

P.O. Box 800 Lititz, PA 17543 www.PTL.org



# TRUE HOPE Annual Report 2022



# WHY TRUE HOPE?

Dear League Member,

It gives me great joy to share this report with all of you – we are two years into our **BIG HAIRY AUDACIOUS GOAL** of reaching 30 million people in 3 years.

These past two years have been amazing! They truly have been years of Hope.

Why would I dare make such a declaration, especially these two past years? Because brave and courageous followers of Jesus continue to answer His command to "Go & Make." And as I speak with them, pray with them, and listen to them – the word Hope resonates.

To be clear, each individual situation is different and for many very difficult. Some face extreme violence. Others face governments that each day increase restrictions they must overcome. Still others are caught up in a multi-century culture of exploitation. Yet in every situation, they share their determination to share Jesus - HE IS THE ONE TRUE HOPE.

And it works. This year, more than 10 million people will be invited to meet Jesus – with the very living Word of God. Stories have poured in. Stories from our Members, stories from Partners, and even stories from those who have downloaded the **READ CARRY SHARE® APP**.

When I consider these 10 million in 2022 alongside the 8.6 million invited in 2021 – that means almost 19 million people of our 30 million goal have been reached!

I try and wrap my mind around that number. One way to think about it is that every hour, of every day, for the last 730 days – almost 1,100 people are engaged with a Gospel of John.

But it is each person that is important. Many a preacher has said, "If you were the only person on the planet, Jesus would have come and died for you." God loves us one-by-one.

The following pages highlight each of our six focus areas, including what each region is facing - and how the Hope of Jesus is meeting those challenges. I also highlight key partners, and other ministries that we are excited to work with.

Finally, I want to thank each and every one of you. You give me hope - hope that we can respond to the challenges God has laid before us.

Your brother in Christ,



David Collum President/CE0

Jame Collen\_

The Pocket Testament League

Canada "One day one of the cashiers at a local grocery store looked very sad. The next time I saw her in the grocery store, I gave her a Gospel of John and talked to her about the comfort Jesus gives. She willingly took the Gospel and it became the door to a new friendship." – Virginia, Canada

1.2M

542

USA "I felt from the Lord not to argue. He had said 'no' to the offer of a Gospel, but we talked. Actually, I mostly listened to him. I offered him a Gospel again, and he took it, saying, 'I'll read that. I hope I will meet you again.' I replied, 'I hope I'll see you again too.' He rode away on his bicycle and I was glad I had been gently persistent." — Michael, USA

> Brazil "Through the Gospel books, thank God, people have surrendered to the Lord. People ask to take a Gospel book to family members and even the children want the Gospels. I thank God because lives have been saved, and that's why I need to continue evangelizing with the Gospels and I can't stop!" - **Ezequiel**, Brazil

• Blessings of Hope

• Pre-born & Care Net

Groundwire

• Big Life

#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

- Urban Hope NYC
- C12
- Convene
- DRP Performance

**USA** "He opened up and told me that he used to go to Sunday school and he went to Vacation Bible School when he was a child. As he reached out his hand to accept the pocket Gospel, he told me that he wants to get back to learning about God and he will read it."

- Shannon. USA

AMERICAS 3 million people invited

#### IT IS NEVER TOO LATE – DON'T LOSE HOPE

In the midst of a culture war in America, one thing remains true - the sovereignty of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the Truth of His Word. The world today may seem to be on the brink, but time and time again, the Bible reveals these are the moments God acts.

In the last 12 months:

- Thousands of League Members and Partners, from coast to coast and from Canada to Chile, have come together to invite more than 2.8 million people to meet Jesus with pocket-sized Gospels of John.
- 0.2 Million people across North and South America have experienced God's Word through the **READ CARRY SHARE® APP.**
- As we turn to the next 12 months, we have an opportunity to reach 2.7 million more people with the hope and truth of God's Word. Are you in?

#### **RELATIONSHIP TRUMPS RELIGION**

When it is cold outside people seem to be in more of a rush than ever. Even so, I've noticed that more people are taking the precious pocket Gospels of John from me.

I reach out to simply hand the little Gospel booklet to them, while I'm praying they will take it and maybe even stop and listen to how Jesus is the only way to heaven.

Today I made my way out of the park near my home and over near the Post Office. Being blind, I use my white cane to guide me to a car I hear parked and running. I then tap on the window as I wave the pocket Gospel, hoping the person opens the window so I can hand it to them.

Not everyone opens their car window, but this time Dan did!

I simply held out the Gospel and Dan actually got out of his car. I began speaking the Gospel to him while weaving in some of my own life story.

Dan told me he is 30 years old and has been a nominal Catholic for most of his life. Like others I have spoken with, Dan thought his good works would be sufficient to get him into Heaven. Dan told me he has a good friend who he observed as a drunk for many years and who had recently put his faith in Jesus and had a complete life

I asked Dan to open the Gospel booklet and read John 3:1-7 aloud. Dan agreed with the Word that he is a sinner and no religion could save him. Dan bowed his head and trusted Jesus to be his Savior.

