

THE GREATEST WHY

AUDIO SCRIPTURE MINISTRIES
ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Audio Scripture Ministries helps connect people to God's Word in their own heart language, by recording and distributing the Bible and Bible Engagement resources in audio.

THE GREAT-EST "WHY"

I'm a "why" kind of person. Curiosity and the desire to know the purpose behind something often leads me to look for that "why."

As believers in Jesus, we have the GREATest "why" in the world, and it's a "why" that comes with a promise! It's The Great Commission of our Lord Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20:

"Therefore <u>go</u> and <u>make disciples of all nations</u>, <u>baptizing</u> them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and <u>teaching them to obey</u> everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



<u>That</u> "why" compels us—and our partners to share Jesus in Word and Deed.

Every person has the right—and the need—to hear God's Word in their own heart language SO THAT they come to faith in Jesus Christ, are discipled, and become part of an active, reproducing, community of believers.

And, you believe that too. Your support of ASM demonstrates your commitment to generously sharing God's Word.

We praise God for you.

Together, we're GOING, MAKING DISCIPLES, BAPTIZING, and TEACHING by:

- Praying <u>earnestly</u> "For the earth [to] be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14, NIV).
- Sending audio Bibles and Bible Engagement resources to those waiting to hear.
- Recording audio Bibles for people who <u>urgently</u> need to hear the Good News.
- Partnering with national leaders who <u>boldly</u> share Jesus equipping them in story-centric discipleship.
- Serving as the hands and feet of Jesus to address hunger and palliative care needs, because as an African proverb says, "Empty bellies have no ears."

God is using <u>your</u> prayers, financial support, and partnership to help fulfill The Great Commission.

As you read this annual report, look for the "whys," and for how Jesus is fulfilling His promise to always be with us—as we share the Gospel boldly and courageously.

Many more people are <u>waiting to hear</u>, so thank you for remembering the greatest why! Christ compels us—together—

to GO, MAKE DISCIPLES, BAPTIZE, and TEACH.

Naomi A. Frizzell Executive Director

GOD USED YOUR PRAYERS AND GENEROSITY IN 2023

12,504 AUDIO BIBLES



DISTRIBUTED IN



19 BIBLE RECORDINGS



COMPLETED

71 BIBLE ENGAGEMENT TRAININGS
REACHING 15+ NATIONS
ON ZOOM or IN-PERSON

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE



"As I listened to the audio Bible for the first time, the words of God's love and promises washed over me, filling my heart with a joy I hadn't felt in years," Saachi* (pictured, *name changed) told our Gospel Partner. She described what God did next.

"Tears streamed down my face. It was as if a veil had been lifted, and I could finally see the light of His truth.

From that point forward, the audio Bible became my friend. I would sit in my favorite chair, close my eyes, and let the narrator's voice transport me into the world of Scripture.

Even at **103 years old**, the audio Bible allowed me to grow **closer to God** in ways I never thought possible. It was like having a personal conversation with God Himself. I may not be able to physically hold a Bible, but I **carry** [God's] words in my heart every day.

Thank you so much for giving me this audio Bible."

YOUR prayers and support are making a DIFFERENCE.

REACH MORE

God's Word reaches the hearts of the young and the old, like Saachi. Share the joy of God's Word by going to www.audioscripture.org/reach-more

2 BILLION

UNREACHED

75% of people are oral communicators (don't read)



Listening in our [Huave] language, it is crystal clear. Thank you!"

- Braulio, audio Bible recipient (Mexico)

They NEED to hear God's Word



We need to go to the next village, the unreached people over that hill."

- Pastor Amos (Kenya)

and be equipped to share it



We are asking God for 3,000 new church plants in the next five years."

S* ASM Partner (South Asia)

"Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field." -Jesus (Luke 10:2, NIV)

····· of pastors lack Bible training



We need more of this!"

- Pastor at a Bible Engagement Training (South Asia).

and resources for evangelism



Pastors are calling every week for audio Bibles. They see how vital God's Word is to spiritual growth and every aspect of evangelism!"

Chad (ASM Mozambique)



YOUR PRAYERS AND PARTNERSHIP ARE CRUCIAL

PARTNERSHIP

GOALS FOR 2024

To reach those with little or no access to God's Word in audio.

