

Faithful

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



“Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.”
HEBREWS 10:23 NIV

God is writing a story of faithfulness.

Dear Friend,

2020 has been an extraordinary year.

Unprecedented, unimagined, uncharted, but in all, God has demonstrated His faithfulness.

Bible League Canada's first chapter of the COVID-19 global pandemic has been written and recorded for you in this Annual Report, but this is not the end of the story, there are more chapters to come. Our national team, ministry partners, and local champions have been tested and have been proven skilled, innovative and faithful. But our next chapter may be even more difficult than we have already experienced. Protection and provision are vital to continue this kingdom work.

But, we rest assured that our heavenly Father is already preparing the next chapter, and the victorious end of the story. We are learning so much from what He has revealed to us during this time. He is helping now and He is giving insight to thrive in the post-pandemic reality. We don't know what that will look like, but God does, and He is faithful.

You are unwavering in your support to proclaim the life-changing Word of God to all peoples. You demonstrated time and again this past year that you, unwaveringly, hold to the hope we profess. Thank you for being part of this chapter and the next.

To God be the Glory, amen!



Paul Richardson

CEO

Bible League Canada

FAITHFUL

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CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

179,638

Leaders, Teachers and Church Planters Trained

10,491

New Churches Started

1,724,818

People in Programs*

262,012

People Baptized

1,109,997

New Followers of Jesus

3,688,905

Scriptures Placed

* People in programs includes participants in: Children's Ministry, Adult Ministry and Church Planter Training.

Making Disciples

Ministry starts with God's Word – The Bible



The Living Word of God transforms people from the inside out. Because of your support this past year, millions of people received Scriptures and discipleship training through starting new churches, children's programs, adult literacy classes, prison ministry and more.

Each copy of God's Word is diligently tracked, connecting you, the Canadian donor champion, with local champions in over 40 countries, to see maximum impact and multiplying transformation. And one heart transformed by the Gospel message shares it with another child, adult, or community!

"...So that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God and that there is no other."

– 1 Kings 8:60 NIV

1,109,997

New followers of Jesus. The results are the story of God's faithfulness:

And the story continues...



Starting New Churches

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, individuals are equipped to start new churches in their communities, bringing transformation through in-depth discipleship training programs. Hosborn experienced the highs and lows of starting a new church, but through it all, God was faithful. (page 6)



Adult Ministry

Men and women are led to God’s Word through Bible-based literacy classes, Bible studies, and prison ministries. Find out how Tanya knew her meeting with Anna was God-appointed. (page 12)



Children’s Ministry

Trained local champions introduce children to the love of Jesus Christ through Bible clubs, Bible camps, and after school programs. Read about the innovative ways that volunteer leaders in the Philippines are reaching their students! (page 18)



Persecuted Church

Bibles are provided to communities of oppressed believers, strengthening them with encouragement and perseverance to courageously bring the Gospel to others. Learn how Mela overcame her father’s rejection of her faith. (page 14)

“*Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”*

— MALACHI 3:10 NIV

PERSEVERANCE



■ GLOBAL IMPACT

10,491

New Churches Started

**That is an average of 201
new churches started
every week!**

“If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?”

JAMES 2:16 NIV



Hosborn

is a local champion reaching his community for Christ

“Food for the body, and food for the soul!”

Hosborn has just completed training to start new churches, with a group of 25 others,

“This training sparked something in me. It awakened a fire in me to reach my community for Christ!”

Your support was vital for their training and equipping them with Bibles for the task ahead.

After concluding the first in-class module that focuses on neighbourhood evangelism, Hosborn was so excited that he mobilized a team from his church. Together they embarked on a community campaign of house-to-house and open air evangelism to reach and disciple their community. The skills and resources from his training were working so well!

Then the pandemic restrictions halted ministry activities, and it felt like a huge setback. The same people that had responded so well became hostile as their hunger and frustration with the lockdown grew.