Numbers represent the number of people reached with the Gospel.

10,000 - 100,000 100,000 - 1 M <10,000

1.5K

28.6

1.4K



- Gail B., Westerly, RI 5 | The Pocket Testament League

# **WESTERN EUROPE, AFRICA & WESTERN MIDDLE EAST**

4.4 million people invited

In 2022, in Africa, 1.4 million individuals were invited to meet Jesus through great partners: African Enterprise, Reach the Rest, and Global Voice of Prayer. In Ukraine – since the war started 6 months ago – more than 1.2 million people have been invited to meet Jesus across Western and Eastern Europe - including Ukraine, Russia and surrounding countries. Additionally, 1.8 million people experienced the Gospel of John through The League's **READ CARRY SHARE® APP**.

> Population growth estimates predict that 50% of the planet's population will be on the African continent by 2050. We are building a continent-wide network of on-the-ground partners across Africa, the Greater Middle East, and Europe who are committed to reaching people for Christ with the very Word of God.

> > In 2023 we already have requests for more than 3 million Gospels to be shared.

#### **DARE I HOPE LIFE MIGHT CHANGE?**

It doesn't matter if I am talking with someone from Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe...the people on the ground who Love Jesus, Love God's Word, and have a Heart for their brothers and sisters who don't know Christ — all of them speak of offering Hope. They know that the people they meet wonder if they can have a new life. I picture them wondering if they should even dare to hope.

Which is what I think this young man may have been thinking as he watched his friend being baptized. His friend, who after reading the Gospel of John made a decision for Christ.I love him, sitting on the beach, reading the Gospel, all the while watching his friend who is daring to Hope.

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## <u>Africa</u>

Yesterday we ministered to someone in the cells at Northmead police station for buying a stolen phone. He was there for a while and said his case was complicated and had no one to help him. We led him to Christ. Prayed for him and believed God for a miracle. By 18:00 hrs, he called me and told me he was set free. He was released. The owner just dropped the case. What a mighty God we serve. — League Partner in Africa 418.5K

31.8k

17.5K

20.21

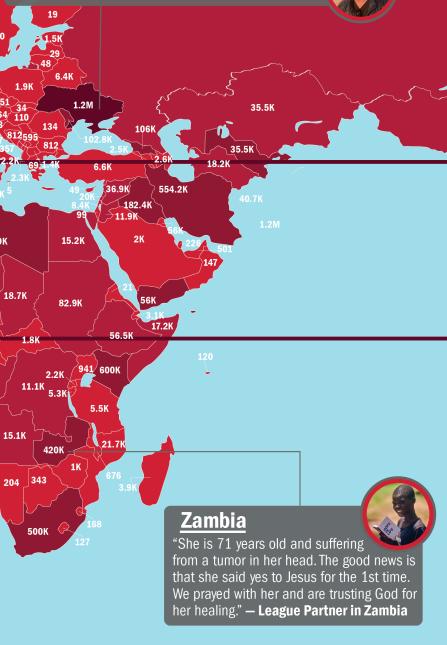
107 96

10.9K

#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

- African Enterprise
- Reach the Rest
- Global Voice of Prayer

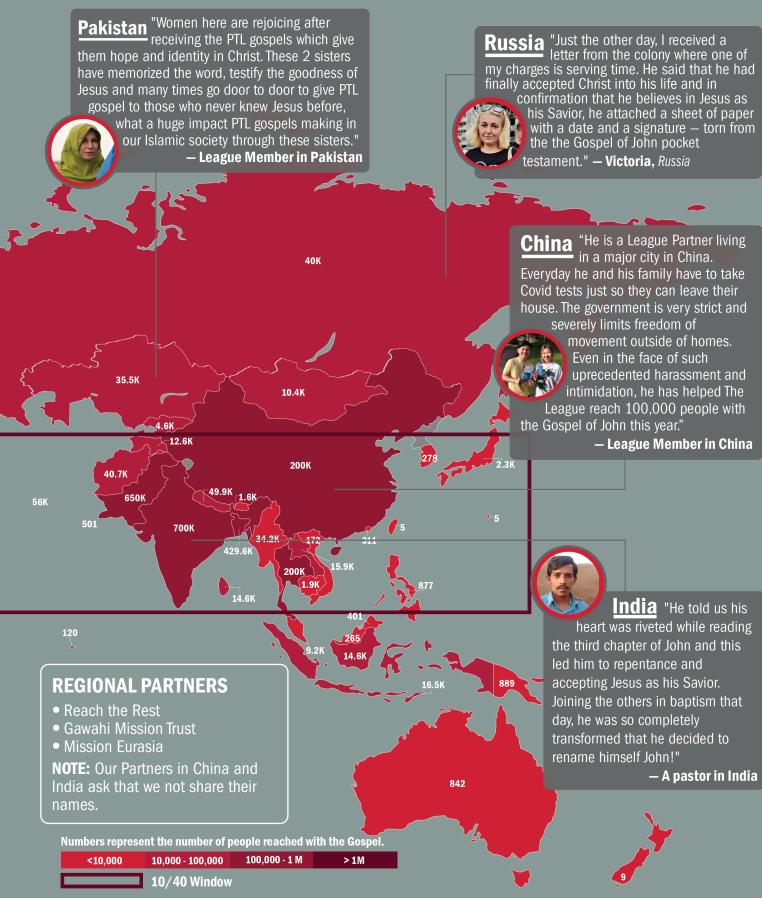
**Ukraine** "Every night he went to bed thinking he might not wake up the next day. Explosions were heard often and a missile hit Maksim's house. Fortunately, his family was hiding in the cellar at that time and survived. He started thinking about God and eternity after the missile hit. He says he believes God exists and He protected the family but has never had a personal relationship with God. Maksim was very happy to receive the Gospel of John and will read it to learn more about a personal relationship with God and how much He loves him" - League Partner in Ukraine