ASM works in partnership with Christians around the world. We believe collaboration with leaders who love God's Word (and are helping others in their region read it, hear it, and obey it) helps fulfill Jesus' prayer as recorded in John 17:21.

In 2024, would you pray with us for:



+ 24,000 Audio Bibles Sent

<u>doubling</u> the number of audio Bibles distributed in 2023.



+ 24 New Gospel Partners

to work in 12 new countries, and with 12 new audio Bible distribution partners



+ 24 New Church Partners

who will pray, give, and distribute God's Word in audio



+ 12 New Volunteer / Local Prayer Partners

meeting together monthly in West Michigan



+ 124 New Donors

who believe in the power of God's Word and in sharing it generously



MINISTRY AREA LEADERS



JIM AND JAMIE LOKER

ASM's Latin America Directors—Jim and Jamie have invested more than 30 years sharing God's Word in audio with people in Guatemala, Mexico, and elsewhere. Currently, they lead audio Bible recording and distribution work in Oaxaca, Mexico, and host short-term

mission trips to share God's Word among the 100+ language groups who live in this linguistically diverse area. (Pages 13-16)



CHAD AND DARA VANDEN BOSCH

ASM's Africa Director and Compassionate Care Coordinator respectively—Chad and Dara have shared God in Word and Deed in Mozambique for more than a decade. Through audio Bible recording, distribution, and Integral Mission efforts including the work of their

Compassionate Care and New Harvest Farm teams, Chad and Dara want more Mozambicans to encounter Jesus' love and the truth of His Word, so individuals, families, and communities can be transformed. (Pages 17-22)



DR. TARA RYE

ASM's Bible Engagement Director—Tara is passionate about people learning and obeying God's Word. Through story-centric discipleship, pastor and leader training, international mentoring relationships, and audio Bible distribution, Tara equips others

to deepen their understanding of God's Word and winsomely share it with others—leaders who multiply by helping others "Be in the Word, Be with Jesus, and Be Transformed"! (Pages 23-26)

EFFECTIVE TOOLS











Millions of people still need to hear God's Word but have limited or no access. Many do not read their own language, have never met a believer, or cannot safely carry a print Bible. Bible recordings and audio tools can help these "oral communicators" meet Jesus.

Solar-powered audio players range from \$10 to \$50, with different capabilities and strengths. SD cards, WiFi-distribution boxes, and other tools can also equip families to use their own cell phones for listening to and sharing God's Word in audio!

Praise God for the effective audio tools available so YOU can share God's Word in a language you don't even speak.

TO SHARE MORE

www.audioscripture.org/share

Contact ASM's Resource Department to discuss the best audio Bible tool for yourself, your church, or your ministry!

+1.616.396.5291

resources@audioscripture.org



NOW I UNDERSTAND



For us, God's Word may be a few steps or a few clicks away. But for many Huave people and others in **rural Mexico**, God's Word is still **far away** and **foreign**.

In March, a woman named Concepcion (pictured, left) came to Christ. She was eager to grow in her faith, but felt she didn't understand God's

Word (in Spanish). Then you helped place an audio Bible in the Huave language, into her hands.

"Now that I have my audio Bible, I can listen anywhere. I'm so excited—I can continue to grow in Christ.

I understand the Bible so much better in Huave!"

Your support of Jim and Jamie Loker and ASM's recording team in Mexico is helping more people hear and understand His Word. Thank you for praying and giving so that Concepcion and her entire community can grow in God's Word. Now they can joyfully "feast" on God's Word all day long!