“We realized there was a need to change our strategy. So, instead of just a Bible and conversation, we started carrying small food packages that contained a Bible. As people realized that we understood their trials, they became welcoming again and we had opportunities to disciple families with the Gospel. God provided us with perseverance and insight to continue to serve our community. Food for the body, and food for the soul!” Hosborn says with a smile.

Hosborn requests prayer for himself and the team, for boldness and for open hearts, as they continue to reach into the community.

CHANGE



“ I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

JOHN 8:12 NIV

■ CANADIAN IMPACT

32,415

Scriptures Placed
in Canada

2,605

Canadians in
Programs*

An average of **88 Scriptures**
are placed in eager hands
every single day in Canada!

* Includes participants in: Children's Ministry,
Adult Ministry and Church Planter Training.

Faithful

in the darkest moments

An inmate shares his testimony of transformation, experienced when he began correspondence Bible courses made possible through your support.

God was faithful to him in his darkest moments, and sent the right people to walk alongside him.

“I grew up in a good Christian home. My family was very close. When I became addicted to drugs and alcohol at an early age, my family stood by me, even when I didn’t deserve it.

My attendance at work was terrible, so I was always looking for a new job. My parents supported me, but I would lie and steal from them to get my next fix. I felt bad, because I loved them, but I loved drugs more.

Soon, I was out of control. I drank until I blacked out, and when I violently assaulted someone, I couldn’t remember what I did. I was arrested and taken into custody.

I was released to treatment for 20 weeks — and I’ve been clean and sober ever since. I

was out on bail, but at my trial I was found guilty and sentenced to just over six years in prison.

A few months into my sentence, I met this guy that spent eighteen years in prison, and the only thing he ever reads is the Bible. He told me all kinds of stories from the Bible about God’s faithfulness that made me think, ‘If a man who was once a hard-core criminal believes, then maybe there is hope for me?’

I started reading my Bible every day and doing correspondence Bible studies. When I completed them, I got feedback and encouragement from a mentor — **a real person who wanted to help me learn about Jesus.**

My view on life and people started to change. It made me hungry for more.

Prison is a hard place, but through it all, God keeps growing my faith. I know He is walking beside me and I’m thankful for what Jesus has done for me. Now I’m on a mission to spread this Good News!”

Praise God! Because of your faithful support, the Word of God is transforming lives inside prison walls!

“Let us hold unwaveringly
to the hope we profess, for he
who promised is faithful.
HEBREWS 10:23 NIV



Telling the Story of God's Faithfulness

Dear Friend,

In Revelation 2, the apostle John records the words of Jesus for the Church in Smyrna. He writes: “I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich)... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

In the midst of the pandemic that marked this year, just as Jesus was grateful for the faithfulness of the Christians at Smyrna, so I am grateful, and overwhelmed by the faithfulness of our regional partners, national partners and local champions around the world.

From all over the globe we are receiving reports of the dedication of our local champions to continue ministry, examples of which you will find throughout this report. And, as our Latin American partner noted, “As everyone practices social distancing to abide by nationwide restrictions, **we are delighted to find that people have more time and open hearts for sustained, meaningful conversations.**”

This pandemic has changed the way ministry is carried out, and the next 2 years will continue to see the impact of these changes. Applying new methods while adhering to local restrictions means expanding and stretching the vision for how to engage people where they are. Bible League Canada is committed to being faithful to our calling to see all peoples, everywhere, transformed by the Living Word of God.

Our local champions all around the world are marked by faithfulness to the Lord Jesus and His calling on them. So, in this challenging time, ministry not only continues, but thrives.

Our God is faithful.



