



~~\$5 = 2 BIBLES~~

**\$5 = 4 BIBLES**

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## From March 1 - June 30, Gifts are Doubled!

Our Bibles for Kids (BFK) matching fund campaign will provide 800,000 children's Bibles in 19 languages. Your donations during this campaign are doubled and will place a Bible in the hands of 800,000 children this year.



**EEM**

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# NEWSLETTER

Q1NL22

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**EEM**

# UKRAINE AID REPORT

SIGN UP FOR OUR SPECIAL MONTHLY EMAIL REPORT AT [EEM.ORG/UKRAINAID](http://EEM.ORG/UKRAINAID)

## UKRAINE UPDATE

In February, Russia invaded Ukraine with heavy infantry and artillery. Our Ukrainian team, who had experienced similar trauma in 2014 when they were forced to evacuate their homes in Donetsk, quickly adapted as the fighting began. They fled to various locations across Europe. EEM's Special Project Manager in Ukraine Sasha Dorokhov stayed behind under national orders. He spent many days using the EEM pickup truck to assist several families to evacuate by road to reach the Polish borders for safety.

Several ministry partners in Western Ukraine have met thousands of refugees fleeing the Russian invasion. You partnered with us to provide shelter, sleeping bags, food, diapers, Bibles, and other items in demand. Hope to the People, one of the many ministry partners receiving funding for both humanitarian aid and Bibles, organized dangerous evacuation missions and set up several bomb shelters supplied with food, water, toiletries, Bibles, and Bible coloring books.

Weeks before the war started in Ukraine, a shipment of Bibles reached EEM ministry partner Island of Hope in Odessa, Ukraine. Island of Hope immediately began supplying Bibles and Bible-based materials to chaplains serving the Ukrainian military and their families.

Friends and long-time ministry partners Sasha and Vanya Prokopchuk stayed behind in Kyiv as their families fled the country to serve as chaplains on the frontlines. Together they delivered 30,000 + Bibles out of our Kyiv warehouse. We

praise God for their safety and for arranging for these two men to be there for such a time as this.

## DELIVERING HOPE IN CRISIS

What do you think is the most requested item among Ukrainian refugees: perhaps food, clothing, or shelter? According to our friends on the ground in Eastern Europe, this isn't the case. There is something more they need.

Our ministry partners in Poland and Romania who are receiving refugees and providing for their physical needs are being asked, 'Do you have any Bibles? Some of the people asking for Bibles are believers, who in the hurry to escape Ukraine, may have left their Bibles at home or given them to others who they felt needed them more. But many others, who have not previously been interested in following Christ, are seeking the hope that only He can provide.

Perhaps the refugees are seeking out Bibles and opening their hearts because of the nearness of death in time of war. Maybe it's the kind and loving hospitality of Christian ministries and churches who mobilized quickly to welcome the refugees and support them during this difficult time. Or it could be the unity exhibited by volunteers – across all denominations and cultural backgrounds – coming together in the name of Christ to serve those in need.

History tells us that times of great upheaval and displacement can be fertile ground for God's Word to take root in the hearts and lives of those who don't yet know Him. When they experience the love of Christ lived out before them, they come to know the peace of Jesus and the comfort of His Spirit. People are frightened and no one knows what to expect. There are many unanswered questions. At times like these, it is crucial to share God's unchanging Word.

We know that our friends in Ukraine have that peace and they feel our prayers on their behalf. They tell us they have been able to stay focused on sharing with others rather than being frightened by the present circumstances. Continue praying with us for their peace and safety and that this war would be brought to a swift resolution.



HUMANITARIAN  
AID AT  
SLOVAKIA-  
UKRAINE  
BORDER

## BIBLES IN GREEK PRISONS

Five years ago, EEM started providing Bibles to Christians visiting Greek prisons to share the Gospel. EEM ministry partner Patrick Usifo is among the volunteers sharing the Good News to prisoners. Patrick spent over 16 years in prison for drug trafficking and during his time there, he received a Bible and gave his life to Christ. Since the very first day Patrick was released, he has been bringing Bibles inside prisons and leading Bible studies with prisoners.

Patrick regularly visits high security prisons as he continues to share the Gospel. Recently he began to make visits to a prison housing leaders from a large, neo-Nazi organization that was responsible for killing several refugees. During Patrick's most recent visit, two men from this organization showed up eager to study God's Word. Both men asked for a Bible to take to their cell. With great joy and love, Patrick handed them a Bible. We know the teachings of Jesus and the love of God through Christians can break even the hardest hearts and bring light to the darkest of places. Join us in prayer for Patrick, his ministry, and for every prisoner to know how deep and how wide the love of Christ is!

PATRICK



## BIBLES IN BULGARIA

EEM ministry partner Miroslav in Bulgaria is responsible for distributing EEM books to villages in and near Asevegrad, Bulgaria. Hundreds of adults and children received their first Bible to take home and study. The door opened for him to provide Bibles for schools in the area and we praise God!

In 2006 there was a nuclear waste spill in Kosloduy, Bulgaria. Much of the population left because they feared a repeat of the Chernobyl catastrophe. Most of the local churches were closed, leaving very few churches open, limiting access to Bibles in the area. Books were recently delivered to churches in the area and we are thankful many will now have access to the Word of God.

CHILDREN IN  
BULGARIA



## BIBLES IN LATVIA

Victor, a Latvian-American missionary, has been delivering Bibles for many years in Riga, Latvia. Born to Latvian parents, he was raised in California before moving to Latvia in the 1990s and has been there since. Each year he receives hundreds of copies of Bibles for children and adults and he is eager to get them hot off the press to share with hundreds of people with the help of those serving with him.