HELP LISTENERS GROW

PRAY

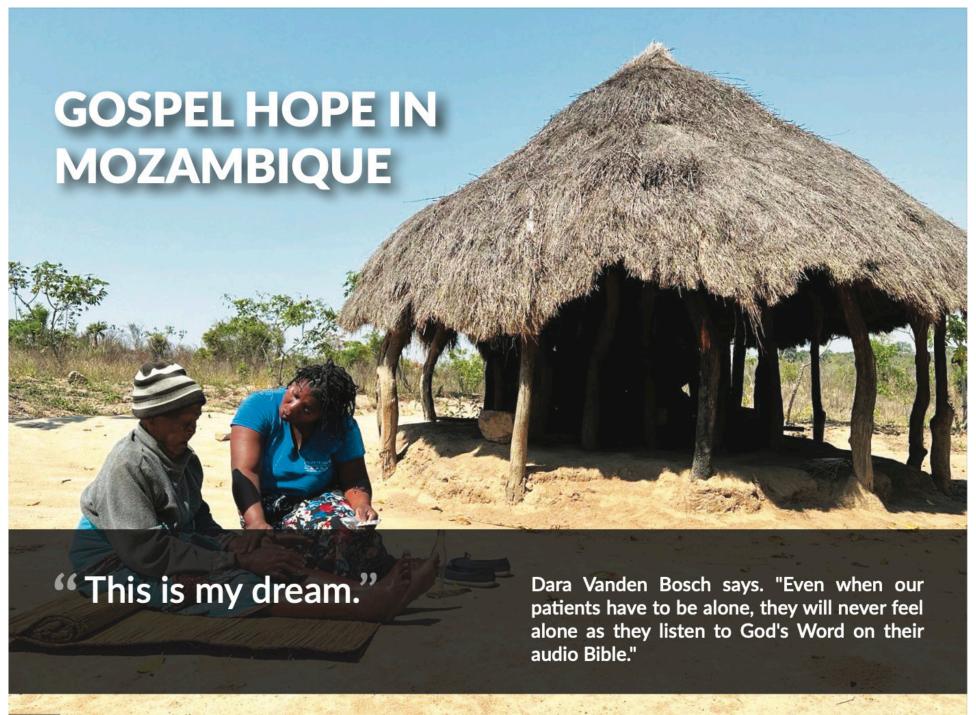
- for God's protection on all those making and sharing these recordings
- for additional traveling recordists

GIVE

 to complete crucial Old Testament recordings in indigenous languages of Mexico

Designate your gift to: <u>Loker Projects</u> and/or <u>Audio Bibles—Mexico</u>





SWEETER FRUIT MULTIPLIES



"This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit..." (John 15:8). Chad Vanden Bosch and his team at New Harvest Farm (NHF) are celebrating five years of "Growing with God"—providing Bible-based agricultural training in rural Mozambique. As the team explores God's design and natural processes in agroforestry, they're

reminded that the life cycle of a plant is **not just to give fruit**, but it's **also to reproduce** through the distribution of its seed. Chad reflects:

"The **sweeter** the fruit is, the **farther** animals will go to eat it. The seeds will then be **dispersed more widely**, and find fertile ground and **grow**."

As Chad and his team **share God's Word in audio**, the result is similar. He points out that "bearing fruit" in the Scriptures is in part "the discipline of **being 'sweet'** in order to attract the lost and **disperse the Seed of the Gospel**. God grows **His fruit** in our lives so the seed of His Word can be dispersed **more widely**." May God bring a great harvest!

FOR LASTING FRUIT

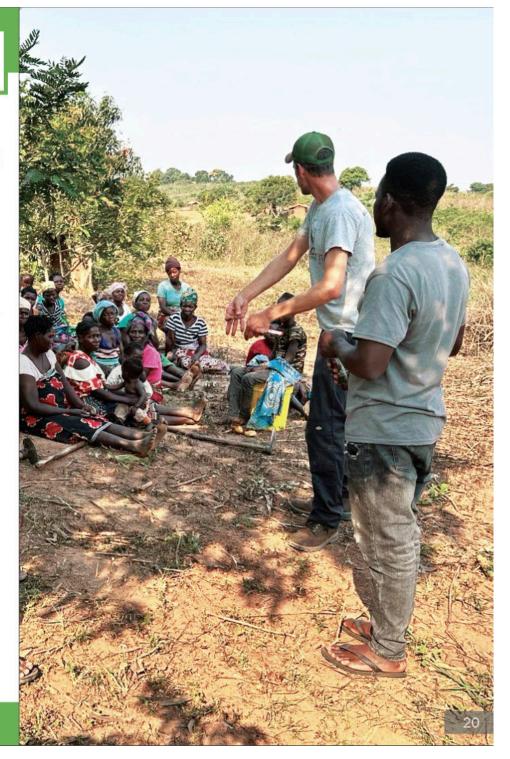
PRAY

 for the Gospel Seed to be multiplied through audio Bibles, New Harvest Farm, Compassionate Care, and Gospel Partners

GIVE

- toward 3,000 audio Bibles for urgent distribution
- to continue the Makua Shirima Old Testament Recording, and the work at NHF

Designate your gift to: MZ Projects/NHF and/or Audio Bibles—Mozambique



GOD MAKES NEW



ONCE A WITCH DOCTOR

You never know whom God will call to Himself. At one church event, a middle-aged Mozambican lady (not pictured) shared her dramatic story.

