



GOD WILL MAKE A WAY

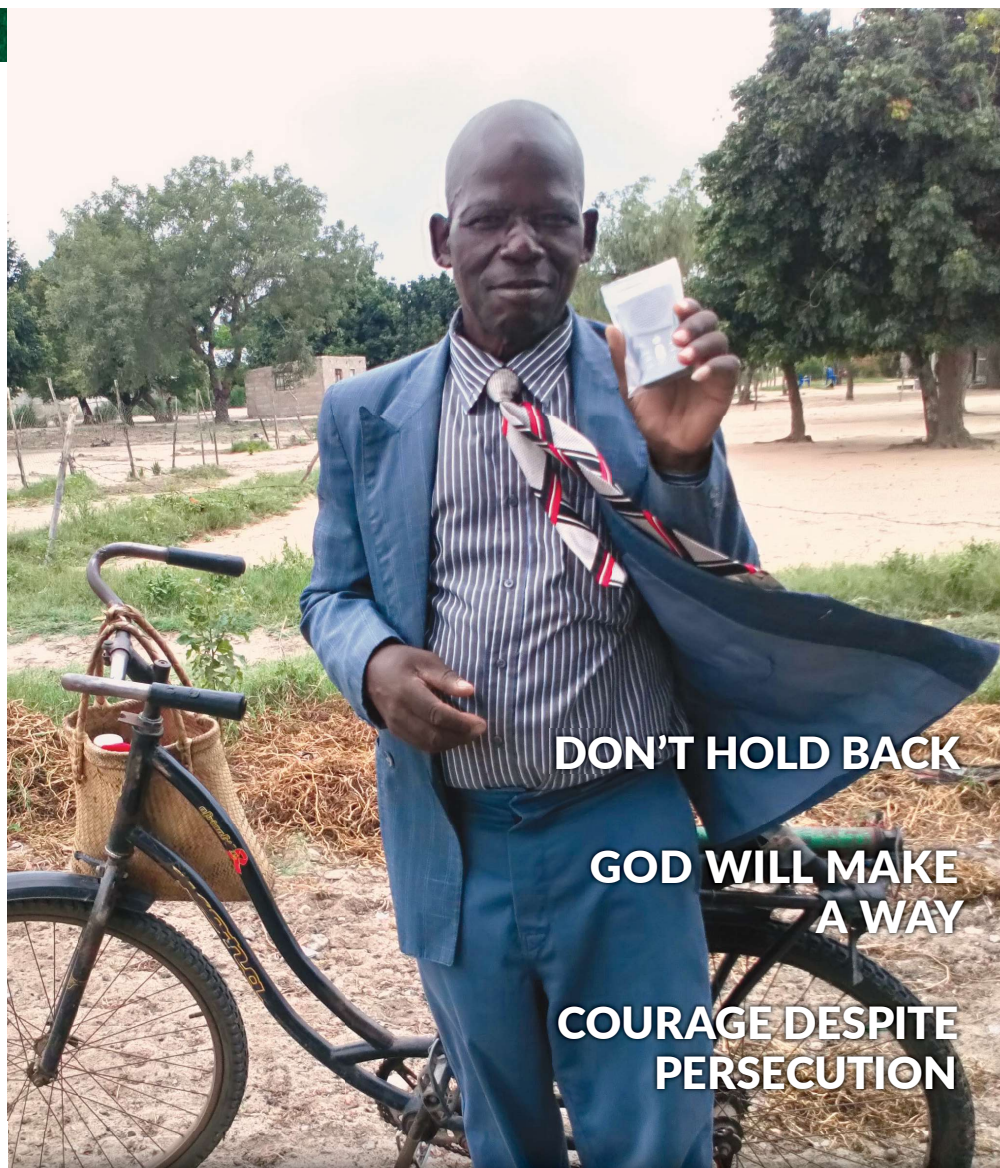
As ASM Africa Director Chad Vanden Bosch stood waiting along a hot, dusty stretch of road in central Mozambique, a well-used bus slowed to a crawl, as its brakes loudly protested. A hand holding a small bubble-wrapped package was thrust out the door. This little package, which had been **hand-carried nearly 1,000 miles** by a family member of one of our recording team in Mozambique, contained the **final recordings of the Makua Meeto New Testament**. With a few friendly words of greeting, the package was passed to Chad and one more challenge to getting this audio Bible recording to people in Northern Mozambique was overcome.