Rev. Bob Beasley
Chief Ministry Officer

Ministry Results

EVERY NUMBER HAS A NAME

10,491
New Churches Started

1,724,818
People in Programs*

3,688,905
Scriptures Placed

2020 MINISTRY RESULTS SUMMARY

	FY2019-20	2016-2020 CUMULATIVE RESULTS
LEADERS/TEACHERS/CHURCH PLANTERS TRAINED	179,638	724,463
PEOPLE IN PROGRAMS*	1,724,818	9,978,539
NEW FOLLOWERS OF JESUS	1,109,997	5,147,657
NUMBER OF PEOPLE BAPTIZED	262,012	1,310,001
NEW CHURCHES STARTED	10,491	36,129
EVANGELISTIC CONTACTS BY CHURCH PLANTERS	695,328	3,249,646

2020 SCRIPTURE RESULTS

	CANADA	INTERNATIONAL	TOTAL
BIBLES	3,768	488,728	492,496
STUDY BIBLES	22	11,925	11,947
NEW TESTAMENTS	28	267,162	267,190
CHILDREN'S PORTIONS/BOOKLETS	78	1,396,953	1,397,031
CHILDREN'S STORY BIBLES	6,205	20,985	27,190
BIBLE PORTIONS/SELECTIONS/BOOKLETS	22,314	1,470,737	1,493,051
TOTAL SCRIPTURES PLACED	32,415	3,656,490	3,688,905
DIGITAL RESOURCES**			4,002,067

* Includes participants in: Children's Ministry, Adult Ministry and Church Planter Training.

** Includes digital Scriptures, photos, maps, and video and audio Bibles.

PROVIDENCE

“Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?”

ACTS 8:30-31 NIV

God provided the meeting

Twice a week, Tanya brings her son Bogdan to swimming lessons. But when the pool closed for lockdown, the instructor suggested outdoor calisthenics instead so that he would not lose his training. Bogdan and another boy, Marko, continued to train twice a week.

While waiting during these lessons, their mothers got acquainted. And the more Tanya listened to Anna, the more she realized that God provided this meeting.

Anna has lived a life full of challenges. She married a wealthy young man, with expectations of a fairy-tale life. But reality was very different. Her wealthy husband was also brutal and self-centered.

Alcohol, women, and abuse drove Anna to take her young daughter and move to Kiev. She was starting from scratch. Eventually she met her second husband, and soon gave birth to a son.

But when Marko was just three years old, Anna was diagnosed with cancer.

Over the next six years, Anna endured 22 chemotherapy sessions and several surgeries. But Anna was dying - nothing was helping. In her home, they made everything ready for a funeral, including the casket.

Although she had no relationship with God, one day she prayed desperately at the cathedral,

“God, help me. I have two children to raise. Only you can help me.”

And – a miracle! After this desperate prayer, her symptoms began to disappear. Anna had so many questions! A neighbour suggested that she go to a house nearby and talk to the believers that gathered there, but she was afraid.

**The Living
Word of God
transformed
Anna's life**



When Tanya heard this story, she knew that this meeting must be God's next steps for Anna's faith journey.

Anna offered Tanya and Bogdan a ride home. When they arrived at Tanya's house, Anna looked at her in surprise, "This is the house where they talk about God. During my treatments my neighbour told me to come here to have my questions answered. I want to know what is going to happen when I die. I want to know why God had mercy on me and healed me. I have never read the Bible. I know that God is changing me, and I do not understand what is happening."

Because of your support, Tanya was able to give Anna a Bible. They meet together with other believers to study and talk about faith in Jesus Christ. Anna's journey continues!

People in Programs*

1,724,818

* Includes participants in: Children's Ministry, Adult Ministry and Church Planter Training.

Unwilling to Give Up Jesus

Mela was the daughter of a highly-respected village priest who loved her dearly—and was teaching her to become a leader among the village women. He raised her to follow many gods, protectors of various aspects of life. Mela was obedient and humble, following in her father's footsteps.

Mela also learned the importance of cleanliness at the temple. As a wife and mother, she carefully maintained her own home, a value she happily shared with others. Mela often visited with neighbours to talk about how to keep their houses clean and families healthy.

During a neighbourhood visit, she met some Christians. They were noticeably different from the other neighbours Mela visited.

Soon, her focus shifted from cleanliness to Jesus.

She visited a local house church to see how the Christians worshipped Jesus. She became so fascinated with their faith that she gave it her full attention and started telling her husband about what she was learning.