She had followed a different religion and was even a practicing witch doctor.

However, as she **started listening** to the audio Bible our ASM Team gave her—**God worked** in her heart! Now she has **surrendered herself to Christ** and the local pastor reports that she officially "joined our church last Sunday. **Glory to God!**"



CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

This has been a significant year for ASM Compassionate Care Coordinator, Dara Vanden Bosch, completing her masters degree in Arts and Medicine and seeing God use it powerfully in her ministry context.

One new avenue has been hosting **community art days**, where Dara has seen a deepening of local relationships, as the women exercise their **God-given creativity**.

As Dara has incorporated art into her team's palliative care visits, patients have told stories about their lives and spiritual journeys that they never previously felt comfortable sharing. Pray for continued open doors for the Gospel, and that many would experience God's hope and healing.





THE NEXT STORYTELLERS



God is using your investment in Bible Engagement to equip multi-generational Bible storytellers who are now proclaiming the story of God's Word in nations all over the world. On a recent ministry trip, one leader told Tara,

"After watching you and your son teach together, I want to bring my children along to teach with me. I will now do this forever!"

Many of the church leaders stayed up late into the night developing story songs to **better share** God's Word. The training you helped provide fanned their excitement into flame, because they know their nation is in need of the **Good News of Jesus!**

In 2023, God opened the door for Tara to **train leaders** in 15+ nations, in-person and over Zoom. She and her husband **regularly pour into many global leaders**, in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the USA.

Thank you for helping **equip ministry leaders** all over the world—who are, in turn, **eager to train others** to tell the stories of Scripture in every context!

SO MORE WILL HEAR

PRAY

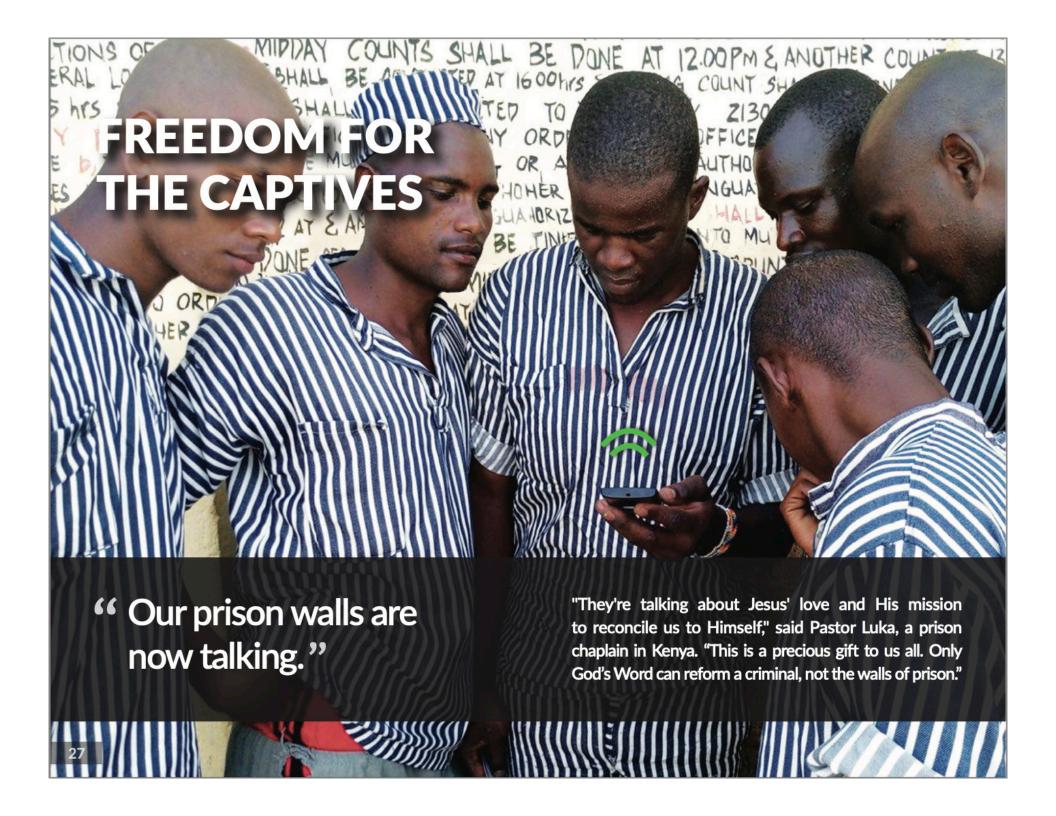
- for God's direction and protection, for Tara and every disciple-maker trained
- for new Gospel Partners to be equipped

