

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

INSPIRING
STORIES
OF GOD'S POWER AND
FAITHFULNESS

SHARED BY MEMBERS OF
THE POCKET TESTAMENT LEAGUE

Volume Eighteen
2023

THE
POCKET
TESTAMENT
LEAGUE®

INSPIRING **STORIES** OF GOD'S POWER AND FAITHFULNESS

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Volume Eighteen
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Published by The Pocket Testament League.

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**THE
POCKET
TESTAMENT
LEAGUE®**

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Undaunted is the word that comes to mind as I hear from our Members and Partners, brothers and sisters in Christ, that are engaged in mission.

Last year the word was **HOPE**. Globally and at home, amid challenging years, people sharing Gospels of John were full of hope. Those receiving Gospels of John were responding to the person of hope – Jesus.

Hope is still radically present, but I am sensing something **DEEPER**. It is the utter determination of our Members and Partners to reach the world for Christ while universally facing opposition or worse.

This opposition takes on many forms:

- In **India**, evangelists and pastors, equipped with Gospels of John, have been beaten, jailed, and given their life to reach their countryman for Christ.
- In **Pakistan**, as the Taliban's reach spreads, Imams are being told to sell women and girls in sexual slavery. Instead, they are finding Jesus, in the Gospel of John.
- On the **African continent**, in the face of corrupt governments and widespread violence, they keep asking for Gospels.
- **Digitally**, The Pocket Testament League's Read Carry Share® APP is being downloaded over **25,000 per day** in the spiritually darkest places on the planet.

- In **America**, amid ridicule and ridiculously coordinated efforts to remove God from everything, rather than be marginalized, Christians are sharing Jesus.

In every location, as opposition grows, members and partners are **UNDAUNTED**. Collectively they have presented a 2024 mission of reaching **16 million people** with God's Word.

In the following pages, stories and numbers seek to provide accountability to you and unpack what God is doing through you.

As I share this report, what strikes me the most is how, universally, Jesus's followers are not backing down. They are moved by the love of Jesus that they have received and are determined, even undaunted, to share it.

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Collum". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David Collum
President/CEO
The Pocket Testament League

A TEN YEAR VISION

Sharing Jesus with 130 Million People from 2019 - 2028

As we wrap up 2023, we are on pace to reach 130 million people in 10 years. Together, we have sought to lead people to True Hope by sharing Jesus. True Hope that boldly faces challenges like persecution and even death with zero fear. Jesus Christ, the one True Hope, has gone forth into the world because of the courage, faithfulness, and investment of League Members like you. Lives are saved. How has this happened in the last 5 years?

It starts with READING



77.9 Million+

*daily engagements of people reading
the Word of God*

which leads to CARRYING



41,240

people using this simple repeatable method

...that results in SHARING and INVITING



44.2 Million+

people to be reached with the Word of God

in OVER



240+

countries & territories reached with the Gospel

ALL OF THIS TAKES A TEAM - MEET YOUR TEAM

League Members remain Undaunted and passionate about sharing God's word. We partnered with Trevecca Nazarene University and the Barna Group to get insight into our community.

What characteristics are found in our community of League Members and Partners?

GENEROUS

100 percent of Members' Sponsorship requests were fulfilled this year.

LOVE JESUS

In a nationwide survey conducted by Barna inquiring about

the faith and religious practice of the American public, 72% of born again Christians nationwide report that religious faith is very important in their lives today vs. 99.2% of PTL Members.

LOVE HIS WORD

75% of PTL Members read their Bible daily vs. 58% percent of born again Christians nationwide.

Barna had noted in a previous study that reading God's Word is a leading indicator for sharing one's faith and that holds true for this phenomenal group of Christ-followers.

HEART FOR THE LOST

50% of PTL Members share their faith weekly.

88% PTL Members experience joy and contentment after sharing their faith.

PTL Members are diverse in their outreach and share the Gospel especially in the following areas:

- **Elderly (36%)**
- **Homeless Persons (35%)**
- **Children's Outreach (28%)**
- **Workplace Outreach (26%)**
- **Prison Ministry (21%)**

This global movement of Christ-followers, who are inviting millions to meet Jesus through the pages of His Word, is a pretty incredible group of Christians. Their love for God's Word and passion

for reaching those who are far from Him, rings out in every story they share with us.

This year alone,

13+ Million people were reached with the Gospel,

4,757 new Members joined the team, and

872 stories of lives changed reported.

But it doesn't stop there...

PARTNERS IN UNLIKELY PLACES ARE STEPPING ON THE GAS

The League's network includes partners from all over the globe, who love Jesus, love God's Word, and have a heart for the lost. They are reading, carrying, and sharing God's Word. The League partners with people.

...people who are like Daniel in the Bible!

People God has placed in strategic positions, leading ministries, businesses, and key parts of government - to share God's Word using their networks. These partnerships accelerate reaching the world for Christ.

From 2019 through 2023, hundreds of Partners invited more than 31 Million people to meet Jesus.

- Reaching America
- The Continent of Africa
- Russia, Ukraine, and throughout Eastern Europe
- China
- India
- Pakistan & The Greater Middle East
- Every country in the 10x40 Window

And they are just getting started!

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

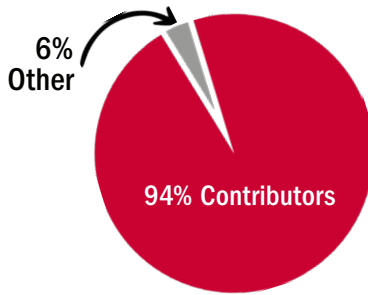
We know you care that people are invited to meet Jesus, but sometimes, it can be hard to know where to invest most effectively. We understand. It's why we at The League we are so focused on doing work efficiently using a simple cost-effective model that works for anyone.

Our team is virtual. No building, minimum overhead, with a constant focus on cost-effective excellence.

In fact, over 83% of PTL's total operating expenses went to directly to mission, serving Christ-follower who are actively sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world every single day. And this effort is fueled by the generosity of Christians like you.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT & REVENUE

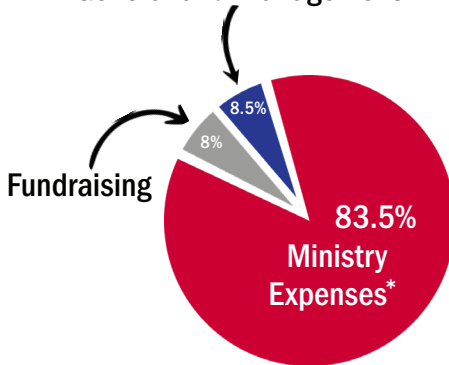
based on FY 2022 audit



OPERATIONS EXPENSES

based on FY 2022 audit

General and Management



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



*83.5% 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.

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INSPIRING STORIES

Most of us, as Christians, struggle to share Jesus. We easily become frustrated, overwhelmed, or even feel guilty if we do not share or sharing doesn't go as expected. At The Pocket Testament League, we understand. That's why we created a simple method to sharing Jesus that works for anyone.

It all starts with the Gospel of John.

Be encouraged as you read powerful stories from Members telling us how God led them to share about Jesus with their neighbors, customers, family members, strangers, and more. Together, we are advancing God's Kingdom.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

John 15:12

REACH AMERICA

MASTER CARPENTER

Elizabeth had just received her supply of pocket Gospels in the mail, and she was carrying a handful with her as she walked down the street. The very first person who crossed her path was Gary, a man in his early 60s wearing a backpack. Elizabeth shared,

“Gary was taking a casual walk not far from where he was staying at the local Tourist Park campground. I stopped, introduced myself, and simply handed him a pocket Gospel.”

As they spoke with one another, they found an immediate connection regarding conversations about faith. Interestingly enough, several years ago Gary had discussions about Jesus and faith with another woman who happened to have the same last name as Elizabeth and was also from the same area as her. As Gary thanked her for the pocket Gospel, Elizabeth thought this meeting was no coincidence:

“He confided he didn’t have the confidence to talk to anyone about Jesus. I told him the enemy wants to shake his faith because he could be a wonderful influence to help others meet Christ with the Gospel at the campground.”

Elizabeth handed Gary several more Gospels and asked him if he would prayerfully consider simply giving them to people at the campground. He put them in his backpack and said he would. Gary handed Elizabeth one of his business cards and encouraged her to call him anytime. As she looked down at the card and read his professional title, a smile came across her face:

Gary's title on the card read, "master carpenter". Elizabeth reflected, Gary is a carpenter, and Jesus is the true Master Carpenter who crafted their meeting...Indeed He is!

Elizabeth S. from Canton, MI

EAGERLY DEVOURING THE GOSPEL

Tiffanie faithfully offers invitations to meet Jesus to hundreds of people each month. On a recent holiday weekend, Tiffanie was at a community event where she distributed over 150 hygiene bags which included pocket Testament Gospels of John.

Eager to receive the bags, a young man and his sisters each enthusiastically grabbed their bags. Without hesitation they opened their gift bags to discover the enclosed "goodies". A delighted Tiffanie explained,

“The first thing the young man did was to take out the Pocket Testament! And he held it proudly in his hand.”

Tiffanie asked the smiling young man why he took the book out of his bag first rather than some of the other items. He responded because “I’m a believer”!

Tiffanie excitedly told the young man she is a believer as well and how happy it made her to see his excitement in receiving the pocket Gospel.

As the kids left Tiffanie watched him, in line at a nearby food booth, eagerly reading the Gospel.

Tiffanie T. from Seattle, WA

A CHRISTMAS LETTER

This past Christmas, Charissa prayed about what to write in her Christmas letter and had the idea to include pocket Gospels. With plenty on hand to send with her letter, she used her extras to share with people locally. Charissa wrote:

“Most people can agree that we all want good health and hope, yet, both seem harder to come by these days.

It seems that everywhere we look the news is worrisome, at best.

Charissa went on to tell her family and friends that frequently when she meets people, she offers them a copy of the Gospel of John, saying that since the world often feels hopeless these days, she wants to share “this book of Hope and Life.” Charissa continued,

“Since I often receive a serious response regarding the state of the world and a grateful response when receiving the gift of the pocket Gospel, I’ve decided to include Gospels of John in my Christmas cards this year as well.”

She encouraged other believers on her Christmas card list to offer their copy to someone God brings across their path. She also provided The League website address in case they would want to order more Gospels. Charissa concluded her letter,

“To those dear friends and family who do not know Christ, my hope and prayer is that you may open these pages and discover abundant life, hope, joy, and peace.”

Charissa L. from Windham, NH

THE REST IS UP TO GOD

As a member of the Pocket Testament League, Dave's heart aligns with all League members.

He has a heart for the lost.

He keeps a stock of pocket Gospels on hand so he is always ready to invite anyone God brings his way to meet Jesus with the Gospel. Dave recounted:

“A couple of days ago a friendly, young man showed up at our door. His purpose was to sell us solar roof panels to generate electricity. We had quite a conversation, even though my wife and I weren't interested.”

After a bit, the conversation took a turn and Dave asked the salesman if he was saved. The man mentioned that he was a member of the Catholic Church. Dave told him being a member of a church is fine, but he still needed to be born again. Recalling the conversation, Dave continued,

“I reached for a pocket Gospel, simply handed it to him and invited him to read the booklet through. I encouraged him to carefully read the beginning pages first.”

Dave told the young man that the Gospel contains all he needs to know to be saved. The young

salesman contemplated Dave's words and replied that he would read the Gospel that night.

Dave simply offered the small Gospel booklet, planted the seed by inviting the young man to read it, and exclaimed, "Now the rest is up to God"!

Dave C. from Mashpee, MA

CARING AND PRACTICAL ENCOURAGEMENT

Garrett and his wife Beth have been inviting people to meet Jesus with pocket-sized Gospels on a regular basis for many years. They carry whatever Gospels they have available and go out with the attitude that God will provide what each person needs! Garrett explained that the Lord always does and gave this example:

"The other day my wife and I went to a restaurant, as we often do. We always take copies of the Gospel of John with us to share. That day we had with us the last pocket Gospel from our most recent batch."

Garrett and Beth went in, sat down, and struck up a conversation with two ladies at the next table. It turned out that they were a mother and daughter

and were members of a nearby church. Garrett described the conversation:

“We simply handed them the copy of the Gospel we had with us. It was one of the large print versions, and it had a cover that fit their needs.”

Garrett explained that the mother needed large print for reading, due to eye problems, and both ladies needed the comfort of knowing someone cared about them. The daughter had previously had cancer and was facing the results of tests she had recently completed. God’s timing in this was perfect!

Garrett and Beth encouraged the women to read the Gospel daily.

They are trusting God that the Gospel booklet would provide the practical encouragement the women need to read God’s Word on a regular basis.

Garrett and Beth H. from Woodbridge, VA

THIS WORLD IS NOT OUR HOME

Ida lost her only child, her son Presley, in 2014. Since then, she has been plagued with depression, anxiety, and PTSD. She reached out

to God, met Him in His Word, and He continues to help her through the pain of her tragedy and her difficult living conditions. She expressed,

“I live on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Arizona. The number of us living in poverty, in subpar homes, without basic necessities such as running water, electricity and gas, is unbelievably high.”

Ida explained that she lives in a unique area where there is a dire need for Christ. She lives in town where there are many alcoholics and people with addictions. Ida shared,

“I like to give these little pocket Gospels to people I happen to run into while doing errands. People appreciate receiving the Gospel.”

Ida carries the pocket-sized Gospels and shares them with people on the street corners, the homeless, and the poverty stricken. She offers water, food, the Gospel, her story, and prayer. She encourages people to meet Jesus in the Gospel. Ida strongly believes:

“These little Gospel booklets can be read, carried, and shared very simply. The Gospels offer hope and are a reminder that we are not forgotten,

***that we are loved, and this world is not our home,
so we will not live like this forever.”***

Ida K. from Whiteriver, Arizona

CONFIDENCE FROM THE WORD OF GOD

Having a passion to reach the lost, Pete especially appreciates the pocket-sized Gospels of John with the plan of Salvation illustration in the front of the booklet.

Pete excitedly said,

***“The Gospels provide people with both the map
for entering a relationship with Jesus Christ and
the help they need to establish roots in their
faith. Simply outstanding!”***

Pete’s confidence comes from having the Word of God in his hands, so he walks up to strangers and simply offers them a free gift to open a conversation about God’s most precious gift, His Son. He explained,

***“Sometimes the conversation can go into deeper
discussions, and sometimes it does not last
very long.***

***But I always have the joy of leaving in their hands
the Gospel of John.”***

Pete meets people from all walks of life, from businessmen and bikers, homeless and housewives, to Hindus and Muslims. When Pete has an opportunity to share the message of the Gospel with someone, his goal is clear:

I want to offer the love of Christ and simply talk with them about Jesus.

The pocket Gospel is a great segue after a discussion.

