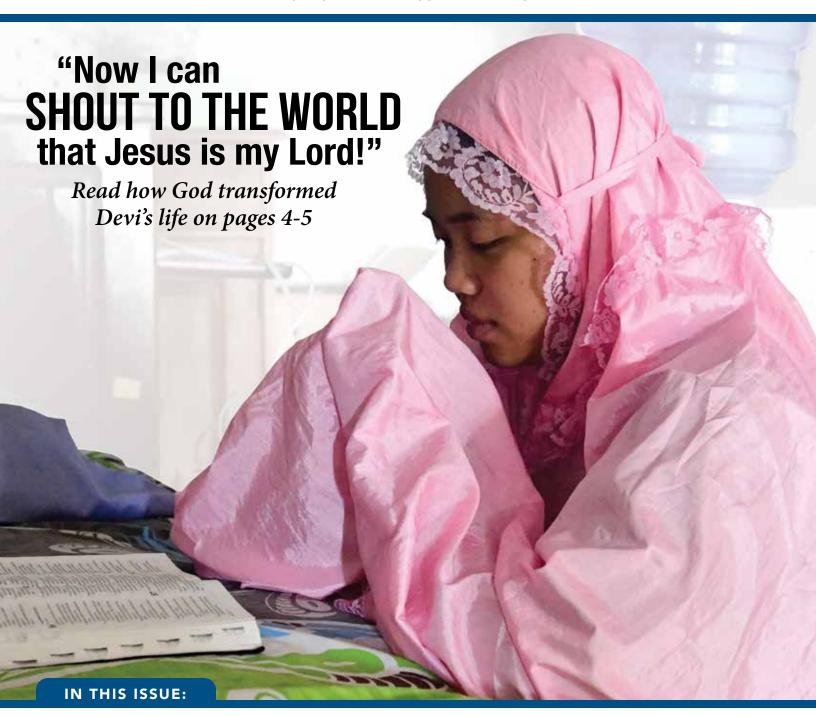
ACTION REPORT

NEWS FROM BIBLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL





FROM HIJAB TO HOPE Thank you for helping Devi discover and share Christ's love with her community.

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future

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A light to the nations

Your generosity is helping people step out of the darkness

Today, only about 3 in 10 people around the globe follow Jesus. Many are lost in spiritual darkness without hope. Others have found the light of God's Word and desire to let it shine brightly. You are making this possible.

Vardan, a 35-year-old Bible League-trained Christian who calls Armenia home, knows this firsthand. In the fall of 2020, neighboring Azerbaijan launched a surprise attack on Nagorno-Karabakh, known in Armenia as Artsakh.

A brutal war followed—a new phase in a long-lasting conflict. Like many other young men who live in Armenia, Vardan served in the army during this war. During a very dark time in his nation's history, he saw an opportunity to share the light of the Gospel with fellow soldiers. Though the war only lasted 44 days, the scars remain.

Many from Artsakh fled their homes, seeking refuge in Vardan's hometown of Zoravan. Once again, Vardan saw this as a great moment to bring light to the darkness. And that's just what he has done. He uses the materials and training you're providing to share the light of the world with children, veterans, and refugees. He says, "With these materials, we can strongly root the participants in the Word of God. I believe the Lord wants us, Armenians, to be a light for our surrounding nations."

Vardan is right. God wants him, you, me—all His children—to be a light to those around us.

In the following pages, you'll read about Devi, Jonathan, Anne, José, and Joyce. God is on the move through each of their stories.

Thank you for faithfully helping people experience the light of Jesus. Through your support, they're shining this light on their friends, families, and communities. Your gifts and prayers are transforming lives.

In Christ,

Jos Snoep

President and CEO

Later, Jesus talked to the people again.

He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never live in darkness. They will have the light that gives life."

Spreading the hope of the Gospel

José is shining the light of Jesus to addicts

Nothing about José's demeanor speaks of his days in the dark alleys of addiction.

The mid-40 recovering addict now volunteers at Remar Center in Maputo, Mozambique. This is the same drug rehabilitation facility that helped him discover Christ's hope.

"I went through a lot," he exhales. His parents divorced when he was 11 years old. His life spiraled from there.

He adds, "Because of everything happening to me, I felt God abandoned me." Driven by loneliness and a desire to fit in, he started to experiment with drugs when he was only 14. He didn't expect to get hooked.