Chad says the Makua Meeto New Testament recording will go down in history as **one of the most challenging recordings** that his team has faced. In the middle of the recording process, Mozambique declared a COVID-19 state of emergency. The team had to think “outside of the box” and as they coordinated the recording, editing, and final checking of the project from three different provinces, each with their own logistical and communication challenges.

Despite these challenges, **we praise God that He has made a way for His Word to be recorded in the Makua Meeto language!** Chad

says they hope to help coordinate a series of audio Bible distributions in this language over the next few months in Northern Mozambique. Pray for these audio Bible distributions, and consider a gift to help bring the Bible to Makua Meeto speakers who desperately need to hear God’s Word.



DON'T HOLD BACK

**GOD WILL MAKE
A WAY**

**COURAGE DESPITE
PERSECUTION**

 **AudioScripture.org**
Ministries

FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER



“LET US NOT GROW WEARY”



The ASM Compassionate Care Team is on the front lines of serving critically ill and vulnerable people in Mozambique. Many of the patients in their care have heartwrenching stories and are dealing with some tragic situations.

The team knows that God is using them as the hands and feet of Jesus to serve those in need, **yet the heavy burden of these situations can take its toll.** God calls us to persevere, “And let us not grow weary of doing good...” (Gal 6:9), so addressing the fatigue, emotional exhaustion, and feelings of burnout is a very important topic for Dara Vanden Bosch and her team.

How does this team make sure they don’t “grow weary” or lose heart? **Read the full story of refreshment on the front lines at:**

www.audioscripture.org/stories

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COURAGE DESPITE PERSECUTION

Your gifts are helping provide audio Bibles for young Christian believers who are being persecuted for their faith in one village of Oaxaca, Mexico!



Before the global health pandemic, people in the Zapotec village of Santa Cruz were jailed as a way to discourage them from attending church services in nearby villages. Roadblocks were set up on Sundays to puncture the tires of churchgoers returning home. Believers would secretly leave their homes early

Sunday morning dressed for work in their fields, carrying machetes or other tools, and then walk to church.

Earlier this year, ASM Latin American Directors Jim and Jamie Loker had the privilege of co-laboring with Maria*, a courageous native missionary. Together they snuck into one village to place audio Bibles with five families, equipping them with earbuds so they might listen to Scripture without drawing unnecessary attention. **When the pandemic limited public gatherings, these new believers had immediate access to God’s Word even when they couldn’t go to church.**



At Maria’s* suggestion, Jim and Jamie also gave an audio Bible to an older couple who live in a strategic location at the entrance of the village. They were not followers of Christ at that time, but Jamie says, “We trust that they are listening to the Zapotec Scripture and coming to faith in Jesus even now. **Our prayer is that their home becomes a gateway house, where Maria* and others can take refuge when ministering among those who face persecution for their faith.**” Thank you for your prayers and financial gifts to help provide the hope of God’s Word to persecuted believers in Mexico.

DON'T HOLD BACK!

“Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.”

Isaiah 54:2

My family did a lot of camping when I was a child. To this day, I don't know how my parents managed to make trips seem so effortless and fun, even when we squabbled as children, or bad weather cut vacations short. Camping brought important lessons of working together, pitching the right size tent, adjusting tent cords for wind and weather, and driving tent stakes deep into the ground for stabilization. Let's just say collapsed tents are great learning experiences!

Like many of you, I ask the Lord to graciously provide a Bible verse to help set the tone for each new year. Isaiah 54:2 was the result for 2020.