Each person keeps the Word of God for his or her own to read.

Pete C. from Carlisle, PA

A VERY EXCITED STUDENT

Victoria, a new member of the League, has a passion for the lost and joins the thousands of League members who confidently invite people to meet Jesus by sharing the Gospel of John. She described,

***“Today, street preachers proclaimed the Word on
my college campus.***

It was AWESOME! As students in love with Christ, we are missionaries on our university campuses.”

Victoria was so excited to learn about The League and to have access to pocket-size Gospels of John. She exclaimed:

It blew my hair back! I'm so grateful to be equipped to share God's Words to the youth because so many have never heard the Gospel. Hallelujah!

Victoria I. from West Palm Beach, FL

THE JOY OF SHARING THE GOSPEL

Jeff has been reflecting on the joy he felt when he became a new believer. He has noticed that when others become new believers, they seem to experience the same feelings he did as a young Christian. Jeff recounted that new Christians exude a sense of joy, fulfillment, and excitement with a glow about their face.

Jeff realizes that sharing the Gospels brings him the same fulfillment and excitement he felt as a new believer. He described the joy he experienced in a conversation he had recently,

“Recently, I happened to run into a man who has a ministry to the homeless.

I was so excited to share with him about The Pocket Testament League. told him about the Gospels of John that I share.”

Jeff gladly gave the evangelist all the PTL materials he had because he wanted to help the man start sharing the Gospels of John in his ministry right away. Jeff shared,

“I want other Christians to know that giving out the Word of God in the pocket Gospels of John brings that same sense of joy, fulfillment, and excitement as when becoming a new Christian.”

Because Jeff experiences that same joy when he shares the Gospels, he declared,

“That’s exactly how I feel when I help people come to know Christ.”

Jeff H. from Straw Plains, TN

HERITAGE

As believers, we have our heritage in Christ, and as humans we all come from our own lineage here on earth. The Poarch Creek Indians of Atmore, Alabama have a storied history and heritage as well. Elizabeth was recently invited to a tribe event

and she described the opportunity she had to share the Gospel:

“I had the privilege of being invited to their 50th Annual Pow Wow where I enjoyed beautiful dancers performing from tribes who convened in Atmore from all over North America and Canada.”

Elizabeth spent time talking to visitors and the tribal vendors and handing out The Pocket Testament League Gospels of John. She noted that the children especially loved receiving the booklets.

Elizabeth was welcomed as she shared with two American Indian women school bus drivers, who were waiting for children to complete their field trip.

Not having the Gospel in their native language, Elizabeth gave them one in English.

Some of the Indian tribal representatives did not want to look at Christianity because of the dark history they perceive was caused by Christians. The right and wrong treatment of the Indians was not Elizabeth's focus that day, so she redirected the conversation to their spirit life and what they believed. When allowed, Elizabeth shared the Gospel message with them and declared with delight,

“No one, absolutely not one of them, turned down the PTL Book of John! And they were offered a Heritage in Christ!”

Elizabeth S. from Canton, MI

ABOUT HALLOWEEN

As many Christians often do, Kathy had struggled with how to handle Halloween festivities that are annually celebrated. Kathy recalled,

“I was struggling with what to do about Halloween. I wasn’t sure if I should participate in giving out candy because of the dark and demonic nature of the holiday.”

However, after praying about it, Kathy decided that giving out the Gospels of John on Halloween would allow her to participate in a way that honors God. She told this story,

“On a balmy Halloween night, I was giving out Gospels of John and candy and a small child and mother came to our door.

I said, “I have a treat for you!” and I gave the little child candy and a Gospel of John.”

The mother was shocked and asked Kathy if she had given her child a Bible. Kathy explained to the mother that the booklet is a part of the Bible. Kathy recalled,

“The mother began to weep and explained that she was going through a divorce and struggling terribly. I took it as an opportunity to pray with the woman.”

Kathy brought glory to God by offering her the comfort and peace that can only come through Jesus. And Halloween took on a whole new meaning for this troubled woman.

Kathy B. from Levittown, PA

SALVATION AT THE STATE FAIR

Dan and Kathy set up booths at local and state fairs where they share Gospels of John. They ask people if they know if they will go to heaven when they die.

Recently at the Louisiana State Fair, in Shreveport, receiving a Gospel of John, 117 people thought about that important question enough to decide to choose going to heaven to spend eternity with Jesus when they die.

Like so many before them, Treavon, Tyrese and Kris entered Dan and Kathy's booth and they had no idea whether they would go to heaven or not. Their curiosity was sparked by the banner outside the booth and caused them to enter and explore what the question could mean for them personally.

After looking into the Gospel of John, the three of them looked at each other, and then at Dan and said, "So, what do we do?"

They all prayed to receive Christ as their Savior.

Treavon, Tyrese, and Kris were willing to see what the Bible has to say about how they could go to heaven. Dan and Kathy, using the Gospel of John, carefully explained how Jesus made it possible for them to choose to go to heaven after they die. And Dan told them praying for Jesus to be their Savior made all of them brothers and family. That put a big smile on everyone's face!

Dan and Kathy D. from Ft Scott, KS

SIMPLY SHARING FROM HOME

As part of the community of believers who love Jesus, are passionate about sharing their faith, and choose to offer a Gospel of John as a gift, Carmine declared enthusiastically,

“I love to tell people about Jesus, and I find the Pocket Testament League Gospels are such a great way to do this. The booklet covers are all so beautiful, and people love to receive them.”

Carmine’s ministry is mostly from home, where he shares the Gospel with people who come to his door. He loves to invite repairmen and delivery people to meet Jesus with the Gospel. Carmine confided,

“When I pray for a divine appointment, the Lord is always faithful to answer. I am always so blessed to be able to talk about our Lord and Savior.”

Carmine M. from E Brunswick, NJ

GOD BRINGS THE WORLD TO YOU

Erik and his wife Sarah have shared the Gospel of John in various parts of the world. Sarah took Gospels to France for the Olympics, and then they both went to the Olympics in Japan and shared the Gospel there. Erik and Sarah have shared Gospels in other parts of Europe, as well. Erik explained,

“Nowadays, things have changed for us. We aren’t traveling so much. I used to drive a truck and invite people to meet Jesus with the pocket Gospels.”

When my job changed from driving, I thought I was just “stuck” in the warehouse.”

But God has a perfect plan. He knows Erik’s heart for sharing the Word, and He brought the world to him!

“These days, God brings the world to me. The truck drivers come to the warehouse from all over the globe. They open the Gospels I offer and read them in their own language.”

Erik feels that God uses him to “drop the seeds”. He explained that most of the time people take the pocket Gospels with them. He described that one driver showed Erik that he still had the pocket Gospel in his truck a year after receiving it. Erik is amazed at how God brings the world to him to receive the Gospel!

Erik and Sarah G. from Leola, PA

ON A MISSION TO REACH A FAMILY MEMBER

Katherine and her mom traveled to Atlanta to visit Katherine’s 88-year-old aunt. They brought a pocket Gospel with the cover, “Heaven, Will I See You There?” and were on a mission to reach Aunt Louise with the message of new birth and

salvation in Christ. Katherine retold the events of the visit,

“All during the three-day visit, my mom and I kept telling Aunt Louise that we did not want her to miss going to heaven with us. We gave her the pocket Gospel and repeatedly discussed eternity.”

After repeated pleas and references to heaven and eternity, Aunt Louise’s heart finally softened and yielded to Jesus. On the last morning of their visit, Louise read over the first few pages of the pocket Gospel that explain salvation in Christ. Finally she prayed the sinner’s prayer in the booklet. Katherine disclosed,

“Louise revealed that it was the Gospel cover and the message of the cross inside the testament that opened her heart.”

On the last morning of our visit, Aunt Louise said,

“It’s the Lord is my Shepherd from here on out.”

Katherine B. from Fort Mill, SC

DO YOU LIKE TO READ?

Trying to figure out the best way to approach someone and offer them a Gospel of John was prominent in Richard's mind. He explained a method he attempted,

“I was visiting a Presidential Library, and I asked the person standing in line next to me, “Do you like to read?””

The person waiting in line responded that yes, they like to read. So, Richard used that as an entryway to give them a Gospel of John. Richard described,

“The visitor then looked very carefully at the Gospel considering its contents and reading while passing the time in line.”

Since that encounter, Richard always asks people whether they like to read and noted that this is a great way to offer someone a Gospel of John.

Richard C. from Galt, CA

HAVE YOU EVER READ THE BIBLE?

Rindo loves Jesus and is passionate about sharing the Gospel of John.

He simply hands people a Gospel saying something along the lines of:

“This is a book of the Bible.

Have you ever read the Bible?”

People often tell Rindo that they’ve read some of the Bible when they were younger. He explains to them that the Bible is made up of many different books and this book, the Gospel of John, gives them a direct explanation of how they can be saved. Their sins can be cleaned up and taken care of. Rindo conveyed,

“Learning there is a way for their sins to be washed away usually causes people’s eyes and ears to perk up, and they express, “Oh! I want to read that!””

Rindo is delighted at how many people will open the Gospel and start reading immediately. Some have even asked him questions about the content. He is happy to play a role in God’s plan for the lives of others.

Rindo B. from Medway, MA

HEAVEN CITIZENSHIP

Etienne feels it's important to merge his business and ministry to have what he calls a "business-try" that is linked to Eternity and is Kingdom minded. He's retired, but driving people is his post-retirement job. Etienne shared,

"I meet people from many walks of life, and I divulge my 4 citizenships: birthplace Switzerland, Eternal home Heaven, marriage in France, and current home Canada. I specify the most important is to have the assurance of being a child of God and receiving a Heavenly citizenship!"

When his customers enter Etienne's car, they see in large letters across the window shield facing the back seat, the following question: Has anyone ever told you that God loves you and that He has a wonderful plan for your life? Etienne explains,

"The sign with the question is to get people thinking before I talk to them. Toward the end of the ride I say to my clients, "Excuse me, may I give you a pocket-sized Gospel of John?"

Etienne has Gospels available in English, Spanish, and French. Most of the time his riders accept them. In the past year Etienne has shared about 2,000 pocket Gospels with his customers, and he usually has 1 or 2 good conversations with

people a day. Many individuals even allow him to pray for them; often for salvation to join a Heavenly Citizenship.

Etienne Z. from Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

SALVATION NOW AND THEN

Don trains hundreds of men to share their faith with the pocket Gospels of John. He travels to many cities holding M.A.D Live Events and Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conferences. Recently, he equipped 314 people to begin sharing their faith with the Gospel of John as part of their everyday lifestyle. Don recounted,

“I also try to be faithful to share Gospels myself with those I meet. This year was my 24th at Daytona Bike Week, and I offered the pocket Gospel to motorcycle riders, vendors, police officers, veterans, and restaurant servers.”

Salvation is for Now...

While Don was personally sharing his faith with the pocket Gospel, one man surrendered his life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in repentance and faith!

Salvation is for Then...

At a recent Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference, with 700 men in attendance, Don was approached by a man who told him that fourteen years prior, at a M.A.D. Live Event for Youth, his son was saved, received the pocket Gospel, and he is now a pastor!

Salvation is timeless.

It is for Now and for Then.

Don S. *from Johnson City, TN*

SALVATION FOR MY NEIGHBOR

Richard lives in the third largest populated zip code in his city.

His neighborhood is multi-cultural, and he is blessed to know precious neighbors who have moved to his neighborhood from all over the world.

Richard views his city and neighborhood as a mission field. Amazingly, the Lord has brought the world to him. Richard and his wife have prayed for their neighbors for years and spent time developing relationships with them. After getting to know one of his neighbors, Richard explained,

“I shared a Gospel of John with him and invited him to attend church with me. He started reading the Gospel, went to church with me, and gave his life to Christ. He continues to read his Pocket Gospel of John and is growing in Jesus.”

Richard G. from Ohio

SALVATION FOR ETERNITY

Ron loves Jesus and is passionate about sharing his faith with others.

He volunteers at a local Pregnancy Resource Center, so he can spend time talking with the dads and sharing Gospels of John.

Today, while engaged in conversation with a young man about his life, Ron asked if he knows Jesus to which the man replied yes. But then he mentioned that his relationship with Christ “could be better.” Ron went on,

“This was a great opportunity to share what a genuine relationship with Christ really is versus just knowing something about Christ.”

With focused interest, the young man listened intently as Ron took the time to explain the plan

of salvation as outlined in the front of the pocket Gospel of John. Ron expounded,

“I asked the young man if he would like to have a personal relationship with Christ. He replied, “yes”, and we prayed together for his salvation.”

This young man left with his own pocket Gospel and salvation for eternity.

Ron P. from Panama City, FL

SALAVATION MESSAGE RESPONSE

Sakariah is part of a church mission team that goes into the downtown community of their city every Sunday afternoon to offer Gospels of John.

Sakariah finds that people respond to learning about and meeting Jesus in the Gospel. Sakariah shared,

“Recently, our church team took Gospels of John to a community outreach event. At this outreach, we approached and invited attendees to learn about Jesus and His love for them. 7 people responded to the Salvation message and gave their lives to the Lord!”

Sakariah C. from Oklahoma City, OK

SALVATION BEGAN WITH A GOSPEL COVER

Mary Ann and her husband Del offer workshops to train Bible Institute students to share their faith.

The students learn to introduce people to Christ by reading over the plan of Salvation in the front of the pocket Gospel.

Not long ago, a woman from Minnesota was on vacation in the area where the students were witnessing about Christ. The woman was simply offered a pocket Gospel, and she stopped to engage in conversation with the students about Jesus. Mary Ann recalled,

“The woman was given one of the newer covers of the Gospel booklets with a bunny on the front. Her salvation story began because, as it often happens, the cover caught her attention.”

That day the woman’s life was changed for eternity. She spent time listening to the students explain that there is only one way to Heaven through Jesus. The plan of salvation explanation in the Gospel caused her to receive new life in Jesus Christ. She told the students she plans to always carry the Gospel of John with her.

Mary Ann B. from Harrisburg, PA

SALVATION THROUGH GOD'S LOVE

Douglas is thankful for the pocket Gospels of John that provide a simple way to open a conversation with someone about Jesus. Douglas explained,

“Recently, I shared the Gospel of John with a lady at work. Lately she has been attending a church and reading through the Bible but didn’t really understand how much God loves her.”

The woman revealed in conversation that she was dealing with a lot of addiction issues, and she had experimented with the occult. She thought that she just needed to learn to love herself more to solve her struggles. Douglas explained,

“I helped her see that God loves her more than she could ever know and learning to love herself more wasn’t the answer. The only answer is in salvation through God’s love and Jesus’ sacrifice for her.”

The woman opened her heart to Christ, and her spiritual eyes were finally opened to see that she could only find real peace in Jesus through God’s love.

