

2026 IMPACT REPORT

Exploring the Bible Together

Exploring the Bible Together • 一起探索圣经 • एक साथ बाइबल की खोज करना • Explorando la Biblia juntos
Explorer la Bible ensemble • استكشاف الكتاب المقدس معًا • একসাথে বাইবেল অন্বেষণ • Вместе изучаем Библию
Explorando a Bíblia Juntos • ایک ساتھ بائبل کی تلاش • Menjelajahi Alkitab Bersama • Gemeinsam die Bibel entdecken
एकत्र बायबलचा शोध घेणे • కలిసి బైబిల్‌ను అన్వేషించడం • ஒன்றாக பைபிளை ஆராய்வது • Cùng Nhau Khám Phá Kinh Thánh
Sama-samang Pagtuklas sa Bibliya • 함께 성경 탐구하기 • کاوش در کتاب مقدس با هم • Nazarin Littafi Mai Tsarki Tare
共に聖書を探求する • Kuchunguza Biblia Pamoja • Esplorare la Bibbia Insieme • ਮਿਲ ਕੇ ਬਾਈਬਲ ਦੀ ਖੋਜ ਕਰਨਾ

COMMUNITY
BIBLE STUDY

This report shares how God is working through Community Bible Study to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in our communities through caring, in-depth Bible study, available to all.



Dear Friend,

Jesus's words in Matthew's Gospel give us both a calling and a promise: "Go and make disciples of all nations," and "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (28:19-20, NIV).

As we seek to respond faithfully to the Lord's commission, we see Him fulfilling His promise around the world. People gather in homes, church buildings, schools, prisons, refugee camps, offices, coffee shops, online, and under the shade of trees to explore the Bible together in caring communities where they can be known, encouraged, and supported. Across languages, cultures, generations, and circumstances, we open God's Word, knowing that He speaks, His Spirit transforms, and His Son draws people to Himself.

By God's grace, Community Bible Study served 1.4 million people in 129 countries this year, with lessons in 104 languages. More than 655,000 were children and young people. This ministry was made possible through the faithful service of tens of thousands of volunteer leaders, together with churches, denominations, schools, Bible colleges, and other ministry partners around the world.

I invite you to journey prayerfully through our *2026 Impact Report* and celebrate God's faithfulness. Behind every number is a person created in God's image and deeply loved by Him. The pages that follow reveal something of the beautiful breadth of God's work through CBS: individuals of all ages studying Scripture in person and online; those who engage with the Bible through listening and conversation; Deaf and blind participants; people with disabilities; people who are incarcerated; and individuals encountering God's Word in their heart languages.

All glory belongs to Jesus.

As we look to the future, we are praying for the privilege of serving 5 million people exploring the Bible together by 2035. This prayer is about far more than numbers; it is about more lives being transformed through the Word of God.

May we continue to study Scripture alongside one another, serving with humility, love, and complete dependence on Jesus.

