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LEAVE A LEGACY

The Hensley Legacy Society (HLS) was created as a tribute to the mission and vision of EEM co-founder Gwen Hensley.

HLS honors individuals who support EEM through one or more estate gift arrangements.

A gift must be documented by EEM for membership. Estate gifts include: documented bequests, trusts, gift annuities, remainder interests in a residence or farm, life insurance, retirement accounts and more.

Each member will be presented with a special-edition Hensley Legacy Society Bible. These treasured keepsakes are a representation of the original Bibles that were printed and smuggled behind the Iron Curtain.

For more information visit eem.org/hensley



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Memorials and Honors

To see a list of recent Memorials and Honors visit www.eem.org/memorials-and-honors.

Newsletters

Newsletters are available in digital or print format. Contact us at 800-486-1818 or email newsletter@eem.org.



The Bible. We Want Everyone To Get It. SM



60 Years of God's Faithfulness

This year we celebrate EEM's diamond anniversary and reflect on our work in Eastern Europe and beyond for the past 60 years. No one would have thought the work that the original 7 couples were called to in 1961 resembled a diamond in the beginning. But, through the fire of communism and the pressure of serving under challenging circumstances, an opportunity that may have looked like a collection of carbon atoms, has been turned into a beautiful, multifaceted diamond. In the same way diamonds are formed from the heat and pressure of the earth's gravity, God used suffering and the pressure of hardship to create a ministry poised to meet the yearnings of millions of people searching to know God. From the Bible smuggling days to our current reality of

welcomed partnerships with national authorities to distribute Bibles, God has been faithful every step of the way. It's important to understand that a diamond does not make itself and that it is entirely formed by the work of God. We praise God for His faithfulness and kindness to invite us to partner with Him to change the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ. As prayer warriors and financial partners, you are part of this story, and we pray that you will continue to be part of the emerging diamond that God is creating as He brings more people to Himself through this ministry.

Be on the lookout for our 60th anniversary special edition newsletter this summer. We can't wait to share more stories with you!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Q1 2021

Pray a prayer of thanksgiving with us as we praise God for 60 years of His faithfulness and provision for this ministry.

1

Pray for more people across the globe to turn to God and be transformed by the Good News of Jesus.

2

Pray for our team to be boldly responsive to God's guidance as we continue to partner with Him to provide His Word.

3

Pray for God to raise up more financial partners to support the increase of hunger for God's Word.

4

10 YEARS WITH DASHA

This year marks ten years since Dasha Novikova began working with EEM in Ukraine. Dasha joined EEM in 2011 as the National Coordinator for Ukraine and now serves as EEM's National Director in Ukraine. Dasha oversees the distribution of thousands of Bibles and Bible-based materials into the hands of public school children and teachers across the country each year. Dasha writes, "I love the Lord with all my heart and love finding opportunities for spreading His Word in my native country. I am blessed that my work with EEM completely reflects this motive."

Since Ukraine gained its independence in 1991, many of those who did not believe that God exists have changed their mind. When Bibles are delivered to a school, students take books home to read and we receive a lot of positive feedback from their parents and relatives. Teachers, having seen the quality of these materials, use literature in the educational process and have witnessed the positive behavioral changes in the kids they serve. Dasha writes, "This state of affairs reminds me so much of the Biblical parable of the sower: We sow, and we try to do as much as possible so that the seed falls into good soil."

In addition to overseeing Bible distribution in Ukraine, Dasha has played a crucial role in cultivating and sustaining our relationship with Ukraine's Ministry of Education, supporting biblically-based events promoting spiritual and moral education through national activities like the "Young Bible Scholars Olympics." Dasha, our team in Europe, and Ukrainian authorities have been united by the common goal of

DASHA
NOVIKOVA



promoting the study of God's Word by providing Bibles for free. In the last few years, Dasha and her colleagues have been working with the Ministry of Education and Science to host educational Christian ethics seminars for teachers. Although this year we have seen a lot of changes in communication styles due to the pandemic, Dasha writes, "We had to sacrifice the joys of in-person communication, but the online platform has allowed us to reach so many more students and teachers as the numbers of participants in these activities are increasing."