Douglas B. from Tampa, FL

SALVATION THROUGH GOD'S HELP

Helen has been sharing the beautiful Gospels of John covers throughout New York City. Recently she and her brother Robert went into their community and found people who would listen and share their need for God's help. Helen revealed,

“Many we engaged in conversation had never read the Gospel of John. So, I simply handed them a pocket Gospel, encouraged them to read it and told them they are in for an adventure!”

Many people Helen and Robert spoke with confessed they were unsure of the future for themselves and their children. People revealed how much they were struggling in the uncertainty and recognized they need God's help. Helen described,

“Along the way we met a young man named Jose who was sitting on the sidewalk. Jose was smoking and became embarrassed when we approached. We told him it didn't matter to us. We just wanted to give him something from God.”

Jose put out his cigarette and began to tell Helen and Robert that he had just been talking to God because he realized his life is going in a wrong direction. He desperately needs God's help. Jose had never read the Gospel of John. Helen exclaimed,

“It was a Divine appointment as Jose listened intently to how much Jesus loves him. Realizing we were not there to judge him, Jose surrendered his heart to Jesus, and we prayed for him.”

Helen B. from New York, NY

REUNITED IN CHRIST

Ann spent some time in the Dominican Republic recently, working in partnership with a church pastor there. They shared Gospels of John in Creole. One Haitian man was overwhelmed with delight to receive a portion of the Bible in his own language. Ann recalled,

“There were so many salvation stories on that trip. In one week, our mission team reached 1,901 people who became new believers and received the Gospels.”

In addition to the Creole Gospels, another 150 Spanish language pocket Testament Gospels of John were shared with people who were hungry to receive the Word of God. Ann told a story about one family that was impacted in a profound way,

“Hearing the Gospel, one husband broke down and confessed his adultery, recognizing his need for forgiveness and for Christ in his life.”

Reading the Word in the Gospel, he asked Jesus to forgive him and save him from his sin.”

That day his family was reunited through Christ and his wife happily accepted the Gospel of John in Creole.

Ann R. from Sealy, TX

FOR THOSE SEEKING HELP

Harris volunteers with an organization that sets up booths in various locations at events to offer goods and services to help people in need. The volunteers always share the Gospels of John at the events. Harris described,

“Low-income families come to our events to receive free diapers. There’s an opportunity to get what they need physically, and we offer what they need spiritually.”

They also give the Gospels to people through their local community. People who are trying to survive on very little income visit the organization where Harris volunteers to receive housing and food resources. Harris explained,

“I often get the chance to pray with people after I offer them a PTL large print Gospel of John.

It's a perfect time to introduce them to Jesus in the Gospel."

Harris is grateful to share with many who are seeking help the good news of Jesus Christ, God's promise of forgiveness of sin, and eternal life as explained in the pocket Gospel of John.

Harris R. from Sierra Vista, AZ

PRAYER AND THE GOSPEL

David has been sharing Gospels of John in restaurants for several years.

He always leaves a nice tip for the servers along with a Gospel of John.

He has had many good experiences when offering Gospels in a restaurant.

David offers to pray for his servers when he orders food. His experience has been that they are usually grateful. One particular instance stands out in his mind,

"One day after my waitress finished taking my order, I asked if there was anything that I might pray for her.

Her eyes began to well up with tears, and she had a list of people she wanted prayer for.”

David’s server left to put in his order, and when she returned, she had his food and also brought with her one of the kitchen workers. The two of them sat at David’s table for a while. He prayed for them and their requests. He recalled,

“The waitress and kitchen worker were so grateful for the prayer. I gave them both Gospels of John to take and read. They told me they will read them.”

David feels confident that the Gospels of John he leaves in restaurants will get opened because the tip is inside. He prays they will be read, and people will meet Christ in the Word.

David T. from Murray, Kentucky

A MULTIPLIED EFFECT

Recently, Jeannine was in a restaurant and felt God leading her to share a Gospel of John with the teenage girl and her friend who were sitting across the restaurant. Jeannine recalled,

“I took a step of faith and offered the girls the Gospels of John.

Shortly after returning to my table, one of the girls approached me and asked, “Do you have any more of Gospels? The covers are beautiful, and I want to share them!”

Jeannine keeps Gospels in her car, so she offered to go and get some for the girls.

She had plenty of Gospels, so she brought back quite a few to give the girls. One of the girls started walking to various tables handing out several Gospels right there in the restaurant.

Jeannine exclaimed,

“My one step of faith immediately had a multiplied effect with several people receiving the Gospels of John and the opportunity to be invited to meet Jesus in God’s Word.”

Jeannine S. from Franklin Sq, NY

THE GOSPEL, COFFEE, AND BASKETBALL

John faithfully shares the pocket Gospels in his community. Sometimes he meets a friend for coffee to encourage him and help him find hope in our troubled times. A few of their current meetings stand out in his mind,

“Recently, while returning home after church we decided to get coffee at a local fast-food drive-thru. One of the servers caught our attention.”

The young server, who brought their coffee to the window, seemed especially agitated about something. John paid for the order and included a tip with a Gospel of John. John explained,

“The young man seemed shocked and asked if this little book was meant for him to keep.”

John not only told him to keep it, but he hoped he would read it.

John always tells people that the things written in the Gospel booklet changed his life and he hopes they will allow it to change their life too. Currently he has been watching the Gospel of John change the life of a troubled teen in his neighborhood.

John revealed,

“A friend of ours started a basketball team for youth in our area. We offered the young players Gospels. One of the boys has begun to read from his Gospel of John daily.”

Having no prior knowledge of Jesus, the young man has even attended church with John a few

times, and he is beginning to learn the truth of the Gospel.

John Z. from Nova Scotia, Canada

LINED UP TO HEAR ABOUT JESUS

People line up early at the DMV and sometimes stand in line for a couple of hours.

Often a hundred or more people who are standing in line listen to Timothy's testimony, hear the Gospel message, and receive a pocket Gospel of John.

Timothy has been preaching the Gospel outside his local DMV every week for more than 10 years. He always announces to the crowd that if they have ever thought about reading the Bible but don't know where to start, the Gospel of John is a great place because it tells the "who, what, why, where, when, and how" about Jesus.

Then Timothy begins to answer those questions for the crowd from the Gospel.

He also asks the question, "How does someone get into Heaven"?

He opens the Gospel to John 3:16 and provides the answer.

Timothy says that this quick summary of the Gospel message elicits a lot of interest from the people in line and piques their interest in reading the Bible. After the message, he offers everyone their own pocket-sized copy of the Gospel of John.

Timothy K. from Temecula, CA

THE BEST GIFT EVER RECEIVED

Sometimes Bibles are hard to give away, but people often seek out Reverend Robert to ask if they might have one of the pocket-sized Gospels of John he carries with him.

Reverend Robert shares the pocket Gospels at his local church's food and clothing pantry. People respond to and love the attractive and interesting Gospel covers. Reverend Robert conveyed,

“One woman broke down in tears and said, “I haven’t had a Bible of any kind since I was 8 years old. I will forever treasure this one.”

Another woman amazed Reverend Robert. He recalled that she was not well dressed and not well kept. He confessed that, “Yes, this old flesh

sometimes freely judges people by sight.” He explained that he seriously doubted the woman had ever been inside a church before. He went on,

“When I handed her a pocket Gospel, she opened it up, looked through it, and smiled! She said, “You know Reverend, I come to the pantry for food and clothing, but this Gospel is the best gift I’ve ever received here!””

Reverend Robert A. from Wilder, KY

HOT DOGS AND GOSPELS

Leonard and 3 of his friends started handing out free hotdogs on a street corner to build relationships with the people who passed by.

After a while people began to recognize them as the guys handing out hotdogs, so they included a pocket-sized Gospel of John along with the hotdogs. Leonard recounted,

“We’ve had such a good response from people showing interest in reading the Gospel. Even if they are quickly passing by, they are hungry for the Word.”

Leonard described that people come and go as they pass the street corner. Some are in a hurry

to get to their destinations, but seemingly never in too much of a hurry to receive the Gospel.

Leonard explained that one girl, in her twenties, had tears welled up in her eyes when he handed her a pocket Gospel.

She told him that it is exactly what she needed.

Leonard asked her if she wanted to talk, but she replied that she was in a hurry. She was in a hurry, but it didn't detour her from accepting the Gospel.

Leonard M. *from Manitoba, Canada*

PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY WELL

Monie ordered 500 pocket-sized Gospels of John and took them to Cameroon; located at the junction of western and central Africa.

As she shared the Gospels on this trip, Monie gathered many wonderful stories.

One day Monie went to a hospital filled with people who were terminally ill. She offered people the pocket Gospel and invited them to meet Jesus. Monie revealed,

“One lady I met told me she was going home soon because her illness was terminal, and there was no medicine that could help her. Despite her condition, the lady had a beautiful smile.”

The woman introduced Monie to her two children and sister who were gathered around the bed reading the Bible. Monie gave each of them a Gospel and together they read several verses and prayed. Monie then described,

“As I was leaving, a 16-year-old girl who had heard some of what I had been saying asked if I would tell her the story I told the family. So, I took out a Gospel of John and began to tell her about Jesus.”

The young girl had not heard about Jesus before. She was so thrilled to learn about Jesus’s love and what He had done for her. She believed and prayed to accept Him as her Savior.

The young lady said she was scheduled to be discharged because she was diagnosed as physically well, but now she was also going home spiritually well.

Monie F. from N Andover, MA

DETERMINED TO SHARE JESUS

Helen made plans to visit a friend who she had known for many years. She had been sharing Christ with him for a long time, and that day she was determined to clearly invite him to meet Jesus using the PTL Gospel of John. She prayed this would finally be the day he would listen and respond. Helen recalled,

“I told him he is such a nice person, but being nice or good will not get him right with God. I carefully explained the Gospel and pointed out various scriptures to him.”

With deep conviction in her heart, Helen then asked if he wanted Jesus. She joyfully explained,

“He looked at me and said, “Yes I do want Jesus”. I repeated it twice to make sure he understood, and our friend again repeated that he wanted Jesus.”

Even though he had prayed asking for forgiveness, Helen felt compelled to return the next day. She wanted to make sure he was clear on what he had done because his eternity depended on it. Once again, he said yes to Jesus and confirmed that he understood his decision. Helen shared,

“Our friend commented that the people in church have a job to complete in bringing the Word about Jesus to people.

He was glad that we came back to visit and that I gave him the pocket Gospel.”

Helen B. from New York, NY

AMEN AND HALLELUJAH!

As a husband-and-wife ministry team, Jerry and Keli use the Gospels of John to take the Word of God to people in their area.

They provide pocket-sized Gospels to a local church-sponsored laundromat called “Laundry Love”. This unique Christian-owned business is a place where people can wash their clothes for free. It is often frequented by homeless people in the area. Jerry recounted,

“Every week, we put a fresh supply of Gospels of John along with other Christian materials on a shelf in the laundromat for anyone to take and read.”

Recently, upon entering the laundromat, they discovered the shelf was almost empty again.

After refilling the shelf with more Gospels, they noticed two Hispanic men seated and focused on their phones. Jerry approached and offered each man a Gospel of John in Spanish. They both

accepted the Gospels, and one of the men smiled at him. Jerry and Keli proclaimed,

“The only thing we can bring with us to Heaven is other people who hear and believe the Gospel of Christ Jesus.”

Amen and Hallelujah!

Jerry and Keli H. from Goldsboro, NC

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

As the camera snapped his picture, the man proudly held his graduation certificate and his pocket-sized Gospel of John.

Tracy was equally proud of him. He had completed the training program designed to equip and empower him for better work opportunities as well as hope for a better future and life. He would leave the rehab facility a renewed person. Tracy revealed that the photo she was taking of him would be sent to his mom.

He was so excited for his mom to know that, through his newly completed training and his new knowledge of Jesus Christ’s love for him, he is ready for a fresh start.

This recent graduate put his Gospel to work and his faith into practice. Tracy explained the Gospel of John is incorporated into the training program the men receive. Just that morning the man had been sharing a portion of scripture with his group.

Tracy stated,

“Preventing homelessness by helping this man find work along with praying for spiritual encouragement through the Gospel of John are now part of his hopeful future.”

Tracy T. from Casselberry, FL

SHARING GOSPELS FOR MORE THAN 15 YEARS

Jackie is dedicated to helping people meet Jesus with the Gospels of John and encouraging other Christians to do the same. Everyone needs sustenance for their body, and Jackie knows that everyone needs nourishment for their soul as well. She expressed,

“The homeless and hurting are hungry and need food for both their bodies and their souls. Through my ministry at church, I have seen these needs filled.”

Jackie puts Gospels of John in goodie bags for the homeless and includes them with meals for the families who come to her church ministry “Family Promise.” Additionally, Jackie described how she helps others who need food for body and soul,

“I share Gospels of John at the housing complex for elderly and low-income people where I live. At our weekly gathering we enjoy donuts, coffee, and reading the Gospel.”

Recently at a meeting, Jackie was sharing the Gospel, which led to a wonderful discussion and time of prayer. At the conclusion of the gathering almost everyone wanted to take an extra pocket-sized Gospel to give to a friend. Jackie exclaimed,

“Everyone needs food for their body and soul and that’s why I have been sharing the Gospels of John for more than fifteen years.”

Jackie B. *from* Richmond Hill, GA

DRIVING OUT THE DARKNESS OF HALLOWEEN

For the past 7 years Brent’s family has made the choice to put on a neighborhood Halloween outreach event they call “Shine the Light of Jesus”. Brent explained,

“We want to show our love to the local community

by giving away snacks, drinks, toys, and candy for the little kids. But most importantly, we give them the Gospel of John.”

Brent’s family tries to go big with the event each year, so they recruit others to donate candy, serve as volunteers, and provide prayer support before and during the event.

Brent explained,

“On a minimal budget and with a heart to serve in the name of Jesus, we provide all the children with a Gospel of John and PTL’s “God’s Words to You”. We have been amazed at what God has done through our event.”

Brent, his family, and volunteers are intentional to cover the Gospels and the event in prayer each year. They pray to be a blessing and to show love to people on Halloween. Brent expressed,

“We don’t celebrate Halloween. We do let the light of God drive out the darkness around a holiday that others celebrate.”

Brent B. from Lynden, WA

ONE SOUL SAVED IS SO WORTH IT!

Expecting that God would do great things on Labor Day weekend, Randel and his men's group set up a booth with Gospels of John at the Fayette County Fair.

The men were prepared with more than 200 pocket Gospels and other Christian materials. Over the span of the 4 days, 164 people met Jesus as their Savior. One young boy really had an impact on Randel. He came to their booth with an older man, and Randel revealed that the young boy warmed his heart,

When asked if he would go to Heaven if he died today, the boy said, "No, because I've never accepted Jesus".

Randel asked if that bothered him and the boy said, "Yes."

