



A staff member speaking to a young visitor to the Bible Society of Egypt's stand at the Cairo International Bookfair - the largest bookfair in the Arab world - which is held annually.

PHOTO CREDIT: ©BIBLE SOCIETY OF EGYPT

BRINGING SCRIPTURE TO THE MILLIONS

The Bible Society of Egypt (BSE) brought God's Word to the millions who attended the Cairo International Book Fair 2026, held at the Egypt International Exhibition & Convention Centre from January 21 to February 3, 2026.

BSE General Director Amir Elhamy reflected on the outreach, giving thanks to God for His provision and the many answered prayers throughout the event. He noted that this year's Book Fair attracted a record-breaking 6.2 million visitors. Each morning, Bible Society

staff gathered with other Christian publishers to pray before the doors opened, asking God to guide every conversation and encounter. These times of prayer and fellowship set a meaningful tone for the day and were a highlight for the team.

A key encouragement was the strong engagement from churches. Entire church groups visited the Bible Society booth, with leaders expressing appreciation for Scripture resources that support their ministries. One visiting priest praised the Step-by-Step Bible Competition booklets as an "attractive, non-traditional" tool suitable for all ages, especially for helping families study Scripture together.

Bible Society also welcomed churches that travelled long distances. A Catholic church in Minya brought 120 young people, each of whom received a copy of The Most Amazing Book. Visitors were also gifted handwritten Bible verses in Arabic calligraphy, with more than 600 verses prepared during the Book Fair as personal reminders of God's Word.

Dear Friends of Bible Mission,

As autumn settles in, we are reminded of seasons of change and of God's faithfulness that does not change. This edition of Word at Work reflects a powerful truth: God's Word continues to move, speak, and bring hope, even in places shaped by uncertainty, conflict, and deep need.

Across these pages, you will read stories of Scripture being shared publicly and courageously, at the Cairo International Book Fair, where millions encountered God's Word; among communities in Ukraine, where Scripture is carried into places marked by grief and resilience; and in Tanzania, where the Kikagulu Bible was received with song, celebration, and deep gratitude as people welcomed Scripture in their heart language.

These moments remind us that the Bible is never confined by circumstance. Whether shared through quiet conversations, given into trembling hands during times of war, sung in worship through indigenous language, or read through Braille by touch rather than sight, God's Word meets people exactly where they are. It comforts, challenges, restores dignity, and kindles faith.

I am particularly moved by the way Scripture is reaching those who have often been overlooked, people living with visual disabilities in Mexico, families seeking hope, young people asking honest questions, and communities longing for words that speak to both heart and reality. Each story is a testimony not only to perseverance, but to compassion lived out in practical, tangible ways.

Thank you for being on this journey with us as we get closer to our 180th year of Bible Mission later this year. Your prayers, generosity, and faithfulness enable these stories to unfold, helping God's Word continue its quiet, transforming work in lives and communities around the world. Together, we remain committed to ensuring that Scripture is accessible, meaningful, and alive for all, in every season.

In Christ



Neels Janse van Rensburg - CEO

A blue ink signature of Neels Janse van Rensburg.



Distributing Scripture to Ukrainians living in the war zone is a vital part of the Ukrainian Bible Society's work.

PHOTO CREDIT: ©UKRAINIAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Meaningful conversations also took place. One young man engaged in an in-depth discussion of faith, presenting 30 questions on topics such as God, the incarnation, and salvation. Staff members promised to continue the dialogue beyond the Book Fair, praying it would lead to a deeper understanding of Christ.

New and existing Scripture resources were warmly received, with thousands of subsidised materials distributed at reduced prices. English editions of The Most Amazing Book and Heroes Stories were launched to serve international visitors and diaspora communities. Across the Book Fair season, 140,000 Scripture products were distributed through the event and nationwide bookshops.

Creative engagement tools such as touchscreen Bible quizzes and app-based competitions also drew many families, with parents noting how much their children enjoyed interacting with Scripture. The Bible Society gave thanks for every conversation, every Bible placed in a hand, and every seed sown, celebrating the opportunity to share God's Word across Egypt.

BIBLE SOCIETY WORK RECOGNISED

As war continues to shape everyday life in Ukraine, the Bible Society's mission has received a rare boost. Deputy General Secretary of the Ukrainian Bible Society, Rev. Anatoliy Raychynets, has received the Ukrainian Parliament's Honorary Award for his service to the Ukrainian people.