In Christ,

Hélder

Dr. Hélder Favarin
CEO
Community Bible Study



Global Overview

Active Countries
129

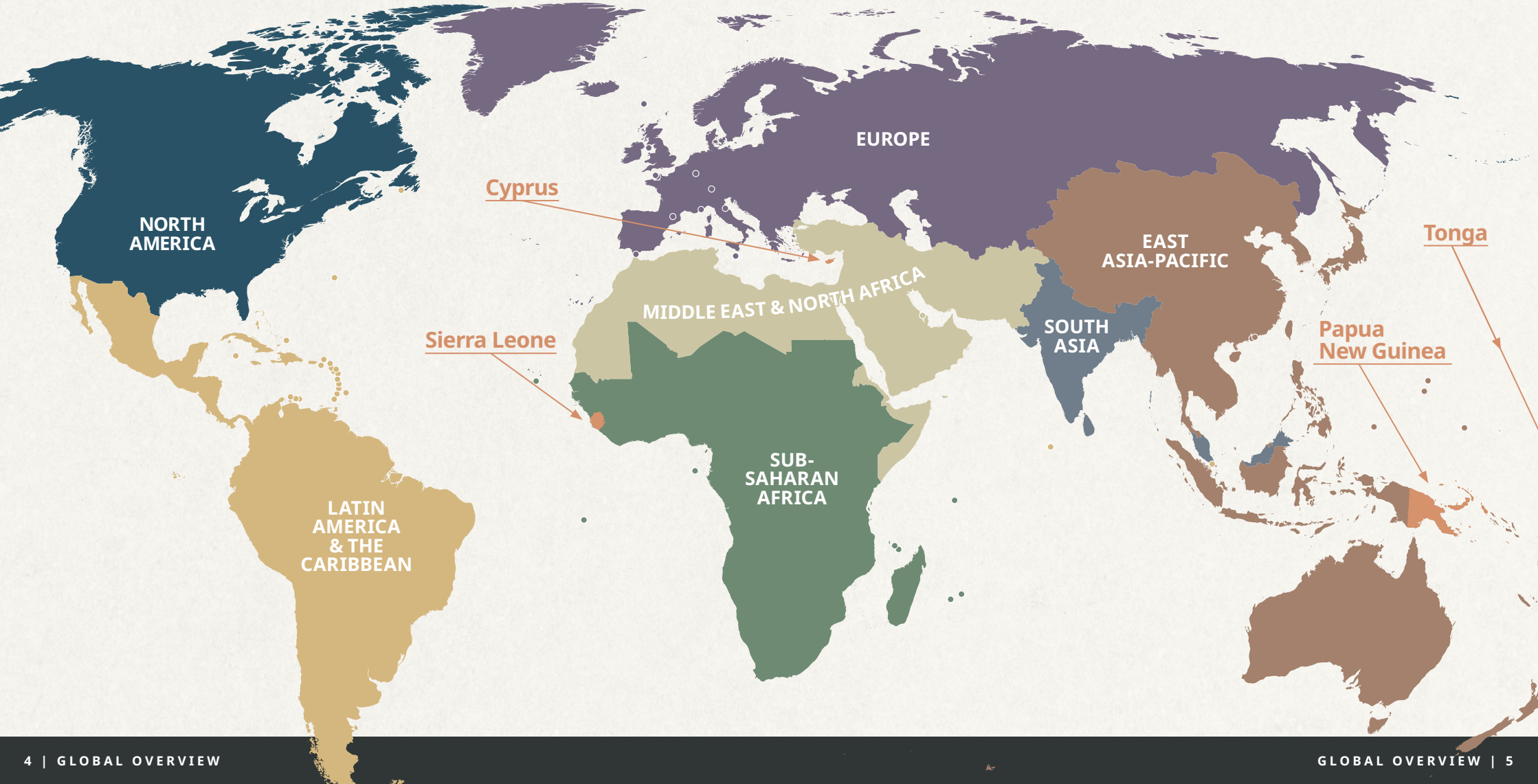
Participants
1,400,000+

Servant Leaders
78,000+

New Launches
7
4x Depicted in Map in Orange
3x Undisclosed for Security

Growth Since 2025
13.8%
279% Since 2016

Languages
104
54 Courses
1,059 Translations



Regional Overview



North America

Countries	2
Participants	99,861
Adults	77,175
Children & Youth	22,686



Europe

Countries	31
Participants	9,580
Adults	7,634
Children & Youth	1,946



Latin America & the Caribbean

Countries	25
Participants	19,487
Adults	7,922
Children & Youth	11,565



Sub-Saharan Africa

Countries	30
Participants	1,189,812
Adults	640,171
Children & Youth	549,641



South Asia

Countries	6
Participants	85,102
Adults	36,029
Children & Youth	49,073



East Asia-Pacific

Countries	19
Participants	36,735
Adults	15,893
Children & Youth	20,842



Middle East & North Africa

Countries	16
Participants	6,594
Adults	3,836
Children & Youth	2,758



Train Up a Child

CBS is reaching more young people with in-depth Bible study than ever before. Of the 1.4 million participants exploring the Bible together through CBS, 45% are children and youth! This remarkable growth reflects an incredible opportunity to help an emerging generation know God, love His Word, and follow Him for a lifetime.

As CBS families and leaders around the world pray for and equip the next generation, CBS is excited to share the impact being made on future generations through a developing ministry partnership with Compassion International.

We have a strong existing partnership with Compassion in the Philippines and Rwanda, where this ministry partner has been using CBS for spiritual formation and has tens of thousands of children already using CBS.

Through a formal agreement with Compassion that was established this year, we will have the opportunity to broaden our scope and serve more Compassion children in additional countries.



As God brings these like-minded organizations together for a greater purpose, please continue to pray that God will nudge willing hearts to act as trainers for the emerging leaders of CBS children and youth across the globe. The children of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and every seed of biblical truth planted now has the potential to bear fruit for generations.