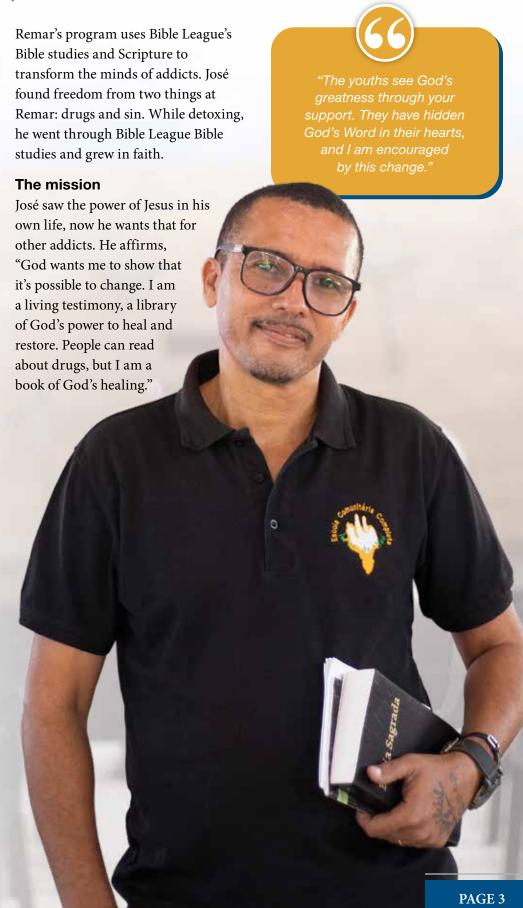
José paid a hefty price for his addiction. He dropped out of school, stole, and even lost his first wife because of drugs. Eventually, he ended up on the streets for two years. In these years, most of his friends passed away from their addictions.

The Word

José's mother tried everything: rehab, traditional doctors, medicines. Nothing worked.

But like every addict, he had to admit he had a problem. And after two decades of actively living in addiction, José did.

One of his remaining friends spoke of Remar. In a moment of desperation, José admitted himself. Soon, he realized this place was different. The treatment was only based on God's Word.





From hijab to hope

Your gift helped Devi discover Christ's love

You could easily spot Devi when she first attended a Bible League Bible study group at age 16. She was the one in a *hijab* (a head covering worn by Muslim women). This Bible study took place at Devi's high school in Papua, Indonesia. Though Devi grew up in a Muslim home, she never fully understood her family's faith.

One day at school, Devi noticed a lively group of Christian students chatting and singing worship songs. Even though her hijab made her stand out, their light drew her in. Filled with curiosity, Devi decided to check out the group.

Finding pure love

There, she realized these joyful classmates were studying God's Word under the guidance of a Bible League Bible study leader. The thing that sparked her curiosity was the same thing that kept her coming back. She recalls, "I felt the great love of Christians, which gave me the desire to become like them. The love they showed me is pure and sincere."

As Devi attended the study, she grew in understanding of God's Word.

She eventually accepted Christ as her Savior. She notes, "During my time as a Muslim, I was never taught detailed lessons like in the Bible study. I was only told to read the Koran without interpreting the meaning of the letter I read."

Spreading the light

Devi saw firsthand the difference God's Word made in her life. Now, she wants to be a light to others. And with the help of friends like you, she is. Recently, she attended Bible League's Bible study leader training. Today, the now 22-year-old leads other youth through the same study that brought her to Jesus.

She notes, "The Bible League Bible study training helped me grow and become equipped to teach the Word of God effectively." She guides groups at school and church, each with about 15-20 people.



have already studied God's Word this year. Devi rejoices, "Now, I can shout to the world that Jesus is my Lord!"



"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden...let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

Jonathan's fearless faith

Helping persecuted believers stand strong in God's Word

It had been three hours since the interrogation began. Three hours since the Naxalites (a rebel group in India) had separated Jonathan from his wife, leaving her alone on the road. Three hours of questions such as, "Why are you preaching the Gospel in this area?" He recalls, "I shared my passion was to help villagers break free from bad habits and lead better lives through God's Word." They warned him three times to stop preaching the Gospel.

In this moment, and so many others, Jonathan let his light shine brightly the darkness did not overcome it. His words touched some Naxalites who accepted Christ as their Savior.

Suffering for a reason

Ever since Jonathan became a believer, he has felt God calling him to reach the remote tribal communities in villages near India's eastern coast. He has faithfully followed this calling—even in the face of persecution. He notes, "It was a difficult environment, but I knew God had placed me there for a reason."

But Jonathan didn't have access to the resources to grow his ministry. Then, he attended Bible League's training to reach more people with the Gospel.