The award is given to individuals who make special contributions to Ukrainian society. In this case, according to the Ukrainian Bible Society, it recognises the Bible Society's extensive work in bringing God's Word and spiritual support to people amid the devastation of war.

Since the beginning of the war, the Ukrainian Bible Society has worked closely with churches, pastors, and volunteers to reach people living under constant pressure from bombing, loss, and uncertainty by providing Scripture, humanitarian aid, and chaplaincy support. And demand for Bibles and biblical resources continues to increase. Pastors and volunteers contact Bible Society daily to obtain Scripture for congregations and relief work.

The award comes at a time when Ukraine continues to live under intense attacks. Despite the difficult situation, the Bible Society team continues to distribute Bibles to churches, volunteers, and military chaplains and to visit congregations.

One example is a small congregation in a village in the Kharkiv region. The congregation arose during the current war, after several previous attempts to start a church in the village had failed. Here, believers meet outdoors every week because they do not have a church building. Local



Deputy General Secretary of the Ukrainian Bible Society and volunteer chaplain, Rev. Anatoliy Raychynets, whose work has been recognised by the Ukrainian Parliament, is actively involved in distributing Bibles and humanitarian aid to Ukrainians during the war.

PHOTO CREDIT: @UKRAINIAN BIBLE SOCIETY

people call the place “The Church in the Snow.”

According to the Ukrainian Bible Society, the need for hope and the word of God is growing, even amidst the darkness of war. “We want to be worthy of this honour and continue to proclaim the good news, even in these dark times,” says the Ukrainian Bible Society.

Thank you to our many supporters who have supported the Bibles for military chaplains’ project, enabling this vital work to continue.

CELEBRATING THE KIKAGULU BIBLE

On June 8, 2025, the Bible Society of Tanzania (BST) celebrated a historic milestone with the launch of the Kikagulu Bible in Gairo District, Morogoro. Kikagulu (also known as Kikaguru).

It is spoken by the Kagulu people, with around 420,000 speakers, of whom approximately 60 per cent are Christian.

Held in the heart of the Kagulu community, the celebration brought together government leaders, church representatives, translators, and local communities. Tanzania’s Minister of Information, Culture, Arts, and Sports, the Honourable Lay Canon Prof. Palamagamba Kabudi, officiated at the launch. He described the translation as a national treasure and emphasised the importance of indigenous languages in sharing the Gospel and preserving cultural heritage.

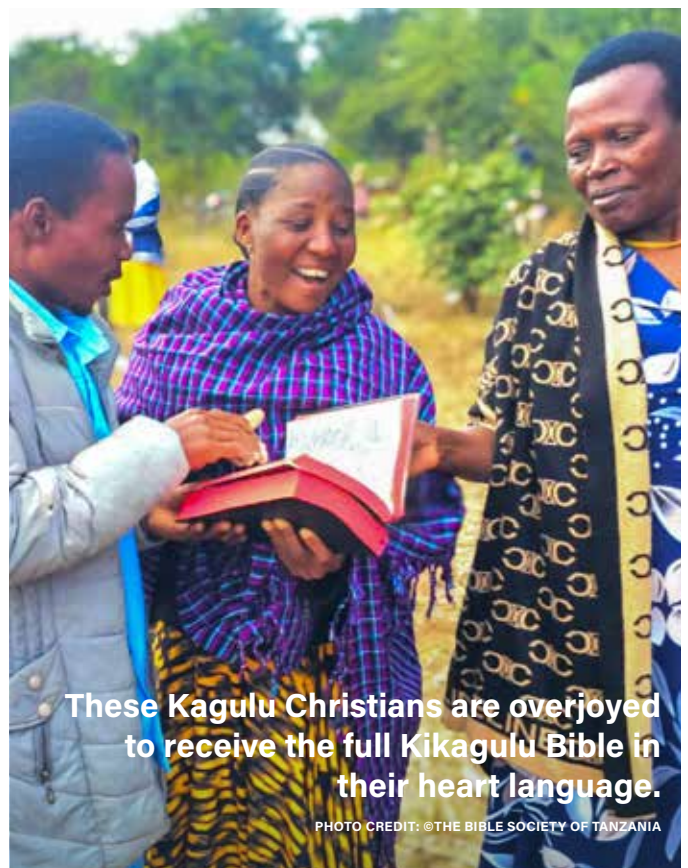
Church leaders from multiple denominations joined in unity for the occasion. Bishop Godfrey Sehaba of the Anglican Diocese of Morogoro officially blessed and launched the Bible, alongside representatives from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania,

the Free Anglican Church, and the Catholic Diocese of Morogoro. Their presence reflected a strong spirit of collaboration across the body of Christ.