GIVE

- to train leaders in Bible Story-Centric Discipleship
- to equip additional leaders with Audio Bibles

Designate your gift to: Bible Engagement—Rye Projects and/or Audio Bibles—Where Most Needed





GOD'S FREEDOM



FOR A YOUNG FAMILY

Ayokunle* received an audio Bible, listened, and came to Jesus! "My wife—Nkiru* was so angry when I accepted Christ," the man from West African added. "She tried to make my life miserable."

One day, he came home and his daughter said, "Mommy's crying!" Nkiru* was watching the Jesus Film and hearing the Bible in her own language. She felt great conviction because she realized everything she'd been hearing from the audio Bible was true—now she understood what God had done to send Jesus as her Savior.

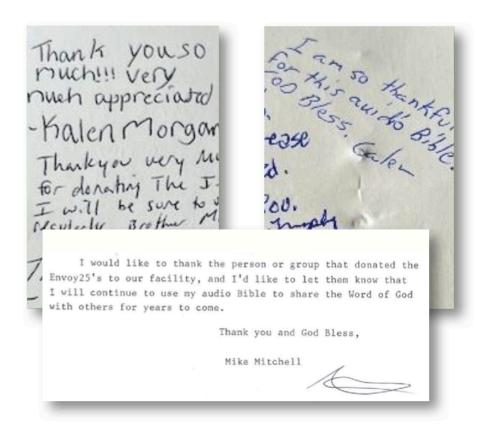
"Faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the Word of God" (Rom. 10:17). That day, she believed.

FOR EVERY VILLAGE

This young man wears an MP3 player around his neck, going from village to village to play Scripture throughout Greater South Asia. When people ask him what he's listening to, he tells them about Jesus Christ. "Jesus is the One who rescues us from our sins."

Pray for this young man as he shares the story of Jesus Christ using his audio Bible. **Pray** that he will soon be joined by **more Gospel laborers** in this harvest field (Luke 10:2).





FOR AN ALASKAN PRISONER

Mike, a prisoner in Alaska facing a **life sentence**, admits he had been living a **life of sin** and **needed hope**. After accepting Christ, he started reading His Bible, but felt it was difficult to share with other prisoners who didn't know how to read or pronounce Bible names. "Since getting the audio Bible, **I can now share** ... My new audio Bible has become the center of many discussions. I feel that **it is bringing others to hear** the Word of God, some of whom have never picked up a Bible before."

Through your prayer and support, **177 inmates received audio Bibles**, and many inmates are asking for more! Thank you for sharing God's Word with those who need freedom and hope.





Jamison Worst (BD) President and Board Chair



Naomi Frizzell (GS) Executive Director



Jonathan Stoimenoff (GS) Resource Department Coordinator



Joshua Harrison (GS) Donor Ministries Director



Pedro M. (MZ) NHF Farm Manager



Jim and Jamie Loker (MX) Latin America Directors



Ryan Wood (BD) Director



Dara Vanden Bosch (CC) Chad Vanden Bosch (MZ) Compassionate Care Coordinator



Marianna R. (CC)