When Mela's father found out, he was so opposed to his daughter interacting with Christians that he reported her to the village leaders. But Mela couldn't be stopped. She met Mukai, **a local champion starting a new church in her neighbourhood, and their conversations strengthened her growing faith.**

Fearing her actions would damage his reputation as priest, Mela's father banished her from the village. No one in the village was to communicate with Mela's family until they renounced their faith in Christ.

Unwilling to give up Jesus, Mela and her family took refuge in a hut in a nearby

179,638 local champions were trained to reach out to their communities!

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

PSALM 51:10 NIV

rice paddy. During this time, Mukai prayed fervently and encouraged the family through their struggles.

Requests to return were denied, but eventually, all of the Christian families in the community came together in support of Mela. After many pleas on Mela's behalf, her father gave in: Mela and her family were allowed to come home — provided they kept their faith to themselves and not share it with others.

Mela and her husband remain steadfast in their new faith and are working to rebuild their lives after the chaos they have faced.

But Mela cannot obey her father's order to keep her faith to herself: she continues to visit her neighbours, but now her message is about Jesus!



HOPE



“...for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning; great
is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22B-23 NIV

“My Strength and my Refuge”

Adriana suffered years of abuse from her husband. Eventually she could bear it no longer, and they divorced. At this dark time in her life, through a small support group she started to attend in a local church, Jesus found Adriana and she embraced Him as her Lord and Saviour.

“Jesus has been my hope in times of trouble,” she says.

Two years ago, Adriana was diagnosed with cancer and still today continues to fight for her health. But, through her new faith in Jesus, she has a living hope.

“Jesus has power to heal me and allow me to enjoy my children and grandchildren.

But even if it is His will that I die, I know He will raise me up when He comes for His Church,” she shares.

Purchasing a Bible was not possible for Adriana. And she felt embarrassed to ask for one because everyone had already been so generous with her.

Then, thanks to your faithful support, Adriana was given a Bible!

Through daily reading and meditating on God’s Word, she strengthens her faith and has hope during this difficult season of her life. She testifies of His faithfulness to all who come to call.

■ GLOBAL IMPACT

Not just placing Bibles, transforming lives!

Each Bible placed comes with so much more!



Placed through programs into the waiting hands of people eager to read God's Word and supported by ongoing discipleship.

Every Bible is diligently tracked, connecting you, the Canadian donor champion, with global champions, to see maximum impact.

3,688,905

Scriptures placed in 2020

10,107

Scriptures placed per day, on average

“Every morning that I wake up, I have hope for life! This disease is terrible. It wears on me,” Adriana says. “But being in Christ, I have hope and encouragement to keep going. God is my strength and my refuge.”



O B E D I E N C E

A Tough Year But each day is a gift from God

Because of your support, Lucy, a volunteer coordinator in the Philippines is able to share exciting developments in Children's Ministry.

"2020 has been a tough year! No one could ever have imagined how everything would change.

When schools and churches closed, and even visiting students in their homes wasn't allowed, it really affected our students!

At first it seemed like the lockdown was too big a problem to overcome.

But God showed us He is still in control of everything. He gave us ideas on how to reach the students even during this trying time.

We used the gift of technology, first, to reach the volunteer teachers, and then to reach the students. Through instant messaging

we could encourage each other and most amazingly reach out and be able to share God's Word with the students!

Suddenly, distance is not a hindrance for us! It doesn't matter how far away the volunteers are, **they are being used by God to reach out to the students, every day** instead of every week. Faithful obedience is all that is required.

My church has also seen an increase in numbers. We can't meet in buildings, but we meet outside or online. Many new young people are coming, most of whom were our students in the schools where we taught, and others are invited by our students.

Thankfully, we are still able to give Bibles to the youth we are connecting with through house-to-house evangelism, and one-to-one evangelism.

Every day is a challenge. But every day is a gift from God to reach out to more souls for His glory!"