For example, in the Philippines, one girl learned through CBS how to persevere through trials. She has grown into a Children & Youth Ministry trainer, now equipping others in their faith journey. In Malawi, a little girl exploring the Bible in CBS profoundly influenced her grandmother, who placed her faith in Jesus and turned away from witchcraft. What began in one young heart extended into an entire family and community.

Pray for this exciting collaboration and for the leaders nurturing the gospel in the lives of young people across the world.





"We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done."

Psalm 78:4

DID YOU KNOW?

35

In 35 countries, children and youth now outnumber adults in CBS.

"CBS teachings built our spiritual life because we learned both the importance of prayer and how to pray, discerning what sin is and what [it] is not, fearing sins, and abandoning them. Before attending CBS class, I was far from God. May the Lord strengthen our teachers; CBS teachings are helpful. God bless you!"

Queen, a child in Burundi

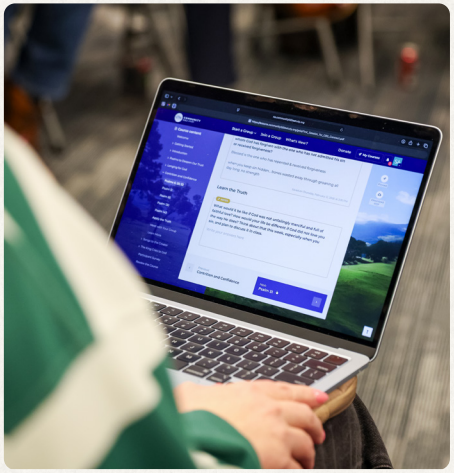


Connected by the Word

What began as a vision to make caring, in-depth Bible study available to all has become a powerful tool for disciple making around the world.

CBS Connect is a digital platform for Bible study groups to meet online or in person. It allows participants to complete daily lessons online, meet with their group via video, chat with one another, and watch video teachings.

This year, CBS Connect launched new groups around the globe. The platform is now supporting students across multiple languages and regions, including recent expansions in **Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia,** and beyond.



"This study has been a relief during a time in my life where I felt like God was silent," one participant from Brazil said. ***"[As I study Psalms] I see Him answering me despite my afflictions. I can take heart because He has overcome the world. … Thank you for inviting me to join this group!"***

This participant's experience in *Psalms* is just one of the exciting stories unfolding in Brazil. Now CBS leaders are using this platform to pioneer new ways to make Bible study available to all.

For example, as the use of CBS Connect continues to grow across the country, local leaders have filmed lessons in Brazilian Sign Language (Libras) to help make Scripture engagement accessible to the Deaf community. With access to both video chat and video content, it is even easier to share God's Word through Brazilian Sign Language. This example is just one way teams are exploring new approaches to digital discipleship, using innovation to connect more people to God's Word.



"Let us continue praying for CBS Connect leaders and participants," Eliseu de Lima, Director for CBS Brazil, said. ***"Pray that more people will be impacted and transformed through these studies!"***

The need for a digital platform has never been greater. Around the world, many people face barriers to traditional Bible studies, whether because of distance, mobility, language, persecution, or limited access to Christian resources. CBS Connect helps remove those barriers, allowing people to explore the Bible together.

DID YOU KNOW?

23

CBS Connect courses are in 23 languages and counting.

"Although I am a Christian and regularly attend church, I was not consistent in reading my Bible. Since joining CBS Connect, that has changed completely. The structured Bible study has helped me engage with God's Word consistently, even while managing my work responsibilities."

CBS Connect Participant in Ghana



Beyond the Pages

Millions of people cannot read or write, or they prefer oral learning for cultural or other reasons, realities that can create a barrier to traditional Bible study. Spoken CBS offers a new way of exploring the Bible together that removes these obstacles faced by people around the world.

In Kenya, although estimates put adult literacy above 80%, a national assessment found that 38.5% of adults failed to meet the literacy standard—nearly two in five adults.

"Spoken CBS allows us to reach out to everybody," says Steve Omo, Associate Regional Director of Programs for Sub-Saharan Africa.



"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Romans 10:17







"You can sit and listen to the story retold several times. Then, you can memorize parts of the stories and tell them to another person."

Rosemary, a CBS Coordinator for Kenya, shares that Bible stories have spread by word of mouth from families to friends and beyond in her community thanks to Spoken CBS. Through this model, *"faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ,"* as it says in Romans 10:17.