Compassionate Care

Worker

Africa Director



Diego G. (MX) Studio Manager



Tara Rye (GS) Bible Engagement Director



Lee DeYoung (BD) Director



Allison Wilcox (GS) Design Storyteller



Ben Ruiter (BD) Vice Chair



Rabeca F. (CC) Compassionate Care Worker



Wanda Maloy (GS) Operations Manager



Jose and Jemima G. (MX) Recording Technician and Distribution Coordinator



Tim Jackson (BD) Director



Edi G. (MX) Recording Technician



Erika Hoekzema (GS) Finance Manager



Cheryl Prindle (BD) Director



Estêvão Macambaco (MZ) Recording Technician and Distribution Coordinator



Kayla Andersen (GS) Communications Coordinator



Isaias M. (MX) Recording Technician



Jessica Purucker (GS) **Donation Receipting** Specialist



Dorca L. (CC) Compassionate Care Worker



Don Lang (GS) ASM Representative



Kody Faulk (BD) Director



Rabeca J. (CC) Compassionate Care Worker



John Smith (BD) Director

OUR GLOBAL TEAM 2023

LEGEND

(GS) Global Support Team (MX) Mexico Team (CC) Compassionate Care (BD) Board Member (MZ) Mozambique Team

TO LEARN MORE

about our team, visit audioscripture.org/team



PLAN YOUR:

- Stock / IRA
- Estate / Bequeathment
- Tax-advantaged QCD from a Required Minimum Distribution

BECAUSE THE NEXT GENERATION NEEDS TO HEAR

Learn more: www.audioscripture.org/planned

Or call us at: +1 (616) 396-5291



FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT



701+
TOTAL
DONORS

sent generous support so more people can receive God's Word in audio.



CHURCHES DONATED

joining in the Great Commission to reach the many without a Bible in



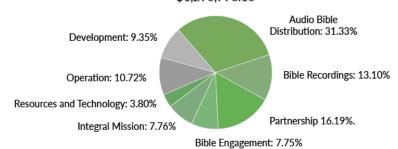
56 ORGANIZATIONS DONATED

committing business, foundation, and partnership resources to help share God's Word in an accessible way.

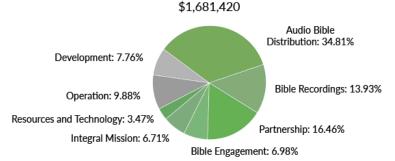
2022-23 INCOME: \$1,509,657

their own heart language

2022-23 EXPENSES \$1,290,796.10



2023-24 EXPENSE GOALS



ASM's most recent financial reports are available online at www.audioscripture.org/financial-reports.
ASM also receives an annual third-party audit. For a copy of the report, please call our office at +1.616.396.5291.



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ASM is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.



ASM's sound fiscal management practices, and commitment to accountability and transparency, have earned a 4 out of 4-stars rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator.

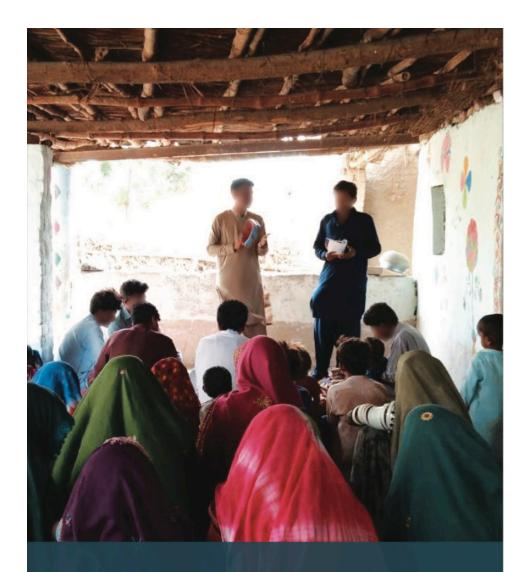


ASM has earned the platinum seal of transparency from Guidestar, their highest rating.

PRAY WITH US

- For funding, completion, and distribution of needed audio Bible recordings among people groups still without God's Word. Pray for strength for Bible readers, recordists, and audio editors.
- For ASM's Gospel Partners—churches, national leaders, individuals, and ministries praying, supporting, recording, distributing, and connecting more people to God's Word.
- For open doors to additional partnerships with those who will use audio Scripture for evangelism, discipleship, and church planting, so God will be glorified and worshipped.
- For physical and spiritual protection for the ASM Global Team and Board, and the faithful partners who help distribute audio Bibles worldwide.
- For more "laborers for the harvest" (Luke 10:2), so Jesus' Name would be glorified and salvation in His Name would be proclaimed widely around the world.

www.audioscripture.org/pray



"It has not always been easy to share the Gospel in new places. But we thank God that 5 more people believed and accepted Jesus!"

- Gospel Partner in Greater South Asia