After making a visit to the psychiatric ward of a prison in Riga to share God's Word and to get permission to share Bibles, Victor met a woman named Natalja working at the ward who was eager to partner with Victor to share the Bibles. Together they began to minister at the prison. We praise God for all of the open doors to share God's Word!

NATALJA (L)  
AND  
VICTOR (R)



## NEWS FROM BELARUS

One of our printers eagerly reported that despite sanctions in the nation of Belarus, EEM Belarusian Children's Bibles were printed. With God's perfect timing, we were able to provide funds to our printer there ahead of the sanctions to make sure the print of 5,000 Children's Bibles was completed.

In addition to the good news about the Children's Bibles, EEM Representative in Belarus, Andrei, recently sent us a report from EEM ministry partners living in Minsk who commute to nearby villages to share the Gospel. Andrei shared that many people are poverty-stricken in the area and respond with joy to hear the Good News and receive Bibles in their language as a precious gift.

Our ministry partners in Minsk shared, "We continue to preach the Good News to people in the villages. Last week there was a trip to the village of Chernikovshchina. In this big village, many people listened to us share the Good News. Many thanked us and invited us to come back. A woman, a seller in a local store, was hungry to know more about the Gospel. She was so appreciative of the sharing of the gospel, she treated the team to tea and coffee.

"People constantly need God, His love, salvation, healing, and comfort. We have an answer for them. This is the Gospel of Christ!"



MINSK

## BIBLES IN RUSSIA

EEM National Director of Russia, Kazakhstan, and Belarus, Oleg Yakimenko, shared a letter of gratitude from EEM ministry partner, Anatoly who is serving orphans in Ryazan, Russia.

Anatoly wrote, "Greetings, Oleg and all of

EEM! We thank the Lord that together with your team, we continue to serve orphans. With each visit, many run to greet with hugs and joyful cries like, 'I was waiting for you!', 'I love you so much,' or 'Take me with you when you leave!' It is always very heartwarming and heartbreaking.

"We understand, together with you, we are doing important work for God's Kingdom. We brought them Bibles, sweets, toys, and some warm clothes. So many of them were very happy to receive their own Bible for the first time. We will continue visiting and sharing this endless joy of the Gospel with these parentless, but not abandoned, children!"



BIBLES  
IN KZ.

## UPDATE FROM KAZAKHSTAN

EEM representative in Kazakhstan, Sasha Metso, received a shipment of EEM materials from St. Petersburg, Russia, and shared Children's Bibles and coloring books with churches in Almaty, Kazakhstan. By the grace of God, with Sasha and other EEM ministry partners in the area, 2,000 Children's Bibles were delivered with gift boxes in cities and villages throughout Kazakhstan. This means 2,000 children received Bible coloring books and Bibles that not only engage them in Scripture reading and writing scripture, but it involves and potentially capturing the hearts of their parents as well. We know God's Word is reaching every parent of every one of these children. We pray that this desire in their hearts to eagerly read the Bible will not fade away and that they will study the Word of God and apply it all the days of their lives.

## A REPORT FROM NORTH MACEDONIA

In 2019 God opened the door to provide thousands of copies of God's Word in North Macedonia. The following is a report from a representative there responsible for supplying local churches with 3,000 Bibles and Children's Bibles.

"We are joyful and thankful to God that we can spread His Word among our fellow citizens in North Macedonia. We pray continually that God will touch the hearts of Bible readers to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We want to give thanks from the bottom of our hearts to all the people who have not spared their money to invest in this ministry to provide this precious book that allows people to get to know the Creator and Savior of mankind.

"Over the past year, we were able to distribute over 3,000 Bibles for children and adults who expressed a desire to read God's Word with local churches. So many received this gift joyfully. Not only were we able to provide God's Word for those living in our nation, but we were even able to reach Macedonians beyond the borders of our homeland in Germany.

"One minister among many in North Macedonia delivering Bibles shared, 'Because of the provision of free Bibles from you all, believers from the churches all over North Macedonia had the opportunity to be bearers of the Good News of the Lord with Bibles to share. Large numbers of the community hungry for God's Word were unable to afford a Bible. You all provided a way for them to have God's Word when they would otherwise not have access to it. Without you, we would not have

access to share it.'

"Another ministry partner delivering Bibles in North Macedonia was a woman named Maja. Maja was leading training for nurses at the Red Cross in North Macedonia. She was training 15 women from the southeastern region of our country. God gave her the opportunity to tell them about His love and His great sacrifice on the cross for the sins of humankind. They listened with joy and longing to learn more about our merciful God. Before completing the training, she offered to give a Bible to each of them. Every one of them asked for God's Word and Maja was able to provide a Bible to all those who expressed a desire to read it. Maja was grateful to God for allowing her to give the women a Bible through EEM."



## PRAY FOR UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

1

Ask God to intervene. Pray for wisdom as world leaders maneuver, strategize and speak out. Pray that God would move in their hearts and guide their steps and plans.

2

Pray for peace, comfort, and protection to cover the people of Ukraine, Russia and surrounding nations.

3

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

4

Ask to see God's glory amid this great struggle. Pray that God would be glorified through the people of Ukraine and Russia who are following Him.

*"A spark of faith has been ignited in many hearts during the war and the pandemic. These events make us think about eternity - about our future. As Christians, we must use this time and this opportunity to share the Gospel with people in all possible ways."*

Lida, Ministry Partner in Ukraine

We are so encouraged and inspired by ministry partners like Lida and their passion to share the Gospel. When you pray and give to EEM, you are equipping faithful servants like Lida in Ukraine to share God's Word with those who are hungry to know Him.



## CONNECT WITH US



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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](http://eem.org/hensley).

### Memorials and Honors

To see a list of recent Memorials and Honors visit [www.eem.org/memorials-and-honors](http://www.eem.org/memorials-and-honors).