The celebration was filled with traditional Kagulu songs, choir performances, and dance, expressing deep joy and gratitude. These cultural elements underscored the powerful connection between language, worship, and identity, and showed how Scripture in a mother tongue can speak more deeply to the heart.

In his closing remarks, BST General Secretary Dr Alfred Elias Kimonge thanked all who contributed to the project, recognising key translators and the editorial team for their dedication. Their work has ensured that Kikagulu speakers can now access the full Bible in their own language.

The completion of this work brings the number of Tanzania’s indigenous languages with access to the full Bible to fourteen. Altogether, an estimated 40–60 languages have access to Scripture, including New Testaments and portions of the New Testament.



These Kikagulu Christians are overjoyed to receive the full Kikagulu Bible in their heart language.

PHOTO CREDIT: ©THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF TANZANIA

THE GIFT OF BRAILLE SCRIPTURE

A generous donation of 100 Braille Bibles, gifted by a Netherlands Bible printer to the work of the Bible Society of Mexico, recently inspired a special event for people with visual disabilities (PVDs).

Held during Bible Month at the Bible Society's facilities in Mexico City, the event was themed "Connection with Heaven." On the day, around 150 participants, including visually impaired individuals and their companions, were met by volunteers who guided them to their seats in an atmosphere of joy and anticipation.

The event opened with encouragement from Julio Splinker, Secretary General of the Bible Society of Mexico, who urged participants to join in the mission of sharing God's Word. He highlighted the urgent need for Scripture among more than 80 million people in the country who do not yet know its message of hope, stating, "Together, we can bring the Word to those who do not know it."

A distinctive feature of the gathering was that several speakers with visual disabilities led the programme. They shared personal experiences on topics such as financial management, technology use, rehabilitation after vision loss, and the role of support groups. Their testimonies offered both practical insight and encouragement.

Psychologist and speaker Erika Bernal reflected on Psalm 18:28, reminding attendees, "O Lord, you give me light; you dispel my darkness" – (Good News Translation). She encouraged participants not to fear, to rely on Scripture as a guide in every circumstance, and to remain connected to God's Word in all aspects of life.

The event marked the beginning of distributing the donated Braille Bibles, allowing many participants to receive Scripture in a format accessible to them. For many, it was a deeply meaningful moment of gratitude and joy. Project coordinator Reyna Silva expressed confidence that the Scriptures would bear fruit in the recipients' lives.

The gathering was a time of unity, service, and thanksgiving, as participants celebrated the ongoing mission to make God's Word available to everyone, in every accessible format.



People with visual disabilities and their companions listen attentively at the event.

PHOTO CREDIT: ©THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MEXICO



WRITE YOUR WILL FOR FREE, IN JUST 10 MINUTES

By leaving a gift in your Will, you are sowing seeds of faith that will grow far beyond your lifetime. Your legacy can help children like Nancy in rural Kenya.

Nancy, 12, walks five kilometres to school each day. She loves counting, science, and reading the Bible. Until recently, she had to borrow a Bible, but now she has her very own. She reads it at school and home, sharing God's Word with her family. For Nancy, her Bible teaches honesty, forgiveness, and hope for the future.

Through gifts in Wills, the Bible Society can provide thousands of Bibles to disadvantaged children, giving them the same opportunity to grow in faith and wisdom.

We've partnered with Gathered Here, a trusted, free online Will-writing service. It's simple, secure, and legally valid, and you can create your Will in as little as 10 minutes, at no cost to you.

Scan the QR code or visit
biblesociety.org.nz/onlinewill
to start your FREE online Will today, at no cost.



GET INVOLVED, BE PART OF THE STORY!

There are so many ways you can help share God's Word and bring hope to others



Pray with us – join in prayer for lives to be changed through Scripture.



Volunteer with us – use your time and talents to make a difference.



Donate – help place Bibles in the hands of those who need them most.



Work with us – become part of a mission that transforms lives.

Visit our website at
biblesociety.org.nz/be-involved/
or scan the QR code to learn more — we'd love you to join us on this journey.



CLOSING WITH GOD'S WORD

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.
Deuteronomy 6:5 (NIV)*



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