



THE BIBLE NETWORK

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WordPower

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH GOD'S WORD

Inside: From shame to freedom *Page 4* • A life transformed by literacy *Page 7*

He fled for his life. Now he's shining God's light

Because of you,
hope is
reaching
a refugee camp.



**“We are hard pressed on
every side, but not crushed...”**

2 Corinthians 4:8

A Light to the Nations

Today, only about 3 in 10 people around the world follow Jesus. Many are trapped in spiritual darkness, living without hope. Others have found the light of God's Word – and are now sharing it because of you.

Yakov was born in Artsakh, a disputed region between Armenia and Azerbaijan. As a young man, a mine exploded beneath him during the conflict – leaving him in a wheelchair at just 27.

Then, in 2020, war came again. Yakov and his family were forced to flee their home, arriving as refugees in the Armenian town of Abovyan. They had lost everything. ***"I was all bitterness,"*** Yakov says.

That's when Pastor Vardan, trained through The Bible Network, reached out. Using Bible study materials you help provide, Vardan shared the Gospel with Yakov and his family.

"Vardan stirred a hunger inside me to know the Bible," Yakov recalls. ***"Soon, I gave my life to Jesus Christ."***

Through your support, Yakov found the hope he had been missing.

Today, Yakov reads his Bible daily. ***"God's Word is healing my broken heart,"*** he says. ***"I want to share what I've received in Jesus Christ with other refugees. I can't keep it to myself."***

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

In the following pages, you'll meet Pastor Gerere, Tania, José, Jonathan and Victoria – each one now shining the light of Christ in their community – thanks to you.



Your partner in sharing God's Word,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

John Savage
Director, The Bible Network

A heartfelt thank you

Your response to our recent appeals has been wonderful – thank you. Letters from Zimbabwe introduced you to Tadiwa, a boy for whom his Bible is his greatest treasure, and Farasia (right), a grandmother who finally found peace through God's Word after decades without Scripture. Your generosity is making moments like theirs possible – not just in Zimbabwe, but for believers around the world who long for God's Word.



Cover image: Pastor Gerere, Dzaleka Refugee Camp, Malawi – see opposite for his story.



Forced to flee. Still serving God's people

Called by God to serve in an overcrowded refugee camp

In the middle of the night, Pastor Gerere (above) was forced to flee his home in the Democratic Republic of Congo as attackers closed in during a wave of violence in his community. After a long and dangerous journey, he reached Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi in 2016.

Today, aged 37, Pastor Gerere lives there with his wife, Solange, and their nine children in a small two-bedroom home within the camp. You wouldn't know it by his smile, but life is incredibly hard.

"It's a very bad, miserable life. Many people in the camp are jobless. We are not getting enough food," he explains.

To feed his family, he rents fields to grow maize while pastoring his 350-member church without pay. He has also started a small centre to teach orphaned children who cannot afford school fees.

Shining the light of God's Word

The spiritual need in the camp is overwhelming. In 2023, Pastor Gerere became a Bible Network Bible study leader. Now he helps train other Christians in 42 of Dzaleka's 100 churches to

lead Bible Network Bible studies. ***"I was called by God to be here,"*** he tells us.

Growing with Scripture

"At the beginning, we had no Bibles," Pastor Gerere recalls. ***"Thanks to the Bible Network, many in my church now have a Bible and are able to read God's Word for themselves."***

Bible Network study booklets are also helping people understand Scripture more clearly – and the impact is spreading.

"When people have God's Word in their hearts and minds, it changes everything," he says.

In a camp where so much has been lost, with your help, Pastor Gerere is making sure hope is not one of them.

Gerere's prayer request:

"Without your prayers, I cannot succeed. Please pray that my ministry here in the camp continues to grow."



“All the people who make Bible Network Bible studies possible in our lives, I thank you with all my heart. Thank you for your generosity that allowed me to know Christ, to have a Bible, and to find a purpose. May God bless you and multiply everything you do for us.” Tania

Finding hope at rock bottom

Addiction and despair led Tania to her heavenly Father

Tania grew up in a small village in Mexico never knowing her biological father. At 16, she became pregnant and married the father of her child. Their marriage was marked by control, jealousy, and violence.

She turned to alcohol, then harder drugs. **“Alcohol didn’t do anything to me anymore,”** she says.

Hitting rock bottom

In her mid-20s, with her marriage breaking down and addiction taking hold, Tania reached a breaking point.

When her cousin invited her to church on Easter Sunday, she went – tired, hungover, and carrying deep shame.

Tania was convinced that even if God was real, He would judge her. Instead, she encountered the

love of a heavenly Father – one who healed rather than judged.

Reaching other women

Soon after, Tania joined a Bible study. As she began to understand God’s Word, something changed. The wounds she had carried for years began to heal.

“Through the Bible study, I discovered who I am in Christ,” she says. **“God has transformed me and made me His daughter. He has built my faith on solid ground.”**

When Tania received her very own Bible, she was overcome with joy.

Today, she is growing in her faith and longs to help other struggling women experience God’s healing and hope too.

Spreading the hope of the Gospel

José is shining the light of Jesus to addicts

Nothing about José's demeanour suggests the life he once lived in the grip of addiction.

Today, in his mid-40s, he volunteers at Remar, a drug rehabilitation centre in Mozambique. A place he first discovered Christ's hope.

"I went through a lot," he says quietly. When his parents divorced, José was just 11 years old. From that point on, his life began to spiral.

