

"Always be full of joy. Never stop praying.

Whatever happens, always be thankful.

This is how God wants you to live in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ERV

## **PRAYER**—Primary Calling

Bible League began with a prayer and today, more than 80 years later, prayer and our commitment to Jesus as Lord and Savior remain the firm foundation upon which our Volunteer Ambassadors act. In accordance with the Bible League International Core Value of Prayer, we instill a culture that is focused on prayer and rooted in Scripture. Prayer is a crucial aspect of an Ambassador's calling as we serve the Lord through Bible League.

## STORY WITHOUT AN END

- "In 1936 I became seriously ill and landed in a hospital in Chicago. An elder from my church came to visit me and prayed that my life might be spared and that I would be led into the service of Christ."
- "At the time, it seemed a strange prayer. Why should God be asked to give me health and strength for this purpose? What could I possibly do for Christ?"
- "I came to the conclusion that this was a ridiculous prayer."

- "But as the night wore on toward morning, it became increasingly apparent that my elder's prayer could not be easily forgotten. That's when I made my commitment to God."
- "If God would restore my health, I would give all my strength in any avenue of service God would lead."

These are the words of our founder, William Chapman.

In 1938, Bill and Betty Chapman purchased 1,000 Bibles and went door-to-door in Walkerton, Indiana. They asked, "Do you have a Bible?" And if the home didn't, "Will you promise to read this Bible?"

Today, Bible League International offers the hope of God's Word, sharing Bibles and Bible-based study and training tools with those in need of salvation. Beginning with the Chapmans' simple act of faith, Bible League International has faithfully provided God's Word around the world.

That "ridiculous prayer" is still being answered today.

Together we continue to write chapters in this Story Without an End.

## **Prayer Culture Examples and Opportunities for Prayer:**

- 1. Crisis Prayer Team ministry
- 2. Bi-Weekly Prayer email
- 3. Volunteer and church requests (from comments, phone calls, emails)
- 4. Prayer during board meetings and special events
- 5. Ambassador Executive Board monthly prayer meeting
- 6. Monthly Prayer Calendar—emailed and posted on the Bible League website
- 7. Prayer in churches
- 8. Prayer with Division members