Randel walked the boy through the salvation message in the Gospel of John. He asked the boy if he understood and wanted to accept what Jesus did for him on the cross. The boy understood and said yes, he wanted Jesus in his life. Randel declared,

"As we began to pray, I felt the older man put his hand on my shoulder.

I looked and he had his other hand on the boy's shoulder. As we finished the prayer, the older gentleman was so touched he was about to cry."

Randel told his friends,

"One of those experiences makes the whole fair is worth it!"

Randel F. from Paige, TX

GOD IS SENDING HIS WORD

Danger is currently keeping many missionaries away from Haiti.

But God is still sending His Word with half of the 1 million pocket Gospels, printed in the Dominican Republic, going to Haiti.

Urban Hope NYC and a network of local churches have been saturating neighborhoods and cities with God's Word.

Pastor Sal in Dominican Republic instructed about 100 pastors on how to distribute the Gospels and encourage everyone to read, carry, and share God's Word.

At one Bible march and prayer event, over 20,000 Gospels of John were shared among the 41,000 attendees. Meanwhile, church volunteers invited other people to meet Jesus with an additional 18,000 Gospels by sharing in the streets and in homes.

One elderly woman wearing a red scarf on her head held her blue purse in one hand while she read the Gospel in her other hand.

As a result of reading the Gospel, she invited Jesus to be her Savior.

David B. from Urban Hope

THE OPTION TO CHOOSE LIFE

With great excitement, the team at the pregnancy clinic stood around the box of pocket-sized Gospels of John that had just arrived.

The box was opened, and everyone took handfuls of the 50 Gospel booklets. These donated Gospels would be shared with men and women who enter the doors of the clinic in search of hope to change their lives. Most entering the clinic would be looking at their options.

At this clinic, they would be offered the option to choose life, meet Jesus, and save the beautiful life of their unborn child.

Every single one of those 50 Gospels of John had a divine appointment.

The team at the pregnancy clinic loves sharing the Gospel with patients, as well as inviting women and men to meet the Lord and be introduced to the support of a local church. After hearing the Gospel message and reading the plan of salvation presented in the booklet, one woman who had come into the clinic shared,

“I have never heard the Gospel explained that clearly before. The pocket Gospel has such an attractive cover and fits easily into my purse. I plan to read the entire Gospel.”

Pregnancy Clinic in California

GOSPELS HANDY AND A READY HEART

Roberta carries her Gospel of John booklets with her everywhere she goes. She is always ready to share Jesus at any time.

She likes to create different types of gift bags to hand out to people on the street. The bags contain

various items, and Roberta emphasized that they always contain a pocket-sized Gospel of John! She described,

“I may give a Gospel booklet to someone I meet in a store, in a restaurant, or walking on the street.”

Roberta is grateful that the Lord will always point out to her the people He wants to bless. That's why she keeps the Gospel booklets handy and her heart ready to always share with anyone!

Roberta S. from Caro, MI

A SEED SOWER

Eleanor is in contact with people all the time.

She is a seed seller of garden plants and a seed sower of the Gospels of John.

A very joyful person, Eleanor is enthusiastic about helping people meet Jesus with pocket-sized Gospels of John. She is also eager to encourage other believers to share their faith by sharing the Gospel. Eleanor shared,

“I put my PTL member number sticker in the back of each Gospel booklet.

This way I'm able to follow up when someone takes a booklet and responds. I also have a box of Gospels by my sofa ready to give out for others to share."

Recently one of Eleanor's friends, who is excited about following Jesus, came by for a visit.

Eleanor offered for her friend to take freely from the box of Gospels by the sofa.

Eleanor wanted her friend to have as many copies of Jesus' biography to share with others. Excitedly, her friend took a stack of the cover "Bright Hope for Tomorrow."

Eleanor's friend was thrilled to have the Gospels to share. Together they are praying expectantly for God to bring divine appointments for each pocket Gospel.

Eleanor Z. from Hatfield, PA

THEY LISTENED

Katherine and her friend seek local, public places where they can dialogue with people about Jesus, pray with them, and share the Gospel of John.

They have strategically gone to places where people will be standing around—such as parks, retail areas, the Farmer’s Market, and the flea market. Katherine said that in the last several months, she has had many opportunities to share the Gospel at length with young people. Katherine described,

“Just today at a grocery store, while checking out, I said to a young employee, while her coworker was listening, “I always reach out to young people. May I give you the Gospel?””

Katherine told the two grocery store employees how she turned her life to the risen Jesus Christ at age 35 and how they can also have a relationship with Jesus. Katherine shares the diagram inside the front cover of the Gospel to open people to the truth. Katherine revealed,

“The two young employees listened, as others have. They were among the many who I have shared the Gospel with during recent weeks. In fact, I have been able to lead three souls to pray to receive Jesus.”

Katherine B. from Fort Mill, SC

TWO SISTERS SHARING GOSPELS

Sisters Carol and Annie make packets of Christian materials and drop them off at nursing and assisted living homes.

They always include a pocket Gospel of John.

Carol and Annie use their talents to create lovely arts and crafts designs that the recipients can put on a shelf or table in their room and enjoy. This is a true labor of love. The sisters described their process,

“Each person receives a handmade card designed and repurposed from the fronts of greeting cards cut out. They are also decorated with scriptures, colorful stickers, and glass jewels.”

The back of each card has a handwritten message, “God bless you!” Included in these precious gift bags are scripture verses, a salvation prayer sheet, and a Gospel of John. Carol and Annie hope and pray for the Holy Spirit to intervene,

“We pray a prayer over our deliveries and Gospels. We invite the Holy Spirit to get them into the right hands. We pray that all who receive the gifts will be saved!”

Carol and Annie A. from Fairmont Minnesota

SIMPLY LEAVE A GOSPEL

Carolyn shares her Gospels of John in the way that is most comfortable for her personality. Often, she will simply leave them to be found by someone who is seeking to know God. She explained,

“One place I put these Gospels is on restaurant tables for our server, or I leave them in the restroom at a restaurant or in a store.”

On one occasion Carolyn recounted that a restaurant server ran after her to express how much she appreciated the Gospel that had been left on the table.

Sometimes Carolyn has an opportunity to physically hand a pocket Gospel to a restaurant server or to a store clerk. For example, Carolyn recalled a conversation she had with a store worker one day while grocery shopping,

“I was speaking with a grocery worker and during the conversation, the woman revealed she was having marriage problems. I was able to encourage her and offer a Gospel which was cheerfully received.”

Carolyn J. from Sylacauga, AL

A CHALLENGE FROM A CHILD

Nancy shares lots of Gospels of John through her church food pantry. So many of the people who come to the church for food are unsaved and have never read the Gospel.

The church provides food and the Gospel of John every week, Monday through Friday. During this time, many people come through the lines at the pantry seeking food. The church also provides spiritual nourishment by giving them a the pocket-sized Gospel. Nancy shared,

“On a recent Friday, I was doing my job at the food pantry when I overheard one of our young 14-year-old volunteers speaking with a client.”

She was asking if they had received the pocket Gospel of John.

The client responded to the young girl that yes, they had received their Gospel. Nancy was surprised and delighted at the next thing she heard!

As the volunteer offered another pocket Gospel to the client, she kindly challenged them to take another Gospel and give it away to someone.

Nancy S. from Berryville, Arkansas

HELPING SOCIETY'S CASTAWAYS

There is a group of men that hang around an abandoned car wash in town and drink beer.

William often stops to offer them snacks and The Pocket Testament League Gospels.

Most of these men are homeless. They are society's castaways.

William shared how God arranged a divine appointment one morning with a 40-year-old semi-homeless man. He had a missing leg and is confined to a wheelchair. He was drinking beer and hadn't bathed in so long that he smelled badly. He had lost his benefits a few years back and now had no income, medical care, or phone. He was in serious need of alcohol detox, but to survive he panhandled with a sign by the side of the road. William continued,

“This poor man waved me down. The wheel on his dilapidated wheelchair was about to fall off, and he was wondering if I could help him. I assisted and found a discarded wheelchair that had both wheels operational.”

Feeling deeply that no one should have to live like this, William went the extra mile and set up

a phone interview for the man at the local Social Security office to reapply for benefits.

Offering the man hope, William gave him a pocket-sized Gospel of John.

William is faithful to actively share the Gospel with those who have been castaway in his community. There are so many stories like this one and most are ashamed of their circumstances. William knows in his heart that God's Word will accomplish the task according to HIS will and purpose for each person.

William S. from Sumter, SC/Christ is King Ministries

GOD FAITHFULLY SETS UP MEETINGS

Bonnie keeps a few pocket-sized Gospels with her wherever she goes.

They are in her car, purse, travel bag, and beach bag.

She's always ready to grab one and share it whenever the Holy Spirit leads.

Bonnie and her husband Brian have shared hundreds of Gospels. Bonnie and Brian encourage

people by giving them the hope of life in Christ. Bonnie described,

“Just today I started a conversation with an older woman who God’s Spirit brought to my attention. While we were talking, I shared a few personal stories about life with Jesus.”

As they spoke, Bonnie handed the woman a pocket Gospel and told her it was a book of the Bible in the New Testament called John. Bonnie exclaimed,

“The woman looked at me shocked. She said that her priest had just told her she should get a Bible and read the book of John!”

Bonnie was delighted that she was prepared to offer the Gospel of John to the woman. Bonnie and Brian experience these types of divine appointments all the time. God faithfully sets up meetings for them to share the Gospel with people who are seeking to know more about Jesus.

Bonnie and Brian G. from Sanford, FL

THE GOSPEL CHANGES LIVES

Trish has been sharing pocket Gospels for a few years now. She always takes them with her and

leaves them for people to pick up wherever she goes. Recently she recounted,

“I had gone to the hospital pharmacy and was in line to be helped. I decided to place a Gospel of John on a table close to where I was waiting.”

A bit of time passed, and Trish noticed that someone had picked up the pocket Gospel. She heard them read the cover out loud, “This Book Changed My Life.”

As the person took the booklet, Trish prayed for them to read God’s Word.

Trish prayed for this person and hoped that the Gospel of John has changed their life by now.

“We don’t always know the outcome of how a person responds to reading the Gospel, but we can be confident that when read, the Gospel changes lives.”

Trish C. from Carmichael, CA

EVANGELISM BY CHILDREN

For many years now, KellyDee has been dedicated to helping people meet Jesus with the Gospels of

John. She has a unique prayer ministry coupled with sharing the Gospel.

Recently she has been giving Gospels to the children in her Sunday School class. She described the wonderful, joyful response the children have to the Gospels,

“They were eager to write their names in the little pocket Testaments, read the booklets, and carry them.”

To KellyDee’s delight, the children took extra Gospels and began giving them to people passing by on the street outside the church. KellyDee exclaimed,

“The children gave away almost every pocket Gospel that I had, and the amazing result is that receiving the Gospels caused some people to come to the church and pray!”

KellyDee is now teaching the children in her Sunday School class about how to share the Gospels of John and to invite people to church. KellyDee’s focus on sharing the Gospel with children beautifully turned into the children sharing the Gospel with others.

KellyDee G. from Stockbridge, GA

HOPE AND PEACE

While on a recent flight, Becky and Jerome were talking and she shared that her husband had passed away earlier in the year.

Becky commented that her husband “was saved” by a pastor, but she didn’t know the church name.

Jerome enthusiastically expressed how he was given the divine opportunity to introduce Becky to Christ.

“As our conversation unfolded, I quickly realized that Becky didn’t know what “being saved” meant. I seized the moment to take out a pocket Gospel of John and give her a brief explanation of what it means to “be saved”.”

Jerome told Becky that her hope and peace is now in Heaven. As Jerome shared Scripture with her, Becky agreed that she wanted this hope and peace. Jerome concluded,

“I joyfully led Becky in the sinner’s prayer found in the pocket Gospel. I also reminded her to connect with the pastor who led her husband to Christ and share her recent commitment to Jesus.”

Jerome M. from New Hartford, NY

IN LOU'S WORDS

Lou is a disabled Afghanistan combat veteran, on a limited income, supporting his wife and 3 children.

And he is a man who has found his calling!

In Lou's words, "I am now a soldier of Christ."

Lou reaches out to people who others often cannot reach, such as those who are living on the streets or struggling with addictions.

Recently Lou had a divine appointment. He gave his last Gospel of John to a young man standing alone at midnight charging his phone outside the church Lou attends. Lou recalled,

"I approached the young man, offering him a Gospel of John while asking him what I could do to help him."

Lou recounted that the man was extremely touched by his gesture to stop and help him. He became receptive to receiving the Gospel.

The two men exchanged phone numbers and later the young man sent Lou a message thanking him for talking with him.

In Lou's words,

"I seek to obey the Lord's still small voice. I share the way my life was changed by God, even during my darkest hours. Now, sharing the pocket Gospels help me do the Lord's will!"

Lou H. from Melbourne, FL

I'M TRYING TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Wanting to purchase a reflective vest to wear when walking at night, Rich went to a local store and was directed to the reflective attire section.

While looking for a vest, Rich exchanged smiles and nods with a man standing nearby. The man said something about what a nice day it had been, and the two men started talking. Rich commented how he enjoyed the man's accent, and their God directed meeting took off! Rich learned the man had moved to the area from Mexico 20 years earlier.

Rich learned of the man's faith but that he doesn't regularly go to church.

So, Rich asked him if he is a Christian, and the man said he was "trying to be."

That statement sent up flags in Rich's mind, and he took out a Gospel of John and offered it to the man. After making his purchase, Rich was leaving in his car. He then spotted an employee who helped him find his vest. Rich described,

“I stopped and thanked the employee for helping me and asked him if he was a Christian. He also replied, “I’m trying to be”.”

Recognizing that God was very much at work that day, Rich handed out his second Gospel that day to the employee.

Rich D. from Talbott, TN

NO LONGER ISOLATED

Barbara had seen Jillian dumpster diving behind the local store several times. She made multiple attempts to introduce herself to Jillian, but to no avail as Jillian always quickly jumped in her truck and drove off. One day, after asking Jesus to lead her, Barbara again approached Jillian. Barbara recalled,

“She was visibly shaking as I introduced myself and handed her the book that changed my life. It was the Gospel of John which someone

had given to me a few years earlier.”

Barbara quickly realized that Jillian had isolated herself and taken refuge in being alone. She had been living in her old truck for four years when Barbara met her. Her only company was a soft, long-haired cat named Tigger. After a few more meetings, Barbara and Jillian started meeting up, and Barbara revealed with delight,

“The last time we enjoyed coffee together, Jillian asked for a few PTL Gospels to share with other homeless individuals. I saw her begin to trust others again through sharing Jesus with those in her homeless community.”

This would be her first attempts to break down two decades of isolation!

Jillian and Barbara connected several times after sharing coffee that day. She is still living in her old truck with Tigger, but a bright smile has replaced a shaking body. Barbara sees her transform a little more each time they meet. Jillian is no longer isolated,

“Jillian met Jesus the day I gave her the Gospel of John.”