We thank God for the heart and work Dasha has put into stewarding the opportunity to bring God's Word all over Ukraine. We praise God for her desire to share the love of Jesus with her country and we are excited to see what God will do this year!



SMILES OF GRATITUDE - NEWS FROM UKRAINE

We received a special note with news of men and women given a Bible through a ministry serving those with addictions and different medical conditions. A volunteer at the ministry shared, "The men and women in this program were addicts, profoundly unhappy and miserable people, but thanks to God and through reading His word, they are changing." Above are a handful of the faces of

people who now have their copy of God's Word. These six individuals serve as an example of the millions we are reaching. Your partnership in this ministry allows people the opportunity to be introduced to the source of lasting change and transformation. Bible recipient Natalya (age 28) wrote, "It has been a dream to get the Bible, I could not afford it. Thank you for this wonderful book."



THE THIEF - NEWS FROM GREECE

In March of 2020, the lockdowns began and churches were closed around the world. Most preachers and Bible teachers made the switch to sharing their lessons online. Tim was one of many Christian leaders in Greece who was using the online platform to share his sermons. Several months into this new normal, the empty hall of his church was causing him to feel sincere sadness as he prepared to deliver a lesson to a video camera and empty room. He knelt in prayer to God and asked the Lord to help him. When he finished praying, he felt a great peace in his heart and he decided to give his testimony online. Before Christ, Tim was immersed in sin. He was an alcoholic, took drugs, and went to prison for drunk driving. His parents were forced to evict him when he stole his mother's jewelry and sold them to buy drugs. This was his life until he met Jesus Christ. He became a faithful child of the Lord, moving on to help drug addicts detox and graduating from a Bible College. After nearly 20 years of being an obedient follower of Jesus, he became a preacher of a church.

As Tim preached in the empty church, he was moved as he remembered what the Lord had done in his life. His eyes filled with tears of gratitude for the love of the Heavenly Father. Tim returned home and the incident was soon forgotten. Six months since that day, Tim's church was able to open its doors again. An unknown young man entered the church and sat holding a bag in the last row of seats. At the end of the sermon, Tim descended from the pulpit and greeted the church members one by one until he reached the unknown visitor. Tim greeted him, saying, "Welcome to our church! It seems that this is your first time." The new visitor replied, "God has changed my life through you and the Word of God."

The visitor continued, "I saw you and I heard you live. But let me tell you exactly what happened. Until six months ago, I drank, smoked, took drugs, committed thefts, and even went to jail. One afternoon I was determined to buy drugs. All I could think about was finding money to buy them, and I found myself near this church. I thought there would be money inside the church to steal. Then you entered the room to start recording a lesson. I was terrified, and I hid under the wooden seats. I heard your lesson, and Jesus touched my heart. For the first time in my life, I prayed with tears. Something had happened inside me. I wanted to read the Word of God. I was no longer in the mood to take drugs. There were Bibles in front of the wooden seats. I took a Bible, promising to myself and God to bring it back to church. I studied the gospel of John all night. From that day forward, I did

not drink alcohol and did not take drugs again. I have been clean for six months. I now study the Bible and I pray. Everyone is amazed at the change they see in me. Today I am here for two reasons: The first is to return the Bible I took from you. The second reason is to ask you to allow a former alcoholic, thief, and drug addict to be part of your church family." Tim embraced the stranger turned friend as if he saw himself 20 years ago.

We rejoice over what the Lord has done in both of the lives of these men. We see over and over again how people encounter Jesus through the Word of God and find a lasting change in their lives.



520,000 BIBLES FOR KIDS

We have an urgent and exciting request from 21 nations for 520,000 Children's Bibles in 15 different languages. The majority of these Bibles are for students in public schools. Some of these Bibles will be in Farsi and given to refugee children. The Bibles For Kids matching fund hopes to deliver 520,000 Bibles to every child asking for God's Word. Typically for every \$5 donation, you would place 2 Children's Bibles in the hands of children asking to receive God's Word. Thanks to some generous anonymous donors, your gift will be doubled! For a limited time, your \$5 donation will now place 4 Bibles in the hands of these precious children!

Visit www.eem.org/BiblesforKids for more info.



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