



**AN ABUNDANT
HARVEST**

**BLANKETS OF
COMPASSION**

**THAT'S WHY
WE GO**

 **AudioScripture.org**
Ministries

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



THAT'S WHY WE GO



"The first time you see a person's face light up when they hear the Scriptures in their own language, THAT'S why we keep going back to Oaxaca," said Ed (pictured, far-left) recently. Ed, age 74, has been on six short-term mission trips to Mexico hosted by Jim and Jamie Loker, ASM Latin America Directors.

Many people might expect mission trips to "do" things (like build a home), yet Ed describes the pure joy of **bringing God's Word in audio to those who have lived in Bible Poverty** their whole lives. To that end, Ed keeps in good physical shape so he can hike wherever the team needs to bring audio Bibles in Mexico's rough, rural terrain. His goal is to see one more family, and **one more community hear God's Word** for the first time in their heart language.

Today, this "first time" joy of hearing and understanding the Bible has **not yet happened** for Maria, Bala, Ahmed, and millions of other people, in *several thousand* people groups and languages around the world.

We need your help!

- (1) PRAY
- (2) GIVE toward audio Bibles
- (3) BRING audio Bibles on mission trips

Email partner@audioscripture.org to learn how God can use you to bring the joy of His Word to those who need to hear!



AN ABUNDANT HARVEST



Fall is harvest time in this part of the world. Driving through Midwest backroads recently, my husband and I saw field after field being readied for an abundant harvest. Huge combines, windrowers, and things I really don't know the names of, rumbled down roads and in fields. The Amish, using horse-drawn hayloaders, were also busy under the blazing sun.

Regardless of the equipment used, preparing for the harvest is hard work!

"Make hay while the sun shines" is not just an old farmer's saying. It also means that when the conditions are right we should make the most of every opportunity. The same is true of sharing the Gospel.

Right now, the fields are **"white with harvest"** (John 4:35) in Greater South Asia, Mexico, and on the continent of Africa. Every week our partners share powerful stories about how God has opened *doors of opportunity* in "just the right places" to plant Gospel seeds and to reap the harvest of hearts ready to trust in Jesus.

Some regions (*country names not included for security reasons*) with the greatest potential harvest are also some of the hardest in which to share the Gospel. Physical threats and travel challenges have been used to try to discourage and dissuade Gospel sharing. **Yet, the Gospel is going forward boldly.**

One partner working in West Africa reports that *every Sunday a local group of believers would find the floor of their meeting place smeared with the excrement of sheep*



and goats. Instead of retaliating, this small congregation has started building their own church, a place of worship and expanded ministry within the community.

This same partner and his team have distributed **more than 800 audio Bibles in another West African country.** He says, "We heard many talking about what amazing words they have heard and learned. There were *many waiting and asking for more!* **Pray that more and more people will hear the Word, and Faith will come!**" **AMEN!** Would you please pray for this partner and his team whom God is using to reap a Gospel harvest?

God is using your prayers and financial support so that once-hardened hearts are now being cultivated through hearing God's Word in audio in local heart languages. **Praise the Lord for the abundant Gospel harvest He is preparing. Together, let's make the most of every opportunity!** So many are still waiting to hear.



Naomi

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P.S. - If your church holds a Missions Festival this fall, or if you need "pulpit supply," we'd be happy to help! Contact Joshua Harrison—jharrison@audioscripture.org or call 616.396.5291, ext 3. God is on the move around the world, and we look forward to sharing the stories and testimonies in person with your church or group!

PRAISE GOD FOR VISION 2025 PROGRESS



Prayer

- ASM's next **Global Day of Prayer and Fasting** will be held on 14 October. Email pray@audioscripture.org for more information.
- **Pray for an abundant Gospel Harvest!**



Partnerships

- A new partnership dedicated to **reaching a group of refugees** in South Asia
- Potential of expanded **prison ministry** partnerships in USA



Gospel Progress

- **771 audio Bibles** recently distributed by Gospel Partners in West and East Africa
- **4 Bible recordings** underway in Mexico and Mozambique
- **2 new Agroforestry test plots** for **Bible-based agricultural training** in Mozambique
- A partner in a creative access country **empowered for outreach trips** to several least-reached people groups

www.audioscripture.org/vision-2025



MORE TEA AND STORIES



Sharing Jesus with friends and family can sometimes be intimidating. To address this, ASM Bible Engagement director Tara Rye has crafted dozens of Bible Engagement videos **to help people share the Bible with others**, in a natural storytelling way.

Tara says, **"Telling Bible stories can open doors** that may not have been opened otherwise. It brings others into the dialogue and **invites them to have a conversation.**" Re-telling a Bible story to someone may seem simple—but **God's Word is powerful.** To make sure the Bible story is passed along accurately, Tara teaches a method of **hearing, telling, and re-telling it five times.**



Hearing



Telling



Re-telling

Tara not only teaches these techniques, but **she lives them out.** International students, immigrants and others are invited into her family's home regularly for tea. These often unassuming conversations about a story in the Bible have **led to hearts being opened to the Good News of Christ.** One Buddhist woman kept coming back for **"more tea and more stories"** and has since given her heart to Jesus and **is now proclaiming the Good News to her family.** She said she realized the stories teach us not about "the God of North America, ... but **this God is for ALL people!**"

Learn more about how **YOU can share Bible stories** with those around you—through Tara's training videos at <https://audioscripture.org/bible>.



LET'S PRAY FOR

- National partners in difficult areas—for those experiencing significant opposition to sharing the Gospel.
- New partnerships—for Gospel Outreach to be expanded regionally, nationally, and internationally.
- More prayer partners to stand in the gap!



MORE WAYS TO PRAY

↔ Sign up for regular prayer updates at www.audioscripture.org/pray

Let us pray for you! Share your prayer requests via email at pray@audioscripture.org

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BLANKETS OF COMPASSION



A new blanket. Regular visits. Prayer and medical care. **Your support** of ASM's **Compassionate Care (CC) Team** in Mozambique is providing these things (and more) for people's bodies AND souls, bringing **practical help and spiritual hope** to someone like **Celestino (pictured, left)**.

Celestino was sleeping in his house, cold air blowing through the gaps of the bamboo, mud and thatch that make up the walls. Because of the 10°C (50°F) **winter weather**, he kept a fire burning in a firepit in the middle of his small room. As Celestino moved nearer the fire for warmth in his sleep, his blanket and pant leg caught on fire, causing **severe burns on his whole leg**. The CC Team visited him a week later to dress his burns and give him the treatment and medicine he needed to heal properly. The team also taught Celestino's neighbor how to dress the wounds and care for him until the team could come back next week.

The team gave Celestino a new **fire-resistant wool blanket from the 2021 Mozambique Container** (thank you again for making that possible!). Not only is Celestino now supplied with the life-giving **medicine** he needs to recover from his severe injuries, he has **also been given the Word of Life in an audio Bible**. While he remains bedridden for a few months, he'll be **able to listen to God's sweet Word in his heart language**. Thank you!

Would you pray for Celestino's recovery, for the CC Team visiting each patient in need, and for **those who have not yet heard the Word of Life** in their heart language?