Barbara B. from Broomfield, CO

TRUE DISASTER RELIEF

Anyone who does not know Jesus as their Savior needs disaster relief!

And Bruce is dedicated to helping people meet Jesus with the Gospels of John wherever he goes.

Bruce lends a helping hand to victims of natural disaster, and part of the relief he offers them is a pocket-sized Gospel of John and an invitation to meet Jesus. When at home, Bruce and an evangelistic team share the Gospel around town. Bruce also leads a chapel service at a homeless shelter. Bruce said,

“At the homeless shelter after the Sunday Chapel Service, I always give out brownies and ice cream with the Gospels of John. Occasionally there are leftover treats that I take with me.”

Last Sunday, as Bruce drove home from the shelter, he passed a fraternity house where several young guys were hanging out. Bruce decided to offer the extra treats to them.

“I offered the leftover brownies, ice cream, and chocolate sauce for sundaes and told them each chocolate sundae comes with a pocket Gospel of John.”

One of the guys said, “Hey it’s Sunday today and it’s brownies and Bible sundae”.

They gladly received the Gospel booklets with their ice cream, and as Bruce walked away, one of the guys was intently turning the pages while reading the Gospel of John. The ice cream sundae took a back seat. When people need a Savior, disaster relief always comes from the Gospel!

Bruce N. from St. Augustine, FL

THE COST OF THE RIDE

Matthew has been helping people meet Jesus with the Gospels of John for many years now. In various situations, he helps people by giving them a ride in his car. Matthew shares pocket-sized Gospels by telling anyone who gets in his car that there is one requirement for him to provide a ride:

“Check out The Pocket Testament League Gospel booklet, see what you think of what it says, and then if you feel it is worth reading, share it with someone else.”

Recently Matthew gave a pocket Gospel to a man who needed a ride. He told the man his usual requirement for giving a ride as he handed him

a Gospel of John. Sometime later, the men met again, and Matthew said,

“I gave the same person a ride twice. The second time we met, I asked about the booklet. The man replied, “I got saved and I shared it with my girlfriend, and she got saved too!””

Matthew H. from Coatesville, PA

THERE ARE SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES

Christy prays in advance for the people God puts in her path believing the Holy Spirit is already working in their lives, so they are ready to receive His Word.

She keeps Gospels of John close to her front door at home, so when she receives deliveries, she is ready to hand one to the delivery person. Christy revealed that she tries to talk with all the people who deliver groceries to her.

On a delivery I recently received, I had a great opportunity to encourage a dear sister who was struggling to make ends meet.

She gladly took the Gospel booklet, and I prayed with her.

Christy sees opportunities to hand someone a Gospel everywhere she goes. She offers Gospels to drive-thru workers, people and workers at the grocery store, or people and servers at restaurants. She also includes Gospels in bags she makes with necessities to give out around her community. She described,

“I keep the Gospels in my purse, ready to give out. I also include Gospels in treat bags for the drive through workers or mailman, etc. There are so many opportunities!”

Christy F. from N Fort Myers, FL

THE GREAT RESCUE

Spinning out of control.

Hit from behind at 60 miles per hour, the totaled car came to a crashing halt on the highway.

It was a collision so horrible it could have easily been fatal. For the moments that the car swirled in circles, Lorraine and her son cried out, calling on the name of Jesus for help. Lorraine vividly recalled,

“God rescued me and my son from a deadly car crash that day. The Lord allowed us to live.

He still has a purpose for us on this earth.”

Days after the car accident, Lorraine went to the Pocket Testament League website to order more Gospels of John, perusing the various Gospel covers available,

Lorraine’s eyes fell upon the cover “The Great Rescue.”

That was it! She knew that was the cover designed for her to share as she seeks to lift-up the name of Jesus even more than ever before!

Lorraine exclaimed,

“The car was totaled but we are very much alive because Jesus is our Rescuer! And this was The Great Rescue”!

Lorraine S. from Port Jervis, NY

I ALWAYS HAVE GOSPELS WITH ME

Susan knows that the most important part of sharing Gospels of John Is to always have them with her.

She is ready to hand one to someone when God provides an opportunity.

There are many opportunities in a typical day to offer someone a Gospel. Susan lives in a state where you are not allowed to pump your own gas, so she has pocket-sized Gospels in her car ready to offer to the gas station attendant.

“I find that I am inviting people to meet Jesus with about 2 or 3 Gospels a week.”

During the week, when working in an area near the local mission, she often gives Gospels she is carrying to homeless people. Susan finds a variety of places to share her Gospels,

“I give them to cashiers who wait on me, as well as wait staff in restaurants. I simply write thanks for your great service today on the cover and leave a Gospel with a tip.”

In the summer, Susan carries bottled water in her car to give out with a Gospel of John. She has given one to a friend, and one to a coworker.

“I figure I am dropping seeds that maybe will be harvested at a later date, so I always have Gospels of John with me.”

Susan S. from Eugene, OR

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN

Standing outside an ice cream shop, a PTL member and his friend were having a conversation, when a man walked past him slowly enough to be given a Gospel of John. The member described,

“As I reached out and handed him a Gospel, he took it. The guy continued walking on, but a couple of minutes later, he returned and asked what the booklet was that I had handed him.”

Thinking that he was going to reject the Gospel, the PTL member hesitantly began to share about Jesus and the message enclosed in the Gospel. He recalled,

“Surprised at how interested the man became in the Gospel, I listened as he began to share some of his personal story.”

After a bit of talk, he offered to go into the shop and buy us ice cream cones.

The man's wife and daughter were with him. We offered a Gospel to his daughter, and his wife told us she had been praying for her husband. He had recently been reading a child's Bible that she had given him when he asked some questions. The member continued,

“The man’s wife revealed that he doesn’t quite know what to do with what he is learning in the Bible.”

They all sat and ate their ice cream, while the member explained the Gospel to the man.

Delighted PTL member shared,

“The man understood the Gospel and was ready to affirm his belief in Jesus and claim his salvation. You just never know what will happen when you share a Gospel!”

Anonymous – handwritten note mailed to PTL

SOWING THE SEED

Charles believes that “All the World “ is in your grocery store, drugstore, restaurant, gas station, or anywhere in the marketplace.

These are all places where Charles says the Lord gives him opportunities to share pocket-sized Gospels of John. The post office is another one of those places where he meets people.

Charles explained,

“The other day I met a very friendly young woman in the post office. She told me she is a college student and a missionary. I simply handed her a Gospel with the cover “You Are Not Forgotten.””

After handing her the pocket Gospel, Charles noticed she was wearing a badge that read “elder.” He is familiar with this badge that is worn by Mormons. Charles decided not to mention the word Mormon or ask about her badge. The post office was busy, and the line was long, so he engaged her in conversation.

“We had a friendly casual talk. I asked her if she went to school in Utah, and she asked about the birthday envelope I was sending to my granddaughter.”

Charles believes that the Lord uses him as a “sower” most of the time, sowing the seed of God’s Word with the Gospels of John. He encouraged the woman to read the Gospel and is praying the Holy Spirit will open her heart to know the Savior.

Charles S. from Lebanon, OH

DIVINE OPPORTUNITIES

Todd is a street evangelist who prays for divine opportunities to share the Gospel. This week he had two very precious meetings set up by God, and in both cases the men's hearts were ready to hear the Gospel. Todd recounted,

“Outside a local home improvement store, I met Peter and Joel. They speak Spanish, so I used some Spanish phrases I had written out a “cheat sheet” to help me explain the Gospel to the men.”

Fortunately, Todd was able to give the men pocket-sized Gospels of John in Spanish and, led by God's Spirit, both men prayed to follow Christ as their Savior. A couple of days later, as Todd finished breakfast at the local fast-food restaurant, he saw another sharing opportunity:

“I noticed a man whose face reflected pain that could only be from his aching heart. I approached, and we exchanged names.”

Todd learned that the man's name was Tyler, and they began a conversation about how difficult life can be and how Jesus came to bring comfort and peace to our brokenness. Intent on what Todd told him about Jesus and the Gospel, Tyler concluded that he had been longing for this spiritual rest,

reconciliation with God, and tranquility in his heart that Jesus offers.

Tyler prayed for Jesus to forgive his sins and become his Savior and Lord.

Smiling about the wonderful divine opportunities God had just given him, Todd handed Tyler a Gospel of John and encouraged him to read it every day.

Todd P. from Ashland, VA

CONFIDENCE IN GOD

As sure as the sun will rise, Gail never leaves home without a pocket full of Gospels of John.

That day Gail and her husband were going to their son's rental building as one tenant's roof was leaking. Knowing the tenant would be there when they arrived, Gail thought others might be in the building too.

Confident God would provide an opportunity for her to introduce someone to Jesus with the pocket Gospels, Gail struck up a conversation with Heidi, who also lived in the building.

Gail's husband went to work fixing the leak.

Meanwhile, Gail offered Heidi a Gospel of John and began to tell her about Jesus. Surrounded by her 2-year-old son and 4-year-old daughter, Heidi listened intently as Gail talked about the love of Jesus. Gail described,

“I opened God’s Word and shared with Heidi. She understood and miraculously wanted to trust Jesus as her Savior right then.”

As Gail and Heidi finished praying, Heidi’s husband arrived home. Heidi told him all she had just learned about Jesus and that she was now born again. Heidi’s husband was extremely interested, so Gail offered him a pocket Gospel, and they began to talk about Jesus. Gail shared,

“Heidi’s husband trusted Jesus as his Lord that day, as well! Before a friend of his had invited him to church, but he would not go. Now he can surprise his friend with this great news of his salvation!”

Gail B. from Westerly, RI

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

Jorge from Argentina spoke with 32-year old Valeria; a woman who had her life transformed by God when she was handed a pocket-sized Gospel.

She shared the following testimony with him:

“I reached a point in my life that everything was dark. My family had fallen apart—the man I loved had exchanged me for much younger, prettier, woman. I was disappointed, sad, angry, and hatred dominated me. I felt that everything I had given was in vain. I felt useless, incapable, worthless, insecure—I was lost. I wanted to kill myself several times.”

That was, until she received the Gospel booklet on the street and opened her heart to God. Valeria shares,

“The Word of God had come into my life. Today, I feel strong, I’ve accepted God’s timing, I understand that I must surrender my burdens to God and that only He can relieve and heal me. I still have problems, but I see them in a different way.”

Valeria now talks to God and tells Him everything. She feels His presence and knows He’s supporting her. Before she felt darkness and now she feels spontaneous happiness fueled by the enjoyment of listening to preaching, praising God, praying to Him.

“I know there is a lot to heal, so I ask God to help me be strong, set limits,

and value myself like He does. I ask Him for mercy for those who hurt me. I don't judge, I don't hate. Instead I listen and try to understand. I want a life of peace—a new life, and I know that this is the right path for that. I must let go, forgive, and continue my life with God.”

Jorge from Argentina

PRECIOUS PEACE

Lorena never had a relationship with God. Then a young woman handed her a Gospel of John and invited her to church. The woman prayed for Lorena, and that simple act made her feel peace in an unprecedented way.

After this interaction something changed in Lorena, and she knew it. Now she desired to read the Bible and understand God's word. Lorena expressed,

“I could feel God's presence in me and with me.”

Lorena's father struggles with alcoholism, so she prays every day for a miracle expecting God to work. With this newfound comfort and peace in her relationship with the Lord she expressed,

“Thank you, Jesus for your love!”

Jorge from Argentina

EVERYONE HAS A STORY

David loves sharing the Gospel of John booklet with the cover “Everyone Has A Story”. He recently shared,

“Whenever I am in a restaurant or having a coffee, if I see a person sitting alone, I approach them and tell them that I wanted to say hi and am wondering what’s been the best part of their day.”

David has found that almost everyone will engage in conversation. He feels it is because many people rarely have a conversation with others, or they are lonely. He’s discovered that people are often eager to share their story. David explained,

“While simply handing them the pocket Gospel, I let them know it is a gift!”

David notes that after talking for some time, everyone takes the gift. He then shares the plan of salvation in the front of the pocket Gospel.

In response to the plan of Salvation, they do one of three things: accept it, reject it, or say they will think about it.

David puts his phone number in the back of the booklet and offers to send them a Bible verse and Christian song everyday if they text him. He

is amazed at the positive reception he receives and the number of people who continue to keep contact with him. David explains,

“Everyone needs the Lord. And everyone does have a story!”

David S. from Belleville, Ontario—Canada

SHUT-IN AND REACHING OUT

Often those living in senior communities are shut-in due to aging.

Some feel socially isolated. All alone.

Kimberly is never alone because Jesus is always with her.

Filled with the love of Jesus, Kimberly daily reaches out to those who do not know the Lord.

She spends her time offering Gospels of John to the aides who work in her home, delivery people, shut-in neighbors in her complex, and to agency personnel at her in-home appointments.

An ambassador for Jesus, Kimberly has transformed what could be a life of feeling lonely into an outreach with a purpose of sharing

life in Christ through the Gospel of John.

As the Lord leads her, Kimberly also shares her Gospels with others when she can go out. Kimberly described how she shares the Gospels,

“I give the pocket-sized Gospels of John as gifts, engaging everyone in conversation. I simply give them this gift to read and contemplate in hopes they meet Jesus as Savior. My life may be mostly shut-in, but my reach is mostly out!”

Kimberly B. from Rochester, NY

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS

Being an observant individual, Anne's interest is in finding a window into the soul of people she meets through daily activities. She keeps a vigilant eye on those she comes into contact with at the grocery, drug store, and doctor's offices.

Ann looks to find something about the person she briefly encounters to help her interact with them.

Anne has discovered that people feel friendly towards her because she says kind and flattering words to them, so they always receive the Gospel booklet she offers.

Anne compliments hair styles, jewelry, and facial features as a natural way to then share a Gospel of John with someone.

She thanks them for blessing her, and says if they read the booklet, they too will be blessed.

When time permits, Ann points out the first bold-print sentence in the pocket Gospel that declares the material in the booklet is true. Anne shared,

“Remembering God’s promise about His word in Isaiah 55:11, I walk away from these significant meetings filled with joy after offering for others to meet Jesus.”

Anne S. from Newport News, VA

DEDICATED AND FOLLOWING UP

Having hip replacement is hard enough, but Michael’s complications of being homeless for almost a year and a half and needing a hip replacement was too much.

After the operation, the hospital did not want to release Michael to the street, so they allowed him to stay a month in a facility that houses many individuals struggling with addiction.

A Christ follower who offers others pocket Gospels, Michael recounted sharing the Gospel during his time of recuperation,

“During my recovery, I frequently shared the Gospel with other residents in the rehab facility, as well as with the young nurses who were attending me.”