FOCUS: CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

“...fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
ISAIAH 41:10 NIV



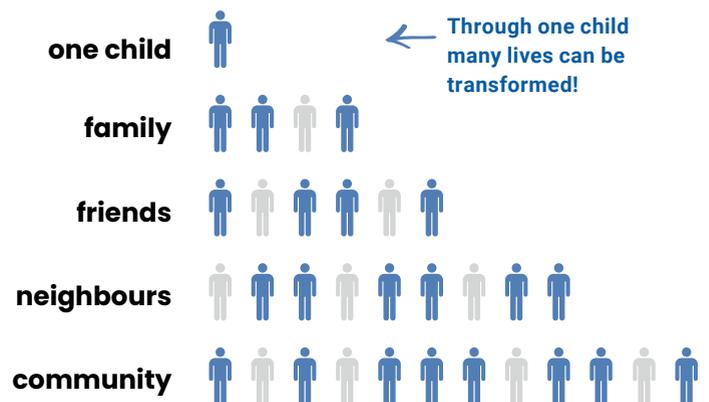
■ GLOBAL IMPACT



MULTIPLICATION OF ONE

One excited child shares with his family what he learned in class.
Together they read through the Bible he received. His parents, intrigued, linger the next day when dropping him off.
The leader welcomes their questions and invites them to a neighbourhood group to hear more.

Expanding God's Kingdom



“Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures.
PSALM 119:90 NIV

Faithful in Provision

Dear Friend,

Almost all parts of our world were challenged in unexpected ways over the last year. Regrettably, Bible League Canada was not exempt from the turbulence caused by the pandemic. While our Ministry had to deal with sizable financial challenges, the pace of change, the magnitude of economic disruption, we celebrated the Lord's unshakable faithfulness and provision. He was faithful and continues to provide a solid foundation on which we can navigate in turbulent times.

In March 2020 the pandemic resulted in contributions from BFM Foundation pausing as all of its thrift stores closed across the country. As we were determining how to respond to this sudden and unexpected financial impact we received strong support from donor champions through increased donations. Time and time again we received gifts that evidenced your generosity and the Lord's provision and perfect timing. The combination of increased donations, moderated expenditures and relief in the form of the Canada Emergency Wage subsidies allowed us to not just survive but flourish in supporting ministries in Canada and around the world. Responding to the financial impact of the pandemic was not easy, but we can testify to the numerous times when we were able to see the Lord's hand of protection.

As we look forward to the coming year, we anticipate we will continue to have financial challenges and will have to make tough stewardship decisions. We will continue to seek God's direction, involve our ministry partners and remain committed to making decisions that support sustainable and vibrant ministry.

The Living Word Transforming Lives will continue to be an enduring focus and goal.



David

David Kraulis, CPA CA
Chief Financial Officer

We are providing a snapshot of Bible League Canada's Financial Statements for fiscal year ending August 31, 2020. A small piece of the larger journey that turns your Holy Spirit-led giving into transformed lives. These numbers are grounded in faith and with thanks to God for His provision. If you are interested in seeing our full audited financial statements, please go online to BibleLeague.ca/Accountability, email ministry@BibleLeague.ca, or call 1-800-363-9673.

THE BIBLE LEAGUE CANADA STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31 2020 2019

REVENUE

BFM THRIFT STORES	6,245,000	9,990,118
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	6,430,582	5,225,928
CANADA EMERGENCY WAGE SUBSIDY	647,170	-
PUBLICATION SALES	204,929	250,319
INTEREST AND OTHER REVENUE	27,641	37,248

God provided!

13,555,322

15,503,613

EXPENDITURES

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY	11,138,295	12,806,223
ADMINISTRATION	1,284,153	1,163,505
FUNDRAISING	1,236,115	1,493,373
	13,658,563	15,463,100

Funds directed to ministry!