Once he put this to use, he saw many people come to Christ through his Bible League Bible studies. He says, "Thanks to Bible League, I have been able to systematically win souls and train others in ministry."

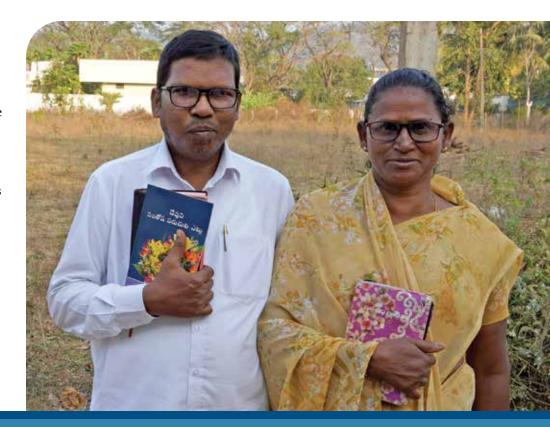
Trials and triumphs

Those interested in growing deeper in their faith join one of Jonathan's small groups. He says, "I have personally mentored four small group leaders who now lead their own fellowships." These new believers now know the hope the Gospel brings. Unfortunately, they also know the trials. They receive threats simply for following Jesus.

He notes, "Through trials and triumphs, my mission remains clear—to bring the light of faith to those who have yet to experience it."



"I am deeply grateful to you for making this ministry possible. Your contributions have provided invaluable reading materials that promote spiritual growth."





When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. I trust God, so I am not afraid of what people can do to me!

I praise God for his promise to me.

Bible studies revealed God

God used your partnership to reach a teen in Kenya

Anne is a serious 16-year-old girl. She seems pensive, but upon speaking, her brilliance radiates.

She resides in a low-income area in Kawangware, Kenya. Anne admits she didn't believe in God despite going to church with her family prior. "I lost interest and felt God's existence was just a story. I stopped attending church," she says.

Like teens everywhere, Anne didn't know who she was and was trying to understand herself. This identity search led her to feel lonely and misunderstood. Growing up in a financially struggling family, Anne saw her future as bleak despite her intelligence. This lack of prospects plunged her into hopelessness. Anne became obstinate, rebelled, and fell in with the wrong crowd.

Finding God

Thankfully, Anne's school began using Bible League's Bible studies. In 2024, she heard about God's Word while attending a Bible study class alongside her peers. Little by little, she gained interest in Scripture. "The study

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material taught me truths about God. I liked the way the topics spoke directly to me."

Moreover, after receiving her first Bible, Anne felt elated. The Bible showed her how much God loved her and convinced her of His existence.

Anne gave her life to Christ in class and discovered a new purpose. She found an intimacy with a God who also cares and wants that for others.

Finding purpose

Anne's now an avid Bible reader and is leading other teens to the same God she discovered. She credits Bible League's generous support, saying, "You're helping youths know God and make the right choices!" "Shine Always" is the name of Anne's school. A fitting place for this pensive-looking teen who is letting the indwelling love of God shine through her warm heart.





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A gift no one can take away

You're transforming lives like Joyce's in Zimbabwe

Joyce (pictured right with her kids) was feeling anything but joyful. She bluntly states, "I lost all hope." Her husband had moved to South Africa for work, leaving her alone with their three children for three years. The 44-year-old mom struggled to make ends meet by working on farms in Binga, Zimbabwe. She confesses, "I couldn't feed my children."

Joyce felt abandoned by her husband... and God.

But she found joy when a family she worked for shared the Gospel with

her using Bible League's Bible study booklets. She declares, "I have found a new place in the arms of my Father. He always welcomes me back—no matter how many times I have backslidden."

Although her husband still works in South Africa, he visits more often. She expresses gratitude, "Thank you for the booklets and the gift of the Bible. You have given me a gift no one can take away."

Joyce knows many others still need this gift. And you can help.



SEND YOUR GIFT RIGHT NOW TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!



Your kind support provides God's Word and training that changes lives like Joyce's—bringing people into the light of Jesus.

Now, Joyce is ready to pass it on. She shares, "I need to be equipped with evangelism and discipleship skills so I can invite others to follow Christ."

Ready to do even more? You can! Join The Sowers, our monthly donor community, and help equip people like Joyce to reach entire communities. Visit <u>bibleleague.org/Sowers</u> today!





Serving the under-resourced Church with Bibles and training to transform lives worldwide through God's Word.