Michael recalled that most people took the Gospels and agreed to read the contents. One who did read the Gospel of John was Michael’s roommate. They had conversations about Jesus and Michael led him to faith in Christ. Michael described how later his heart was burdened to follow up with the man,

“After I was released from the rehab facility, I decided to go to the area where the drug addicts congregate. I found my former roommate to see how he was doing, and he had relapsed.”

Michael had been dedicated to helping the man meet Jesus in the Gospel of John, and now he was dedicated to following up with him. Michael encouraged the man go to church with him and to attend a regular breakfast meeting for the homeless. Michael’s dedication led him to care for his new brother in Christ.

Michael P. from Boston, MA

CHRISTIANS NEED ENCOURAGEMENT TOO!

Now elderly and bound in a wheelchair, the woman sat in the waiting room at the doctor's office with an aching heart.

Gerald was in that same waiting room and, as his eyes caught the woman in the wheelchair, he felt a tug in his heart to approach her. Gerald described what happened when he spoke to her,

“Holding out a Gospel of John to the woman, I said that I realized she didn’t know me, but I had a gift for her.”

The woman began to cry, and then thanked Michael for the precious gift. She told him that she loves Jesus, and she was so happy to receive the Gospel booklet. Michael returned to his seat and noticed a man speaking to the woman. Michael recounted,

“The man, the woman’s son who had gone to park the car, came to me and said he had asked his mother why she was crying. She showed him the pocket Gospel and pointed to me.”

He had come to thank Michael for his kindness to his mother, revealing that she was needing the encouragement he had provided with the Gospel.

Gerald S. from Columbia, SC

THE GOSPEL CLOSE AT HAND

Hands full with purses, diaper bags, and children in tow, the 130 regular attenders of the Young Mom's Group, filed into Dori's church from all over the community.

That day, Dori was presenting the Salvation message to this group of young women who faithfully attend her church's outreach ministry events. Dori's enthusiasm for the Gospel was contagious causing the women to be more curious about Jesus because their hearts were touched by the message. Dori shared

“After I presented the Gospel, 6 young moms put their faith in Christ, and 13 young moms rededicated their lives to follow Jesus.”

The day before their next event, Dori received her order of pocket-sized Gospels of John. Dori and the church Director of Women's Ministry felt a need to follow-up with the women considering the previous event's salvation explanation. The Gospels had arrived with perfect timing! Dori described,

“At the next meeting, we handed out the pocket Gospels to every woman in the room. We pointed out the diagrams explaining salvation inside the front cover of the Gospels.”

Dori wanted the new believers and those who rededicated their lives to have a clear picture of the decision they had previously made. She prays the pocket Gospels will impact anyone with questions or doubts. Dori observed,

“This tech-friendly generation of women still likes a hard copy book. We encouraged the ladies to keep the Gospel at their fingertips: in their purse, diaper bag, or in their back pockets.”

**Dori D. from Prescott Valley, AZ—CEF
Ministry Partner**

A NEW-FOUND LIFE OF VALUE AND PURPOSE

PTL works hand in hand with various Ministry Partners providing Gospels for their events. One partner, in Sioux Falls, SD, gathers hundreds of high school students for a conference with music, fun, and, God’s Word. At one of these events, a young girl’s life was saved.

Clutching the Gospel of John, a young girl with a radiant spirit, departed the conference knowing she had discovered a new life only attainable through the grace and love of Jesus.

In a remarkable turn of events, this young girl, who happened to be the daughter of a local pastor,

found herself in a life-changing situation at the conference.

Little did anyone know that she had been battling deep despair and contemplating a tragic decision to end her own life the very night of the conference.

However, Jesus intervened as she listened to the powerful words of the guest speaker.

Overwhelmed by the message of love and redemption, and with hope and faith in her heart, this girl had now found what only Jesus could give her. She realized her life held tremendous value and purpose.

In that transformative moment, she made a profound decision to surrender her life to Jesus Christ, finding solace and a fresh start in Him.

She now had a new-found sense of purpose and a deep connection to her faith.

With the grace and love of Christ in her heart and the Gospel of John in her hand, the young girl left the conference ready to grow in her new faith.

PTL Ministry Partner *from Sioux Falls, SD*

THE COVER MATTERS

Diane has discovered that most people are happy to receive a pocket-sized Gospel. She simply offers a Gospel to anyone she meets throughout her day. Diane observed,

“The various pocket-sized Gospel covers draw people in, providing the opportunity for a conversation about the road to eternal life. I have learned that most people are captivated by the many covers. At a fast-food restaurant I offered different Gospel covers to my two waiters.”

The first waiter chose one cover, and the other young man was disappointed.

The second waiter was disappointed because he wanted the Gospel cover with the picture of a lighthouse and the words “Finding Your Way” that the other waiter had chosen. It really mattered to him! Diane shared,

“Knowing that he would be more likely to open the cover he was drawn to, I went to my car and retrieved another Finding Your Way Gospel cover for the young man. Accepting the Gospel, the young man was very appreciative.”

Diane W. from Troy, Ohio

PEACE COMES ONLY FROM JESUS

She had been troubled for a long time.

Many issues in her life had been robbing her of the peace she so desperately wanted and needed.

Visiting a local coffee shop, David and his wife did what they always do. When pulling up to a drive-thru window, they take out a Gospel of John to hand to the person at the window. David recalled,

“My wife grabbed a Gospel with the cover that reads, “Peace I Give to You.” I handed it to the lady at the window, she thanked me, we got our coffee, and we drove forward.”

Unfortunately, David and his wife recognized that their coffee had not been made as ordered. So, David decided to park and go into the store to kindly ask to have their drinks adjusted. David described,

“Fortunately, the server who came to the counter recognized me and said that it is a good thing I had given her that book, because she hadn’t had peace in a long time.”

David had the opportunity to explain to the woman that true peace comes only from Jesus.

He encouraged this lady to read the Gospel book, pray, and start a relationship with Jesus. With a sense of peace already taking a tiny seed in her heart and mind, the woman decided she would do just that.

David S. from Greensboro, NC

ENCOURAGING ONE WHO STRUGGLES

He was trying to read the Bible.

As a new Christian, he kept getting lost in its enormity and his unfamiliarity.

He wasn't sure where to turn for help.

This man happens to work with Jack. Last week he was feeling awkward because he wanted to talk to Jack but did not know how to start. Jack noted his co-worker's behavior,

“He was behaving oddly, so I started with some small talk. After about an hour, this man I hardly knew, looked at me and asked me how well I know God.”

Rather shocked at the question, Jack replied that he has a good relationship with God. He responded, “How about you?”

My coworker got quiet for a minute and then said that he is just getting started.

He revealed to Jack that he was the first person he had talked to about God.

Jack asked if he could help him in any way. The man confided he had been reading his Bible but “gets lost in there.” As it was the end of the work week, Jack encouraged his co-worker,

“I told him I would bring him a Gospel of John and a PTL Ready Reference on Monday.”

God is truly at work, and I want to encourage him!

Jack B. from Milan, MO

YOU MATTER

The Japanese have a practice called kintsugi, an art form mending broken pottery or glass with gold lacquer making the item more valuable after the repair. This is a wonderful analogy for the life given to those who follow Jesus. When people accept Jesus’ sacrifice for them on the cross, a broken, imperfect life becomes invaluable and eternal. Jan shared,

***“My favorite Gospel cover is “You Matter.”
Everyone innately desires to matter to someone.
One thing we can know for sure is that all of us
matter to Jesus.”***

Jan’s goal is to share one Gospel of John every day, so that others can know they matter to Jesus. One day at a local garden store, she offered a “You Matter” Gospel to the man who loaded her purchase of soil into her car. Jan relayed,

“I gave the man who loaded my car a “You Matter” Gospel. He told me that his girlfriend had just been diagnosed with stage four cancer. Having learned of the diagnosis at the hospital the day before, he was still stunned.”

Accepting the pocket-sized Gospel, the man shared that he listens to sermons on the radio and reads scripture, but Jan did not get the impression he knew Christ personally. Looking at the Gospel, the man said,

“My favorite book is the book of John.”

And Jan replied,

“This booklet is for you! God wants you to know that you and your girlfriend matter to Him.”

Jan Mansfield from Williamsville, NY

BRIEF AND TO THE POINT

Rose has been offering people the Gospel of John for many years. She thanks God for each opportunity she is given to shed His light in a dark world. Rose shared a brief and poignant encounter,

“I gave a Gospel of John to a man just weeks before his passing. He read the Gospel before he died and put his faith in Christ.”

Rose also gave a pocket Gospel to the man’s wife. Following up with the woman, Rose learned, she too read the Gospel and gave her life to Jesus.

God guides. Rose follows.

People meet Jesus in the Gospel of John, and their lives are changed for eternity.

Rose D. from Monterey, CA

FROM HOPELESS DESPAIR TO LIFE EVERLASTING

From the depths of hopeless despair, he had decided to end his life that night, but something got in the way...maybe he would try again later.

The next day he awoke remembering that his Motorcycle Club was having a private bike blessing.

Even though he had no desire to be there, being the Club President, he felt compelled to go. At the event he met Kat's husband.

Kat had helped organize the event as part of Christian Motorcyclist's Association.

They go to offer a blessing of safety over the bikes and bikers, pray for the bikers and offer them Gospels of John.

Kat described how on that particular Saturday they had been asked to do a "private" blessing for this local club. It was a smaller event and about 40 bikers showed up. Kat and her group were prepared with Gospels to share. Kat revealed,

“Several of the motorcyclists received pocket testaments, listened to the Gospel, and placed their faith in Christ that day. And one man stood out as having an unusual and Divine appointment with Jesus.”

Kat described how they shared a Gospel with the Club's President. He was so ready to hear what they offered, and he opened his heart to the truth and met Jesus that day. Kat explained they learned that the previous evening this man had unsuccessfully tried to commit suicide.

Without a doubt, his life was spared because God had a mighty plan to save his lost soul for eternity.

He was taken from hopeless despair to life everlasting in Jesus.

Kat R *from Rochester, MA*

SHARING IN A PARKING LOT

Coby and his wife, Amber, have been sharing their faith and helping people meet Jesus with pocket-sized Gospels of John for about a year. They explained,

“We visit a plasma donation center parking lot to share the Gospel. Many low-income and homeless people come here to make some extra cash.”

Coby, Amber, and a team of volunteers share Gospels of John and the hope found in Jesus with as many people as possible. Amber declared,

“Over the past year, almost 600 people have placed their faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior, in one parking lot!”

Coby and Amber S. *from Bay Minette, Alabama*

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO RECEIVE THE GOSPELS

Ramon is praying for the many people he has gifted the Gospel of John.

He feels the Gospel is a great conversation starter and people have been happy to take it.

While offering a Gospel, he asks them if they have read the Good News about Jesus.

Oftentimes, Ramon shares the Gospels of John with little time for interaction or little immediate response. He conveyed the importance of praying for those who receive the pocket Gospels.

“I’m praying for Z, a woman, wearing a hijab, who I met at a coffee shop. She was happy and willing to take the Gospel. I pray God will give her and her family a desire to read and be transformed by His Word.”

Ramon only recently connected with his half-brother M and wife R. M was given up for adoption by their mutual birth mother. Ramon prays M and R will read the Gospel book he placed in their hands and put their faith in Christ. Ramon continued,

“I shared a Gospel of John with R, a refugee I met at work, and we have been meeting regularly for coffee.”

The most recent time, he asked for more, a whole Bible. I pray he will grow.”

Even though he is not yet a believer, he is on the path towards Jesus!

Ramon Padilla *from Etobicoke, Ontario – Canada*

MINISTERING TO HOMELESS BELIEVERS

Marlene has always had a heart for the poor and needy. These days she has a ministry to the homeless, taking to heart Deuteronomy 15:11 that there will always be poor people in the land, so we are to open our hands wide to those in need.

Recently Marlene met Marcus on the street and invited him to lunch.

“I offered Marcus—who had become homeless after losing his business—lunch and a Gospel of John. He was happy to receive them, sharing that Jesus is already his Savior. Marcus was grateful to receive the pocket Gospel as its small size makes it is easy to carry.”

Another day, Marlene met Linda who is also homeless and believes in Jesus. When Marlene met her, Linda asked for prayer as she was extremely sad. Marlene explained,

“Linda asked for prayer because the previous night someone had stolen her sleeping bag. I bought her a new one and presented it to her with a pocket Gospel of John.”

Linda immediately responded, “I forgive whoever took my bag!” She was grateful for the new sleeping bag and the pocket-sized Gospel.

Marlene W. from Redding, CA

CONTINENT OF AFRICA

A LIFESTYLE OF PERSONAL EVANGELISM

Tom has often introduced himself to people as “Good News Tom” while he offers them a PTL Gospel of John.

People need hope, God loves them, and Tom wants people to know that Jesus Christ is their only hope. As missionaries in Johannesburg, South Africa for many years, Tom and his wife Marilyn have been helping people meet Jesus with the Gospels of John around their community. Tom says sharing the Gospels is his lifestyle.

“We have shared the Gospel of John with young people, teens, children in orphanages, squatters in camps, neighbors, as well as people we’ve met in shops, grocery stores, restaurants, hair salons, taxis, local clinics, hospitals, and public parking areas.”

People know Tom carries Gospels, and they seek him out to get Gospels to share with others. Whenever possible, Tom and Marilyn take the time to have conversations with the people they meet, while they simply offer the gift of the Gospel. According to Tom,

“I always carry Gospels with me to be ready for any opportunity God provides to introduce people to Jesus.”

I endeavor to cultivate a lifestyle of personal evangelism wherever I go.”

Tom and Marilyn use the illustration in the front of the Gospel booklet to lead those who are ready in the prayer of salvation. They are also teaching and encouraging their grandchildren to invite their friends to meet Jesus with the Gospels and live a lifestyle of personal evangelism.

Thomas W. from Johannesburg, South Africa

RESPONDING TO GOD’S OPPORTUNITIES

This year in Zambia, The African Enterprise held its 60th Anniversary Celebration.

Everyone who attended was given three Gospels of John to share in opportunities that God provides them outside of the typical ministry events.

Mwamba is a Taxi driver. As Stephen traveled between events for the African Enterprise Celebration, he got into Mwamba’s taxi.

Stephen prayed and stepped out in faith by offering Mwamba a pocket-sized Gospel and inviting him to meet Jesus.

God answered Stephen's prayer as Mwamba responded to the invitation.

Stephen took the opportunity and shared all about Christ with Mwamba and explained how he can have a personal relationship with Jesus. Mwamba reacted positively and gave his life to the Lord right there in the taxi. Stephen excitedly shared,

“Mwamba is now a child of God! He even signed a decision card to record and remember this life changing date. I gave him a Gospel of John to keep and read daily.”

Stephen was open to the opportunity God provided. The two men also arranged for Stephen to call Mwamba that evening and invite Mwamba's wife to meet Jesus as well!