Together, our team wrote the verse on a whiteboard, prayed and discussed together what it would look like for us to intentionally live that verse. My heart leapt with excitement as I anticipated how God was going to use ASM for His honor and glory connecting more people to His Word in their own heart language.

Then came the COVID-19 pandemic.



Enlarge...Stretch Wide...Don't Hold Back...Lengthen...Strengthen...

In light of COVID-19, the words of Isaiah 54:2 seemed to almost mock “my” 2020 Strategic Plan (*I confess with chagrin*). A global pandemic, closed country borders, flagging donations, short-term mission trips canceled, and general uncertainty about the future ... surely I'd misheard. Right?

I don't think so. God has done **SO MUCH MORE** in ways I hadn't anticipated at the beginning of the year.

2020 has been unexpected. Globally, lives have been cut short; political and social unrest continue; economic and unemployment issues impact many; churches and believers struggle in this new normal. Grief, uncertainty, and fear have become constant companions for many.

Yet, increased uncertainty has brought increased spiritual hunger. We praise God that this uncertainty is leading people to crave the solid truth of His Word in previously closed areas in Northern Mozambique, India, Mexico, and elsewhere.

Through this lens, together we echo the words of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:20-21 praising and glorifying God: “Now to Him who is able to do *exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think*, according to the power that works in us, *to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen*”, (NKJV, emphasis mine).

God has **ENLARGED** prayer support for ASM through regular Family Prayer Gatherings, connecting people via video from Mozambique to Mexico. Faithful prayer warriors have prayed for you, for pastors and local churches, for a vaccine for the virus, for missional tasks before us, and for global recording and distribution projects.

God has **STRETCHED WIDE** opportunities to share His Word in audio, opening unexpected doors in local care homes, in West Michigan blueberry fields, and in regions previously hostile to the Gospel. Closed

doors have become opened wide as people seek comfort and hope in the Lord.

God has told us **DON'T HOLD BACK** in developing partnerships with national leaders in new regions that need to hear His Word. These partnerships are producing what we pray will be long-term collaboration for audio Bibles to be shared further on the continent of Africa, and in Central and South Asia, including to a major unreached people group.



God has **LENGTHENED** ASM's tent cords, increasing our flexibility as we seek to catch and move with the wind of His Holy Spirit.

God has **STRENGTHENED** and deepened our trust in Him as He's used you to provide financial provision. Donations to ASM were down by almost 50% in March and April—and YOU responded. We praise God for you and your financial investment, helping strengthen people's trust and hope in God through hearing and applying His living Word. (*Give hope today by donating securely online at www.audioscripture.org/give.*)

Hard to believe, but 2020 will soon be a memory. In these final months of the year, **let's not hold back**—and instead respond together to God's call to share the Gospel Good News with those who need to hear it!



Naomi

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MEET ESTÊVÃO

"Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him, and He will act" (Psalm 37:5, ESV) is one of Estêvão (Steve) Macambaco's favorite Bible verses. Steve says this verse is an important reminder that God is our Provider: "*We need to give everything to God and have confidence that He is the owner of everything and has promised to take care of us.*" Since **trusting God means hearing and remaining in Jesus' Words (John 15:7)**, Steve has a heart for bringing God's Word to people in an accessible way, in their own mother tongue.



As a young man, Steve first came to know Jesus through a church choral group. In 1998, he dedicated himself to full-time Christian service. Today, he serves as **senior pastor at the**



Parish of Chinunguine (Emmanuel Evangelical Wesleyan Church) and as **National Secretary of the Wesleyan church in Mozambique**, as well as **Recording Technician** with Mozambique's Associação das Escrituras Em Audição (Association of Audio Scrip-

tures). Steve has seen firsthand the impact of audio Scripture. He reflects that "*hearing the Word of God in audio has been a blessing in my [own] life. Audio allows you to hear the Word almost anytime and anywhere, and especially benefits those who have never had the opportunity to go to school.*"

Steve and his wife, Inênci, have been married for 20 years, and are grateful for God's blessing of four children.

Learn about other ASM team members by visiting
www.audioscripture.org/about