Kenya is not alone. Ecuador and the Philippines have seen spiritual growth as Spoken CBS has flourished. Josué, a CBS leader in Ecuador, asks, *"Who doesn't want to hear a story? Many people in Ecuador are drawn to the interactive nature of Spoken CBS."*

It offers a way to explore Scripture, no reading or writing required, just listening ears and an open heart.

DID YOU KNOW?

88%

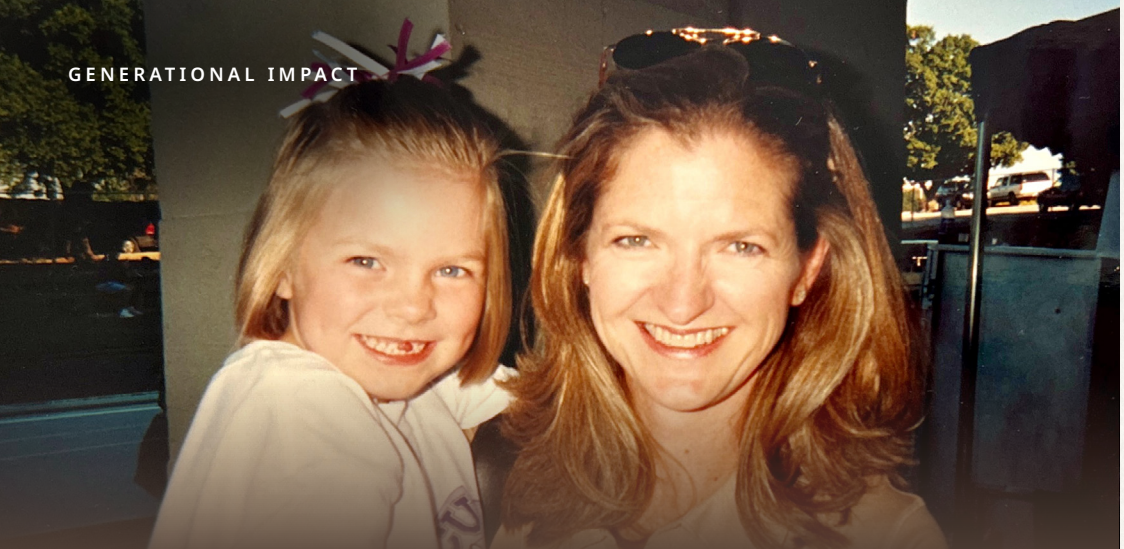
Eighty-eight percent of CBS participants surveyed shared what they were learning with someone outside their class.

"In a place where we are forbidden to carry a written Bible, Spoken CBS is changing lives. … This oral method has paved the way for us to reach the unreached."

Spoken CBS Leader in South Asia



In 2026, CBS launched in Papua New Guinea through Spoken CBS, opening the door to Bible study in a nation of many languages and communities.



From Generation to Generation

Marci grew up believing that faith was a private matter. Although she attended church, she never experienced studying God's Word deeply or in community. Her perception changed when a neighbor invited her to Community Bible Study.



What began as a reluctant visit became a life-changing discovery. For the first time, she opened the "treasure chest" of Scripture and realized the richness of God's truth and the gift of studying it alongside others seeking Him.

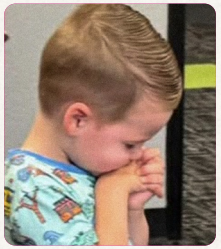
When she became pregnant with her first child, she prayed that her daughter, Rebecca, would always feel comfortable with prayer and the things of God. As she stood over her daughter's crib, she felt both the weight of motherhood and gratitude for the faithful women in CBS who were modeling godly lives.

One afternoon when they were leaving CBS, they saw Rebecca's teacher crying across the street. After Marci suggested they pray for her at bedtime, her three-year-old Rebecca responded, ***"Mommy, let's stop now and pray."***

In that moment, God answered Marci's own prayer in an unexpected way. Through Rebecca's small yet confident faith, cultivated by seeing CBS teachers pray together, Marci found the courage to pray aloud for the first time with her daughter.



Today, that little girl is raising her own children in CBS alongside their grandmother. Together, Marci and Rebecca celebrate God's faithfulness, seeing how a legacy of prayer and exploring the Bible together has been passed from one generation to the next.