"Because of everything happening to me, I felt God had abandoned me."

Driven by loneliness and a desire to fit in, he began experimenting with drugs at the age of 14 – never expecting to get hooked.

José paid a heavy price for his addiction. He stopped attending school and began lying and stealing to support his addiction. Eventually, he spent two years living on the streets, watching many of his friends die from drug use.

A turning point

José's mother tried everything to help him – rehabilitation, medicine, traditional remedies. Nothing worked.

But after more than 20 years in the grip of addiction, José reached a point where he knew he had to admit he needed help.

A friend told him about Remar. In a moment of desperation, he admitted himself.

There, he encountered something different. Recovery was rooted in God's Word.

While detoxing, José took part in Bible Network Bible studies. Through God's Word, he began to grow in faith

and rebuild his life, finding freedom not only from drugs, but from sin.

A life with purpose

Today, José is determined to help other addicts find that same freedom in Christ.

"God wants me to show that change is possible," he says. **"I am a living testimony of His power to heal and restore. People can read about drugs – but I am a book of God's healing."**



José has never left Remar. For more than a decade, he has volunteered there – helping others discover the same life-changing freedom he found in Christ.



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

Jonathan

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?”** Jonathan answered simply: **“I want to help villagers lead better lives through God’s Word.”**

They warned him to stop preaching the Gospel. But Jonathan chose to let his light shine – and some of the rebel leaders were deeply moved by what he shared.

Suffering for a reason

Ever since Jonathan became a Christian, 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 says, **“It was a difficult environment, but I knew God had placed me there for a reason.”**

But Jonathan lacked the resources to grow his ministry – until he attended Bible Network training.

There, he received Bible study materials and practical training to share the Gospel and disciple others. He says, **“Thanks to The Bible Network, I’ve been able to lead people to Jesus and train others to do the same.”**

Raising new leaders

Those who want to grow deeper in their faith join one of Jonathan’s small groups. As these groups grow, new leaders are trained.

“I have personally mentored four small group leaders who now lead their own fellowships,” he says. These leaders – and the believers they serve – know the hope the Gospel brings. But they also know the cost. Many face threats simply for following Jesus. Yet Jonathan remains undeterred. **“Through trials and triumphs, my mission remains clear,”** he says. **“To bring the light of faith to those who have yet to experience it.”**

Married at 10, reading at 39

Victoria learned to read – and found new life in Christ

At age 10, Victoria was married. While other girls were in school, her education had already ended. After her father died, she went to live with her aunt – but without money for books or school fees, she was forced to stop learning altogether.

A life changed

Victoria spent 29 years raising seven children in Zambia – but never once learned to read or write. That changed when a local church leader invited her to join a Bible Network Bible-based Literacy class.

At first, learning was difficult, but her teacher was patient. Through the class, she not only learned to read and write, but also encountered the hope of Jesus through His Word.

“I have seen the power of God in my life,” she says. ***“I used to worry constantly about providing***

for my family when the fishing was poor. But as I learned to rely on God, things changed. There is no day my family goes to sleep without food on the table.”

Learning brings hope

On graduation day, Victoria was filled with joy. ***“I can now read and write. Most importantly, I have found Jesus Christ and the meaning of life.”***

Victoria is now an active member of her church, joining a group of mothers who serve their community. But what drives her most is reaching young women who, like her, missed their chance to learn.

“Maybe there is someone who has never heard about this programme,” she says. ***“So I take it upon myself to personally invite them.”***

Did you know?

- Despite a landmark law banning child marriage in 2023, nearly one in four girls in Zambia is still married before her 18th birthday – often driven by poverty.
- For millions of women like Victoria, Bible-based Literacy opens the door to practical skills – and to faith.

Prayer, praise, and thanksgiving



Pray for those affected by conflict.

Please pray for people across Iran, Israel, Lebanon and the wider Middle East who are facing fear, loss and uncertainty because of war. Ask the Lord to bring comfort to those who are grieving, healing to those who are suffering, and peace to a region in desperate need.



Pray for believers facing persecution.

Rafiq and several of his neighbours in Bangladesh recently came to faith through a Bible Network Bible study. Since then, they have faced threats and attacks. Please pray that God will strengthen them, protect them, and help them stand firm as they shine His light in difficult places.



Give thanks for changed lives.

Praise God for His light at work through people like Victoria, Gerere, Tania, José and Jonathan – each one sharing the hope of His Word and helping others step out of darkness and into His light.



Victoria's prayer request:

"Please pray that God gives me strength to keep reaching others through Bible-based Literacy. I know how much it has changed my life – and how it can help those who do not yet know Christ."

Victoria, Zambia – see her story on page 7



My gift to provide Bibles wherever the need is greatest

I'm sending: £ _____ so that more people around the world can have access to God's life-transforming Word.

First name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Please send this form with your donation in the envelope provided to: **The Bible Network, Unit 9, Burnt Oak Farm, Waldron, Heathfield TN21 0NL**

Gifts will be used to further the work of the charity at the trustees discretion. In the event of insufficient funds to carry out a project, or in the event of a surplus arising on a project, any unspent funds will be used wherever the need is greatest.

I enclose a cheque payable to 'The Bible Network'

Please debit the amount of £ _____ from my:

Card no.:

Expiry Date: /

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

For information about becoming a Bible Network Volunteer Ambassador, please tick Post Phone _____

Email _____

www.thebiblenetwork.org.uk/donate

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