Stephen M. from Zambia

EAGER TO LEARN ABOUT JESUS IN NIGERIA

Robert recently returned from a mission trip to Nigeria where he invited people to meet Jesus with 300 Gospels of John. Usually in a country such as Nigeria, each Gospel represents an entire family or groups of friends reading about how they can have salvation through Jesus. Robert described,

“On this trip, I took 100 of the Gospels to an orphanage in Nigeria and the children—who all know Jesus—received the Gospels to read. They are eager to learn about Jesus. Now, every day they can read how to live a Christian life and grow in their faith.”

Additionally, Robert took food to the villagers and provided them with Gospels of John. He and his team took the bags of food and pocket Gospels door to door in the villages. Robert shared,

“People received the food and Gospels gratefully. They are hungry, for food for body and soul. They are reading the Gospel, and many are turning their hearts to Jesus.”

Every day Robert continues to get reports that people are accepting the Lord as their Savior by reading the pocket-sized Gospels. In Nigeria, homeless women, people in hospitals, villagers and orphans are amongst the most eager to learn about Jesus.

Robert W. from Clinton, NJ (on a mission trip to Nigeria)

WHERE GOD LEADS I WILL GO...

Dr. Isaac is a pastor in Genadendal, South Africa who has committed his life to reaching South Africans by any means possible.

He travels around the country seeking out the poor, the destitute, and the hurting. He knows that he can have conversations with them that will change not only their day, but their life—by introducing them to Jesus Christ.

Though Dr. Isaac travels often and lives out of a suitcase, wherever he goes he makes sure to pack Gospels of John in a variety of African languages. He wants everyone he meets to have the opportunity to receive and read God's Word. He is on mission to invite as many people as possible to begin a relationship with their Savior. Dr. Isaac explains,

“When people are hurting, they want someone to listen to them and they need hope. Thankfully, when these people are gifted a pocket-sized Gospel, the Lord speaks His life-changing hope into their lives.”

Dr. Isaac from South Africa

GOD BRINGS HEALING

Mary was blessed to take part in a mission trip from her home country of Kenya to Zimbabwe, a country being plagued with economic struggles. By God's grace, during the trip, almost 200 people received Christ through the sharing of pocket-sized Gospels.

At the end of the mission, the team invited the new brothers and sisters in Christ to a local pond to baptize them. Mary shares,

“There is a gentleman that accepted Christ after we shared the Gospel. We prayed with him and learned that he had been separated from his family. Two days after he accepted Christ, they reconciled.

That same man was baptized and is back at home with his family. This man, now made new, and his entire family, were changed by Christ's Word with a pocket-sized Gospel of John!”

Mary from Kenya

LET THE LIGHT OF THE LORD SHINE ON ME

In Heathfield, Cape Town, a school classroom is filled with children, happily singing,

“Shine shine shine...shine on me. Oh let the light of the Lord shine on me!”

As part of a Gospel outreach, the children in Heathfield are given an opportunity to hear a Bible lesson and participate in worship. The afternoon’s Bible teaching came from John 8:12. “Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

A torch was used to represent Jesus, and miniature flowers and animals started dancing as the light fell on them.

The kids really seemed to understand the object lesson and left with a renewed understanding of what it means to have Jesus lighting their paths.

A ministry in South Africa

BREAD FOR THE BODY AND THE SOUL

Behind a table filled with loaves of bread, soup packets, and Gospels of John, Pastor Paul is standing with a smile on his face and a pocket-sized Gospel in his hand. He explains cheerfully,

“They are hungry, so we are giving them bread and soup for their body and we are also providing them

with the Bread of Life for their souls because their souls need the Bread of Life.”

The Mizpah Fellowship in Bloemfontein, South Africa is aiming to reach at least 1000 households with this particular Gospel outreach. This park outreach means 1000 South African families will hear the message of the Gospel and be introduced to Jesus!

Pastor Paul and the Mizpah Fellowship are meeting the needs of the local people, both physical and spiritual, and desire to continue sharing hope with the people of Bloemfontein.

The Mizpah Fellowship *in* South Africa

A SOLDIER OF THE CROSS

She is not a Superhero. In fact, Anja says,

“I am not Batman, Superman, or Spiderman, but I am a soldier of the cross! And I live by God’s instruction to “Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil.””

One afternoon, Anja participated in a gathering of about 95 boys and girls. Their goal was to reach the children with the message of Jesus through

games and songs. Anja described that they fed the children snacks, had many fun activities including singing about Jesus in Afrikaans, but one thing stood out to Anja:

“Many kids gave their lives to the Lord. They left with a Gospel of John Booklet in hand and now desire to serve the Lord!”

Anja L from South Africa—International Global Voice of Prayer

EASTERN EUROPE

SALVATION IN RUSSIA

God is using pocket-sized Gospels of John to work in the hearts of many people in Russia.

Irina, from St. Petersburg, is a ministry leader in her church. She came up with a wonderful way to share the Gospels of John with Russian women. Irina described,

“I had a good supply of beauty creams that I decided to give away to women in an online store. I posted an ad for free creams and included a Gospel with each order.”

People eagerly became her customers for the free gifts, commenting on what the Gospels meant to them. One woman wrote that she cried when she got the Gospel because she was making a crucial decision and the Gospel spoke to her. Irina further explained,

“Another girl told me she was experiencing despair and negative thoughts, but when she received the Gospel and read the words, she was encouraged and understood that she was not living in vain.”

Women go online and are interested in the free creams, but instead their lives are changed by the Gospel of John. Although Irina was initially concerned that people wouldn't accept the gift

of the Gospel, God has blessed her efforts. She proclaimed,

“I also gave Gospels to my work colleagues, and they were happy to accept the gifts. One of my colleagues was saved last week after reading the Gospel! These Gospels are really helping to evangelize in Russia!”

Pavel T. from Mission Eurasia in Russia

SHARING THE GOSPEL IN RUSSIA

Anna is from a small village and very small church in Russia shared her story:

“I am from a small church. We only have 8 adults and 11 children, but we are praying for a revival in our village. The pastor of our church teaches each of us how to evangelize and gives us pocket Gospels to do so. We get to share Jesus and the Gospel with people in our village.”

They are helping get the Gospel to other villages, as well. The church members learned that one brother was going to preach in his town nearby, but he did not have any Gospel material. The small church unanimously decided to donate some of their pocket-sized Gospels to him. They gave him

25 copies, and he shared them in his village. Anna continued,

“We are also reaching out to our children’s and grandchildren’s friends and telling them about Jesus Christ. We made a winter sled and invited our children’s friends over to ride the sled. Afterwards, we invite them to our house for tea, talk about Jesus Christ with them, and give them pocket Gospels.”

People are receiving Jesus! When people are given the pocket Gospel, they really love the convenience of carrying it in their pocket or purse to take with them wherever they go.

Anna I from Smolyaninovo, Krai Russia

FILLING THE EMPTINESS FOR A COLLEAGUE

Eugeniy was feeling a bit discouraged while on a recent business trip. He had begun to share the Gospel with some of his colleagues, and it had been like talking to a brick wall. They were not interested at all in what he had to say.

The next day they participated in an outdoor corporate picnic. Everyone was socializing and laughing, so Eugeniy joined in and struck up a conversation with another colleague. They covered

several topics, and at one point their discussion turned to focus on God.

Eugeniy's colleague said that despite all of his success, there was a terrible emptiness in his soul which he couldn't fill with anything. Eugeniy gleefully told him

“I know the answer to fill that emptiness!”

Under his tough, strong persona, this man had issues he could not resolve. Eugeniy showed him in the Gospel that Jesus would fill his emptiness. The pocket-sized Gospel had the words “There is Happiness” on the cover and the man said he wanted that happiness to fill his soul, so he prayed the prayer to believe in the Lord as his Savior.

Eugeniy recalled,

“The following day I saw him reading the small Gospel right there at work.”

As the days went by, he continued to read the Gospel and his life started changing. Jesus filled his empty soul and answered his questions.

Eugeniy K from Russia (received by Mission Eurasia)

LEAVE THE BAD, TAKE THE GOOD

Vlad and Inessa, two believers who live in Russia, are doing what they can to encourage people during the war. The couple has a unique way to reach people with the message of the Gospel.

They set up a table outside and have two posters on it. One says, “Leave the bad things behind,” and the other says, “Take the good things.” They offer people a small treat, like tea or cookies, and encourage them to take a small piece of paper to write something on it that they would like to get rid of. They then instruct people to light the paper on fire to leave the bad behind. Then they encourage them take a Gospel of John from a basket on the table, taking the good. Inessa says,

“That is how we try to share the Gospel message in a relaxed and simple way and connect with people on the street. By doing this, we have had the opportunity to invite many on the street to a Bible study.”

Their Bible study has been extremely successful. Inessa said excitedly,

“We had 14 come to our first meeting! One attendee, Mikhail, told us that when he reads the Gospel, it lifts him and his mood. We continue to share and point

people to Jesus through these Gospels!”

Vlad and Inessa from Russia (received by Mission Eurasia)

SEEDS SOWN PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT

A few years ago, a Christ follower from a church in Korosten, Ukraine visited a manicurist named Tetiana and started a conversation with her about God. She continued to share her faith with Tetiana over several visits to her salon. Those conversations bore fruit, and Tetiana came to the Lord. She joined a local church and even got baptized.

Recently, Tetiana reached out to Mission Eurasia staff asking for printed resources that she could share with her clients. They were delighted to provide her with pocket-sized Gospels of John to share with her clients. Tetiana explained,

“The printed resources I receive from PTL really help me. My clients read at home, and when they come back, they ask me questions.”

The salon is now a wonderful testament to how the Lord can transform lives. In addition to Gospels available for clients, the salon also has worship music playing softly in the background. Tetiana

takes every opportunity she can to talk about the Lord.

“I am so grateful to my client who shared about the Lord with me. It’s now my turn to share the Gospel with others. People just don’t know that God loves them, forgives them, and waits for them to accept Him. And it’s my mission to tell them about Him.”

From Mission Eurasia in Ukraine

REACHING PEOPLE IN UKRAINE

Irpin is a city in northern Ukraine located next to the capital Kyiv. With nearly 70 percent of Irpin destroyed during Russia’s invasion and occupation, the city is slowly coming back to life as Ukrainians attempt to rebuild their damaged homes.

In partnership with Mission Eurasia, PTL recently provided a new print run of Gospels in Ukraine. Pavel shared,

“We are so grateful for your help with printing 200,000 Gospels in the turbulent times in Ukraine when we as Christians are called to share the Good News and give hope in God!”

The Gospels are being distributed in more than 20 different cities and regions of Ukraine. Many

churches, mission partners, and volunteers are taking the Gospels to displaced people and those who live close to the front line. Pavel continued,

“We have started sharing the Gospel, which is spiritual bread—along with physical bread. God is on the move and needy people in the Irpin community are reading the Gospel of John during this time of great suffering.”

Pavel expressed his gratitude to the PTL Members who are in partnership with Mission Eurasia and encourages everyone to please pray for the people of Ukraine.

Pavel T. from Mission Eurasia—reporting from Ukraine

CHINA

WE ALL NEED GOD'S MERCY

Yin works for an architecture firm in China. When it came to light that her boss had embezzled more than 60,000 yuan wages from Yin and her coworkers, they filed a lawsuit to get the wages back. Through this process, Yin could not shake the feeling that her boss needed help finding true hope and peace, so she decided to take the opportunity to share the Gospel with him.

“My family and people around me thought I was crazy to share the Good News with this bad person, but I told them that we are all sinners. We all need God’s salvation and mercy; we are no better than him.”

After meeting with her boss one day, she told him she knew she would likely be fired and not see him again after the lawsuit, but she wanted to introduce him to someone—Jesus—so she handed him a pocket-sized Gospel of John. Yin recalled telling him,

“I hope you read this, accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, and find true meaning and direction for your life.”

Miraculously, the man accepted the Gospel and promised to read it. When he did, his life was forever changed! He accepted Jesus, just as Yin

has hoped, paid all the wages back, and even invited Yin to continue to work for the company. And that all happened because of Yin's selfless heart and willingness to be obedient to God's call.

Yin from China

GO MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS

Zheng lives in China and she sees it as her duty to reach people in her country with the Word of God. She recalls,

“When I became a Christian, I heard a message about sharing the Gospel with Someone and I was touched by the Holy Spirit. From then on, I have started to share pocket-sized Gospels with people.”

Whether she visits the hospital or goes shopping at the supermarket, Zheng always carries Gospels with her to share.

When she starts to doubt herself and her ability to evangelize, Zheng remembers Paul's words to Timothy to “Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season,” and is encouraged by Jesus' commandment His disciples to “Go and make disciples of all nations.”

She explains,

“With more understanding of the Bible, I know that whether people are saved or not depends on the Lord and the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts, but following God’s commandments depends on whether you obey or not. Thank the Lord, I always have the burden of sharing the Gospel.”

Every time Zheng shares a pocket-sized Gospel, she feels unspeakable joy and satisfaction. She fully trusts that the Lord is using PTL Gospels to bring salvation.

“What I am especially grateful for is that God is raising up so many brothers and sisters who love the Lord and make donations to support printing and distribution of the pocket Gospels, so that brothers and sisters around the world can jointly spread the Gospel.”

Zheng from China

TRAVELING AND SOWING

Jack is a businessman who has shared pocket-sized Gospels of John over many years and has seen the fruit of many people deciding to follow Jesus. He sees the Gospel booklets as the perfect tool for evangelism.

“I carry it with me every day. My work requires me to travel regularly, so as I travel I will share the gospel with people God directs me to. God is faithful and often uses His Word to attract people to follow Him.”

Other Gospel opportunities came about through daily activities and travel:

“As I went to the high-speed train station saw teenagers standing in line, so I shared Gospels with them and encouraged them to take a look Another time I met the construction workers on the roadside. I encouraged them to read Gospels to gain eternal hope. I shared it with parking clerks, taxi drivers and couriers at McDonald’s, and they were all happy to accept it.”

Jack knows that when he is willing to share the Gospel, God’s Holy Spirit is with him. He boldly declared,

“God’s name is worthy of praise. As long as we try our best to sow the seeds, God will make the seeds spread and grow. In these last days, the fields are ready for harvest. I hope we can all use these pocket Gospels to share with people and win more souls!”

Jack from China

INDIA

UBER EVANGELISM

One Sunday morning, a man in India took an Uber to church. His Uber driver was very approachable, so the man felt led to share a pocket-sized Gospel of John with him and invite him to attend church. The driver not only accepted the invitation to attend church, he became a regular attender and even accepted Christ in the process.

Now, every single week, that driver, with careful discernment, is sharing pocket-sized Gospels of John with his riders and inviting them to church. Through God's direction, many people are receiving Christ, and it all started with one small but mighty pocket-sized Gospel.

