



SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER



A VHS TAPE CHURCH PLANT



"...and the gates of hell will not prevail against it..." (Matt. 16:18b)

They had some fear of what people would do when it was discovered that they were followers of Jesus, Pastor Victoriano acknowledged. Many outsiders visiting this area of southwestern Mexico had been injured or imprisoned because of

their faith in Jesus. Nonetheless, Victoriano and two others **boldly brought the Mixe language "Gospel of Luke Film"** on VHS, packing a generator because there was no electricity in the village.

Though they wanted their initial visit to be low-key, God had other ideas and so did the Mixe man hosting them. He had heard God's Word in audio before, at Victoriano's church, so he invited his entire village to come and watch the Gospel of Luke Film.

And, they came! People of all ages watched and listened to the Gospel of Luke in their own language, dubbed by our team in Mexico. Though many opposed the Gospel and made threats, the

very first person God saved was a founder of the village. God thwarted the hostile plans through this man's influence, and a new church was soon planted.

This local church was literally founded on hearing God's Word in their own language! Thank you for YOUR investment in recording Bible films like these! Praise God that He is powerfully at work through His Word. Please pray for those still waiting to hear.



THE WATER THAT SATISFIES



Until I visited the Northern Kenyan desert in January, I'd never experienced such dry and dusty conditions. Four years with little or no rain. It was hard to imagine, until seeing it. Relief organizations say this is the worst regional drought in a decade. Villages move to follow water. Women and children walk 10-20 kilometers regularly to draw water from nearly-dry wells. Crops die and livestock suffer.

Praise God for the partnerships He is bringing to Audio Scripture Ministries (ASM) with Genesis Waters and other groups, to bring not only fresh, clean water, but also share Living Water. Would you pray for rain for Kenya, Somalia, Chile and other countries experiencing significant drought, and for our partners who are meeting this need in the name of Jesus?

Would you also pray for spiritual rain—that the refreshing, cleansing, eternal-hope-giving Gospel of Jesus will soon become a "spring of water welling up to eternal life" (John 4:17) in villages and communities around the world? Already in 2023 God has used your prayers and financial

support to develop exciting new partnerships to share His Word in Mexico, Greater South Asia, South Sudan, Kenya, and here in the U.S. *Praise the Lord!*

Dr. Tara Rye, ASM's Bible Engagement Director, joined me on the Northern Kenya trip. Together we learned about Bible translation, audio Bible recording and audio Bible distribution projects underway, explored Bible Engagement training opportunities for pastors, and discussed other ways to share the Gospel through a radio station.





The people of Northern Kenya are hungry and thirsty for the Gospel, and our partners there are doing incredible work sharing Jesus in word and deed. Yet, many more still need to hear. Would you please pray for discernment as we consider what God would have us do, and how we should partner so that His name will be known?

Water is mentioned over 700 times in the Bible, including in Genesis 1:1, and in the last chapter of Revelation (22:17). Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman and reminded her that regardless of how much water was drawn from Jacob's well, she would again become thirsty. Yet, He offered her hope, "... but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:17, NIV).

How is God preparing you this year to help those who are thirsty to find refreshment for their dry, weary souls and new life in Jesus? An estimated 3-billion people globally still need to hear about Jesus.

Together, let's point a thirsty world to our Savior—the only One Who can truly satisfy.



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PRAISE GOD FOR VISION 2025 PROGRESS



Prayer

- Bi-annual ASM Global Day of Prayer and Fasting held in February.
- Weekly prayer meetings scheduled to ask for God's blessings on our partners, volunteers, and donors, by name.



Partnerships

- Growing audio Bible distribution partnerships in Kenya, and South Sudan.
- New partnership with a generous donor to provide lower-cost audio Bibles now in the testing phase.



Gospel Progress

- 16 in-person Bible Engagement trainings in 4 countries, equipping 880+ people!
- Funding provided for 1 key Media
 Project and 3 South Asian Bible recordings—M*, C*, and T* language

 New Testaments.

www.audioscripture.org/vision-2025



ALL TEN CAME BACK



As ten inmates worked side-by-side in the field of a correctional farm in Alaska (pictured, left), one man pulled out an audio Bible. He had just received it through a local chaplain, sent out from ASM's Resource Department. He turned it on, increasing the volume so all the others could hear it, as they cultivated the vegetables that would feed other inmates across the state. Above the normal sounds of their farm work, the steady voice from the solar-powered player began to share the words of Jesus. "A farmer went out to sow his seed..."

One of the men was a self-declared **atheist**. After listening that day, however, **he insisted on getting an audio Bible to listen to God's Word**. Each of the other men asked for audio Bibles too so they could continue listening. "So, the last nine players went to those nine men," the chaplain said.

Would you join us in praying for this man who called himself an atheist—and all those who've received audio Bibles? "We know God's Word doesn't come back void," the local chaplain says, "and these audio Bibles have been a tremendous blessing to the men." Further, these transparent audio Bibles have been officially approved as "property," the chaplain explains, "so when they get one, they can take it with them when they have served their time, and continue to use it wherever they go." Praise God!

Would you **give today to help share God's Word** with other inmates who need to hear?

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EIN 23-6296186



VANDENBOSCH FAMILY UPDATE



Thank you for your continued prayer and support of Chad and Dara Vanden Bosch (RCA Missionaries serving as ASM Africa Director and Compassionate Care Coordinator, respectively), their family—and their ministry teams—in Mozambique. One major answer to prayer has been the opportunity for the whole Vanden Bosch family to return—and visit family and friends in the USA—for the first time in seven years.

Winter trips to Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, and Arizona also allowed the Vanden Bosches to share with several supporting churches how **God** is working in the hearts of the people of Mozambique.

As they return to Mozambique and adjust back into ministry, please **pray for encouragement** for them and for their ministry teams. They and their Mozambican team members have faced **several ministry challenges** in the last year, but we **praise God for all He continues to do** through them in Recording and Distribution, New Harvest Farm, and Compassionate Care ministry.

Thank you for praying and for giving so that the Vanden Bosches can continue to share Jesus in Word and Deed. Will you consider a gift today so that one more family and one more village in Mozambique can receive God's Word in audio?



THE ONLY THING WRONG



"We have to have you come back!" Pastor David said. Thanks to YOUR prayers and support, ASM Executive Director, Naomi Frizzell, and Bible Engagement Director, Tara Rye met with key national partners in northern Kenya. Praise God for these national leaders working hard to reach nomadic people groups with the Gospel in Northern Kenya, and in several bordering countries!

Thanks to YOUR help, in January dozens of leaders were equipped by Tara in story-centric discipleship tools and training. After one of the Bible Engagement training events led by Tara, a key leader, Pastor Daniel spoke up. "There was only one thing really wrong with this training..."! He paused. "It was TOO SHORT!" he said. "We really need more of this!"



One leader in Greater South Asia was seeking Bible training in the methods and strategies that could help him train others. After training with Tara, he exclaimed, "This is SO multipliable!"

Would you **pray for these national leaders** as they train **others**, and for them to faithfully **present the story of Jesus** to the thousands of people still waiting to hear the Gospel?