and write through Bible League International’s Bible-based literacy program

**Europe**

* Bible League’s programs are active in the European countries of Albania and Armenia
* Evangelistic ministry is increasing in Europe, and many are making decisions to follow Jesus
* The religions of Orthodoxy, Catholicism, and Islam are prevalent in Europe
* Remnants of Communist atheism remain strong in many European countries
* Persecution and poverty exist in remote areas
* Poor economies foster high crime and drug use among teens and adults
* Child labor is higher than 20% in some areas
* The materially poor suffer from effects of regional conflict, including terrorism, revolts and coups
* Over 52,000 people were reached with the Gospel in 2017 by Bible League International in Europe
* 700 believers in Europe were trained in 2017 by Bible League International to share the Gospel

**Latin America**

* Bible League’s programs are active in the Latin American countries of Argentina, Chile, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Venezuela
* One in five Latin Americans in places like Argentina and Nicaragua lives in chronic poverty, meaning they are either born into it, or they are unable to escape it
* Millions live on less than $2 per day
* Violence, drugs, and poverty are daily struggles for ministry in Latin American countries, such as Columbia and Venezuela
* More than one-fourth of the population in Latin America is under the age of 15
* Many of those trained by Bible League International’s *Project Philip* to share Christ travel hours or days by foot, boat, or mule to lead Bible studies in places like Chile, Peru and Argentina
* Over the past year, Bible League International’s Church Planter Training has helped plant more than 600 churches in Latin America
* Nearly 55,000 believers in Latin America were trained in 2017 by Bible League International to share the Gospel
* More than 515,000 people were reached with the Gospel in 2017 by Bible League

**Middle East**

* Christians make up less than 5 percent of the population in the Middle East; in most countries, the Muslim majority comprises more than 90 percent of the population
* Displaying a Bible is against the law in several countries in the region
* Refugees and internally displaced people now number in the tens of millions
* Extreme poverty and majority religion oppresses those in need of the Gospel in larger cities
* Lack of education and poverty are the greatest obstacles to getting the Bible to Middle Easterners
* New believers are targeted for persecution by religious extremists
* Several countries are open to and encourage Christian ministry
* Over 172,000 people in the Middle East were reached with the Gospel in 2017 by Bible League
* In 2017, more than 1,600 people in the Middle East were given the gift of literacy by learning to read and write through Bible League International’s Bible-based literacy program

**United States**

* Fewer than one-half of the people in the U.S. have a relationship with Jesus Christ
* With a population of 310 million, 45 million people in the U.S. live below the poverty line
* More than one in five children lives in poverty, limiting their ability to grow and thrive
* More than 2 million people are incarcerated in the U.S.; hundreds are being reached right now by Bible League International’s *Project Philip* Bible studies
* Nearly 44,000 people in the U.S. over the past year have been reached with God’s Word by Bible League International
* More than 1,100 believers were trained in 2016 by Bible League International to be Project Philip Bible study leaders