11,138,295

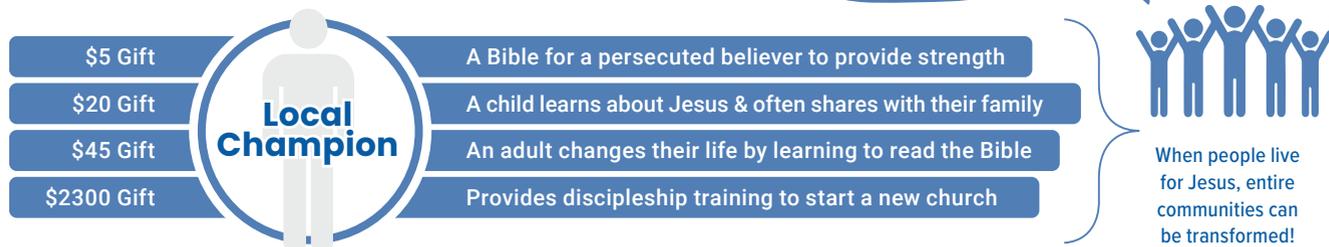
Let's Give God Thanks! By the grace of God, your donations and contributions totaling \$13.6 million in 2020 fulfilled ministry commitments to the field: \$11.1 million was directed to ministry in over 40 countries. Praise the Lord!

We are reliant on God's provision to make this happen, and

Bible League Canada's ministry model means these funds go further, and with a multiplying effect. But despite all of this cause for celebration - we still have waiting lists.

The need still outweighs the ability to fund it. God's kingdom work continues!

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT



Your Gift

Through strategic and extraordinary partnerships, your gift equips local believers through Bible-centric discipleship programs to become champions for the Gospel, committed to reaching their own communities with the Living Word of God.

82%

of all revenue in 2020 went to ministry.



One Body, Many Parts

Bible League Canada is blessed to work alongside incredible ministry partners, all faithful to the vision of seeing lives transformed by the Living Word of God.

Together, this league of champions: global champions, donor champions like you, and local champions,

“spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”

— Hebrews 10:24 NIV

The kingdom efforts of any one of these partners are good, but many, committed to working together for one purpose, is greater, stronger!

51

Number of Mission Thrift Stores

5,000*

Mission Thrift Store Volunteers

* Volunteer numbers have been significantly impacted by COVID since March 2020



What started with a few donors who chose to use what was in their hands for God's Kingdom work, has turned into 32 years of faithful and fruitful partnership with BFM Foundation (Canada) and Mission Thrift Stores.

In 1988, Bible League Canada entered into a unique joint ministry relationship with BFM Foundation (Canada) and Mission Thrift Stores.

Mission Thrift Stores convert donated used goods into cash. 100% of their net revenue supports the joint ministry of BFM Foundation (Canada) and Bible League Canada. We are very grateful for this continued partnership that has furthered the reach of the Gospel in over 40 countries worldwide.

2020 was an unprecedented year, with temporary store closures during the lockdown and subsequent compliance orders necessary to reopen, but faithful volunteers and staff took this all in stride and are working hard to simply make this new reality the new way to make ministry happen!

PARTNERS SUPPORTING OUR 2020 VISION

Abundance Canada
 BenefAction Foundation
 BFM Foundation (Canada)
 BFM Thrift Store - Abbotsford
 Brandt Foundation Inc
 Canadian National Christian Foundation
 Charitable Impact Foundation
 Christian School Foundation
 Jack and Sylvia Gin Foundation
 Jackman Foundation
 Reimer Express Foundation Inc
 Selwyn Outreach Centre
 Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation
 The John Brouwer Foundation
 The Leder Charitable Foundation

JOINT MINISTRY PARTNERS

Alkebu Leadership Development Centre
 AWANA Canada
 C2C Collective
 Crossroads Prison Ministry
 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
 LIFT Church
 Mission India
 Multiplication Network Ministries
 One Hope Canada
 Reach A Village
 Scripture Union
 The Digital Bible Society
 Tyndale Intercultural Ministries



Thank You!

When God's children are faithful to His calling on their lives, it is incredible what can be accomplished!

As a donor champion partnering with local champions around the world, your support and prayers have helped to reach millions of people with the Living Word of God.

We look forward to seeing what God will do through your support in 2021!

For more information, please visit [BibleLeague.ca](https://www.BibleLeague.ca)

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