Numbers represent the number of people reached with the Gospel.

<10,000 10,000 - 100,000 100,000 - 1 M > 1M 10/40 Window

## EASTERN EUROPE, EASTERN MIDDLE EAST, CHINA, AND INDIA 2.6 million people invited



DARE WE HOPE THAT GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN? I opened my "WhatsApp" message from India to the news that one of the evangelists who use Gospels of John was burned to death...by his wife, son, and others. He refused to convert to Hinduism

> In China, where just a few years ago we were working to support evangelists with Gospels that numbered in the millions. much has changed. Today, we've trained Chinese Christians on the principle of stewardship, and they are raising the funds to support the sharing of God's Word in their own country.

> for two hours for his daughter's wedding.

the Greater Middle East.

The stories pour in. One vivid image was a video of people in the Middle East walking through the night with flashlights and backpacks – singing. They are each carrying a case of Gospels on their back, singing Psalms and prayers as they cross the mountains into Iran.

Another story is from a man in Afghanistan being groomed as a suicide bomber. After a malfunction during his first attempt, he saw Jesus in a dream. He went to others looking for an explanation – no one had one. He saw a commercial about Jesus and where he could receive a Gospel of John. He drove 23 hours on his motorcycle to receive God's Word and meet Jesus.

Then there are the stories of women. usually pictured head-to-toe in their burkas holding Gospels of John. They ask we pray for their safety, that they won't be beaten...or worse.

Remarkably, while I try and understand, they press on.

In 2023, we already have requests for more than 2 million Gospels to be shared.

8 | The Pocket Testament League

Is hope in Jesus greater than the fear that grips us? People are being killed in Ukraine. Chinese citizens are starving because they cannot leave their homes. Christians in India are being persecuted and burned alive for their steadfast faith. Through all of this, God is moving to save His people.

• More than 1.4 million people have received a printed Gospel of John invitation in Pakistan, China, India, and

• And 1.2 million people have been invited through The League's **READ CARRY SHARE**<sup>®</sup> **APP**.

# **OUR BHAG: 130 MILLION PEOPLE INVITED TO MEET JESUS WITH WORD OF GOD BETWEEN 2019 AND 2028!**

# 2019 - 2020: "12 IN 2"



🔁 12.5 million people invited

in 46 Countries

## **CURRENT GOAL:**

# 2021 - 2023: "30 IN 3"



19 million people invited... and counting. In 2023, we aim to invite 12 million people.



in over 200 Countries

# 2024 - 2026: "46 IN 3"



As we look ahead, we are aiming to invite 46 million people in 3 years

in over 200 countries

# 2027-2028: "42 IN 2"

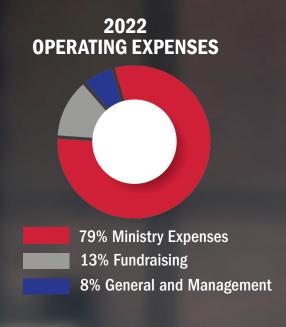


To complete the vision, beginning in 2027 we are aiming to reach 42 million people in the final two years.



in over 200 countries

# **FOR EVERY 37 CENTS, A PERSON IS INVITED TO MEET JESUS WITH THE** WORD OF GOD.



We're proud to be held in good standing by these Independent third-party organizations:

CHARITY

ree Star Charit





79% of The League's operating expenses go directly to mission. If you would like a more in-depth look at our financial information, please email your request to giving@ptl.org.

**OUR FINANCIALS** 

### **2022 OPERATIONS SUPPORT & REVENUE**

94% Contributors 6% All Others