Looking ahead, they pray that each generation will grow stronger in faith, not only through studying God's Word but also through living it out daily. Their hope is that every generation will have opportunities to explore Scripture deeply, as they have through CBS, and that each generation will continue to be an encouragement and testament to God's faithfulness to the next.

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations."

Psalm 90:1 (NIV)

DID YOU KNOW?

91%

Among CBS Impact Survey respondents, 91% said their course influenced how they love and serve others. This kind of transformation reaches beyond the participant, shaping homes, churches, and future generations.



Discover the Joy of Giving

Every month, a five-dollar check arrives at the CBS Ministry Service Center with the same three-word message written in the memo line: *Praise the Lord.*

It is a simple message, but it serves as a powerful reminder of one of CBS's Core Values: ***Trusting in God's Provision.***

Since the beginning, God has provided for the ministry through people willing to trust Him with what they have and has used faithful gifts like this one to make caring, in-depth Bible study available to all. No matter the amount, each gift becomes part of a larger offering of time, prayer, and financial support—given in trust that God will use it in ways the giver may never fully see.

Throughout this report, you have seen how God is using the faithful prayers, service, and generosity of many to launch classes, equip leaders, and transform lives through His Word.

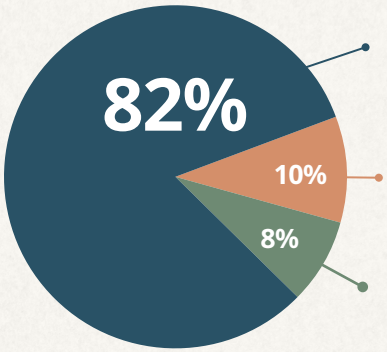
Praise the Lord is more than a note in a memo line. It celebrates God's provision, often delivered through ordinary acts of faithful generosity. As you look forward to the next year, please join in giving God the glory for the amazing, unexpected ways He has provided for Community Bible Study in 2026, and trust His provision as more lives are transformed and people continue to explore the Bible together.

"Our partnership with CBS was a God-send. ... We knew we needed to build our school and the future of our children on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ, but we needed to be equipped with the right tools. CBS equipped us with the tools to advance the kingdom of God in Haiti."

CBS Leader in Haiti

Join in God's Mission Through CBS

God provides for CBS through the prayers, service, and generosity of people like you. These gifts are faithfully stewarded so that 92 cents of every dollar you give helps people directly explore the Bible together, supporting ministry and the development of new Bible studies in local classes and around the world.



Eighty-two percent of the annual budget supports local and global ministry operations.

Ten percent of the annual budget goes to new Bible Study development.

The remaining 8% covers administrative costs.

Behind every number is a person whose life is being changed. Meera's story is one of them.

"I used to think God was only for the rich and the educated."

"My name is Meera. I'm a teenager, and I live in South Asia. Before CBS Children & Youth, I had never owned a Bible. In my family, girls don't ask questions. We just follow tradition. School was hard, and home was harder. I felt small, angry, and afraid of the future. Then my friend invited me to a CBS C&Y class. I went to be with my friend. I stayed because of the Word.

"Week after week, we studied from the Bible. For the first time, I heard Jesus say, 'I am the light of the world.' I realized light wasn't just for religious places or for others. It was for me.

"When I heard another story from the Bible, the story of the woman at the well, I wept. Jesus spoke to her—someone culture rejected. If He saw her, He saw me.

"Slowly, God's Word changed everything. My anger turned to peace. Two months prior, that would have been impossible. Today, we pray together. CBS didn't just give me Bible knowledge. It gave me identity. I'm not ***'just a girl'*** anymore. I'm a daughter of the King, with His Word in my heart and His mission in my hands.

"Thank you for praying and giving. Because you did, the light of John 8:12 now shines in my village."



FIVE MILLION EXPLORING THE BIBLE TOGETHER BY 2035.

Looking to the future, we are praying for the privilege of serving

5 million people engaged in God's Word by 2035.

Here are just three focuses that will help us get there:

YOUNG LEADERS
Launching new initiatives in each region to invest in young leaders around the world

CHILDREN & YOUTH
Investing in strengthening our Children & Youth programs around the world

CURRICULUM & LEADERSHIP
Launching new courses and investing in systematized leader development and support



Keep Exploring

Scan to see even more stories of how God is transforming lives all around the world, as we explore the Bible together.

TRANSFORMED LIVES
THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD

communitybiblestudy.org



COMMUNITY
BIBLE STUDY