A Christ follower *in* India

NOTHING CAN STOP ME

Pastor Ashish and Sanjay were praying at home when the police barged into their house. They stepped on the pastors' Bibles and tore them up. The little money they had, along with their phones and their identity cards, was taken from them. The police took them to the station where they were beaten and tortured.

The pastors were perplexed, as they had no idea what crime they had committed to deserve such hostile treatment.

After three days at the police station, the authorities pressured the pastors to sign documentation stating they had forcefully converted people by paying them money. Pastor Ashish recalls telling them,

“We hardly have money to take care of our basic needs, where would we get that money to pay people for the sake of coercion?”

The two men were booked and imprisoned under the Freedom of Religion Act. Once in jail, they suffered terrible emotional and physical abuse at the hands of not only the prison guards but the other prisoners too. Sanjay remembered,

“Our inmates taunted us saying that we would be shot dead, and no one would hear about it because nobody cared about Christians.”

Thankfully, after five months in prison, these men were released. After an emotional reunion with his family, Ashish recalled how his mother’s first question to him was,

“Beta (my son), I hope you have not renounced your faith and forgotten your God.”

To which Ashish resolutely responded,

***“Never! Nothing can stop me from worshipping
my God!”***

Pastor Asish *in* India

THE GREATER MIDDLE EAST

CHRISTMAS IN KARACHI

There is often a delay in receiving stories of the impact the Gospels of John are having in countries around the globe. Pakistan is one such country.

William reported on behalf of our PTL Partners Pakistan Churches Alliance, Gawahi TV & Missions Pakistan, that this past Christmas Eve, God opened amazing doors for people to receive the Gospel in their heart language. William conveyed to our PTL Team with extreme excitement,

“For the first time in the history one of the world’s largest Islamic cities, God opened the door for a Celebration of Christmas in the streets of Karachi.”

Attracting over 1.5 million people from the city’s Muslim, Hindu, and Sikh, backgrounds, thousands of Christian church volunteers offered the PTL Gospels of John to people at the Christmas peace rallies. William recounted one personal story,

“Ahmed peddles his clay pots around the city, and he was shocked and surprised that the Gospel was being offered in the streets at the Christmas celebration. His response was that such a thing has always been impossible in Pakistan.”

Following the Christmas outreach, the PTL Partners in Pakistan have been overwhelmed by the response from Muslims and Hindus. Amed had curiously and happily accepted a copy of the PTL pocket Gospel in his language. William revealed,

Amed said that he would read the Gospel and then contact us later. And he did! He called our office with questions for our follow up team to help him understand how to put his faith in Jesus as his Savior.

William S. *from Partners in Pakistan*

SALVATION IN A DANGEROUS PLACE

Being a Christian in Iraq is extremely perilous, as is being a Missionary to the Iraqi people.

A member of The League, who has been a Missionary in Iraq for several years, recently shared that people there are hungry for a Word from God—and pocket-sized Gospels are perfect for helping people meet Jesus in an unnoticeable way.

She revealed,

“These books are just the right size to fit in my bag and they don’t draw attention to the people who want to read them.”

Due to ISIS, Christians in Iraq are under great oppression. Many have lost family members, and all have lost their homes and possessions. This missionary typically brings just one Gospel with her per day, as not to draw attention to her sharing of the Gospel. She confided,

“The solid gray covers on the Arabic language Gospels are great because they are discreet, and no one knows they are Bibles. No one takes them away from us.”

When given the Gospel, people who are open to reading about Jesus, devour it and ask for more. God’s word is changing hearts and bringing them from darkness into light.

Although Iraq is a dangerous place for sharing the Gospel, and most people there are Muslim, many have become believers after reading the Gospel of John.

League Member, Missionary to Iraq

FREE FROM DARKNESS

Fatima was a Muslim who was forbidden to leave her home. She heard talk about the Bible, including stories about strong women, and she knew that Jesus was known to treat women with respect.

When she saw news on Gawahi TV about a Christmas Peace Rally taking place in the streets, she fled from her home on a ricksha—despite knowing this act could get her killed. She just could not resist being drawn to the rally because she desperately wanted to know more about Christ.

At the rally, she received a pocket-sized Gospel of John, excitedly started flipping through it, and immediately insisted,

“I need more for my family and friends!”

Fatima is continuously in contact with Gawahi TV’s office, requesting prayers and more Gospels. She recently said,

“Every time I read the Gospel, I feel that Jesus loves me and He came to Earth for me. He set me free from darkness and brought me life!”

Praise God that 1.5 million people have been reached through these types of rallies and over 487,000 pocket Gospels of John have already been distributed.

Fatima from Pakistan

IT STARTED WITH A DREAM

Talha was a devoted Muslim—he even memorized the whole Quran and led Mosque prayer. One night, he saw Jesus in a dream and tried to find someone who could tell him more about Jesus.

Unfortunately, he could not find anyone willing or able to feed his curiosity.

A few months later, Talha heard about the Christmas Peace Rally that was taking place in another city. Even though he lived a great distance from this city, on the second day of the rally he came very early with his friend Abdu. He just had to find out more about the Jesus who visited him that night.

As soon as he heard the speaker from the Pakistan Churches Alliance, he was intrigued and engaged in a great conversation and powerful time of prayer.

The team gifted him a Pocket Testament League Gospel and he excitedly took it home to continue learning. A few days later, Talha called the team and exclaimed,

“I am meeting every day with Jesus through His Word which is real and alive!”

God transformed Talha's life and continues to use him to reach others with His Word.

Talha from Pakistan

MIRACLES FROM JESUS

Amina is the daughter of an Imam, a Muslim leader, but longed to know more about Jesus.

When she was just 8 years old, Amina was very sick and as a last resort, her mother took her to a Christian believer's home. The family prayed for her in the name of Jesus and the next day Amina was completely healed.

She explained,

“My mother told me a little about Hazrat Essa (Jesus) from the Holy Quran, and I wanted to know more and read His Gospel, but I was not allowed to.”

During the Christmas Peace Rally in the city, one of Amina's friends told her that the Gospel was being gifted in the streets. She immediately ran from her home to receive a copy of the Gospel of John. She shared,

“I would have died without the Gospel. So I am thankful for those who brought

***the Gospel for me to read. This is another miracle
from Jesus for me.”***

Amina from Pakistan

STILL, SMALL, VOICE

Haji Qasim was a Muslim who made the pilgrimage to Mecca three times, memorized the entire Quran, and participated in many other Islamic rituals—including praying in the mosque five times each day. He knew about Isa (Jesus) from the Quran, and in 2019, he had a dream about Him. He did not give it much thought at first, but he started asking questions about this Jesus. Unfortunately, no one could explain anything to him, so he quickly stopped asking.

He had all but forgotten about the dream, until the Christmas Peace Rally in his city. Haji Qasim explained,

***“I was going to the mosque and saw a big truck.
I overheard them talking about Jesus and said
that He is coming to save Muslims, Christians, and
everyone in the world.”***

Haji Qasim ignored the talk at first and kept walking towards the mosque, but as he was passing, he heard a voice whisper in his ear,

“Go and take the Gospel.”

So he did. After a week, Haji Qasim visited a church and took more Gospels to give to his other mosque friends and family. He testified, “

“Now I believe Jesus was born, died on the cross, rose from the dead, and is coming back soon.”

Haji Qasim *from Pakistan*

FRUIT SELLER, SEED SOWER

Mr. Jelani Ahmed is a fruit seller who is also a part of a Muslim extremist group that sends Muslims all over the world.

During our Christmas peace rally, we shared the PTL Gospel with him and described how Jesus came to earth to save all people. Mr. Jelani had some knowledge of Jesus from Quran but did not truly know who Jesus is or what he had done.

We gave him the PTL Gospel of John, and he started reading it. Jelani was especially impacted by the Gospel message of love, peace, and salvation. God is truly working in his life and now he is distributing PTL Gospels to all who buy fruit from him!

Partners *in Pakistan*

PTL APP - READ CARRY SHARE®

2023 Digital Reach

People in every country of the world except North Korea are meeting Jesus by reading the Gospel of John through the PTL APP, Read Carry Share®.

This year, the APP has been downloaded **6.52 million** times. Since the APP was launched, it's been downloaded over 10 million times!

What does that mean? It means that every 10 seconds of every day, someone is pulling up the Gospel of John onto their phone to read, or listen, or watch!

With most downloads occurring in Bangladesh, India, Algeria, Pakistan, Nepal, Iraq, Yemen, Ethiopia, Congo-Kinshasa, Libya, and throughout the 10/40 window, the APP is reaching some of the most hostile places for Christians in the world.

- **Bangladesh** - known for its historic Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist presence – 1,532,253 this year
- **India** - known for extremist destruction of Christian homes – 1,203,692 this year
- **Algeria** - known for being the largest African nation – 284,925 this year
- **Pakistan** - known for Christian churches being burned – 274,148 this year
- **Nepal** - known for the dangers of sharing the

Gospel – 234,858 this year

- **Iraq** – known for Saddam Hussain and terror – 222,558 this year
- **Yemen** - known for unending civil war– 190,207 this year
- **Ethiopia** - known for ethnic tensions– 159,056 this year
- **Congo** – known for colonialism and conflict – 137,985 this year
- **Libya** – known for Omar Kadaifi and terror – 124,726 this year

The APP is reaching people in large numbers in these cities as well:

- **Dhaka** - 389,360
- **Rajshashi** - 169,312
- **Sana'a** - 120,597
- **Chattogram** - 91,034
- **Havana** - 86,065
- **Tehran** - 81,823
- **Addis Ababa** - 76,008
- **Damascus** - 64589
- **Khartoum** - 63,888
- **Khulna** - 62,904

Watching God use the APP is like watching the Holy Spirit pour out upon the planet. In total, with the help of support from League Member donations, people in over 240 countries and territories have experienced God's Word and the story of Jesus.

What does a download accomplish? Consider this years impact as people saw an encouraging message to receive God's word:

- **6,521,754** of them downloaded it, leading to
- **47,924,751** views of God's Word.
- More than **96,000** times people have shared the APP with their friends and family.
- More than **147,000** people have clicked the button to "Learn More About Jesus".
- Many had read the entire Gospel and others even completed the self-guided 21 Day Challenge.

While much of the reach of the PTL APP happens through digital advertising, key partners are reaching even more people with hope by using the APP in their ministry outreach.

- Groundwire, a key ministry partner of The League, is using the APP to reach people here in America who speak English and Spanish, as well as those who live in India.
- Lifelight, a ministry in the U.S., featured the APP

at their annual live concert and musical festival.

- And in Pakistan, ads to download the APP and experience Jesus run on TV through a partnership with Gawahi TV.

The reach of the APP is truly of God, and not of our own doing. God has taken what was our initial vision of creating an APP for America and used it to reach across borders. Pray for the continued success of **Read Carry Share®!**

FOLLOW ME

Jesus loves people and people are curious about Jesus. Jesus' solution is simple. Follow me. For centuries, people have been doing just that, following Jesus.

Becoming a follower of Jesus is only the beginning of an exciting journey. Jesus called it being “born again” (see John 3:3). It means that you now have a personal relationship with God as your heavenly Father. You are not alone. God sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to be your Counselor, to guide you into all truth (see John 14:26; 15:26; and 16:12-15). He will help you live each day for God and to accept the changes He wants to make in your life. You can depend on His power to enable you to grow as a follower of Jesus.

Being a follower of Jesus involves a whole new life. Start now:

- ✓ **READ** a part of the Bible each day.
- ✓ **PRAY** daily; talk to God as you would a close friend.
- ✓ **WORSHIP** God by attending a church where the Bible is taught.
- ✓ **JOIN** with other followers for support and encouragement.
- ✓ **SHARE** your faith in Christ by offering people one of these Gospels.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? For a free course on the Gospel of John or to join The Pocket Testament League as a Member (membership is free), just visit our website at www.ptl.org/follow.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE

The Pocket Testament League is an interdenominational evangelical organization founded in 1893 when a teenage girl and her friends made a commitment to carry pocket-sized New Testaments to share with others. The League encourages followers of Jesus everywhere to Read, Carry and Share God's Word.

Learn more about The Pocket Testament League by visiting www.ptl.org/about.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Pocket Testament League adheres to the following statement of faith:

- † The inspiration and authority of the whole Bible (Old and New Testaments) as the full revelation of God by the Holy Spirit.
- † The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His substitutionary atoning death on the cross, His bodily resurrection, and His personal return.
- † The necessity of the new birth for entering the Kingdom of God, as described in John 3.
- † The obligation upon all believers to be witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ and to seek the salvation of others.

TOGETHER WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

We pray that you have been as blessed reading these stories as we were in preparing them for printing.

God is at work through our Members! His Book, the precious Word of God, is alive! Scripture reaches the heart as nothing else can, and these stories are living testaments to what happens when people give away His Word as a free gift to those they encounter.

If you have a heart's desire to reach the world for Christ, won't you consider partnering with The Pocket Testament League? There is no greater return on investment than putting Scripture into the hands of those who want to share it.

Learn more on our website at www.ptl.org or write to giving@ptl.org

POCKET

THE
POCKET
TESTAMENT
LEAGUE®

MOST POPULAR COVERS



45 GOSPEL LANGUAGES

1. Afrikaans
2. Amharic
3. Arabic (bilingual)
4. Armenian
5. Bahasa Indonesia
6. Belarusian
7. Bengali
8. English
9. Farsi
10. French
11. Gagauz
12. Georgian
13. German
14. Gujrathi
15. Haitian Creole
16. Hindi
17. Italian
18. Japanese
19. Jula
20. Kabardian
21. Khmer/Cambodian
22. Korean
23. Kurdish
24. Oriya
25. Pakistani
26. Polish
27. Portuguese
28. Punjabi
29. Romanian
30. Russian
31. Sepedi

32. Simplified Chinese
(bilingual)
33. Spanish (bilingual)
34. Swahili
35. Tamil
36. Telegu
37. Traditional Chinese
38. Tswana
39. Turkish
40. Tuvan
41. Ukranian
42. Urdu
43. Vietnamese
44. Xhosa
45. Zulu

53 BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

Afrikaans 2020 (Afrikaans)
Bible in isiZulu 2020 (Zulu)
Bible Segond 21 (French)
BSI Re-edited (OV) Hindi Bible - 2015 (Hindi)
Chinese Contemporary Version (Chinese (Simplified))
Chinese Union Version Simplified (Chinese (Simplified))
Chinese Union Version Traditional Chinese (Chinese (Traditional))
Common Language (Tamil)
Easy to Read Version (Bengali)
English Standard Version (English)
FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE New International Version (Romanian)
Georgian translation by Georgian Christian Publishing house "Paradigm Studio" (Georgian)
Good News Translation (English)
Gospel of John Christ has Risen (Gagauz)
Haitian Creole Version (Haitian Creole)
Indian Revised Version (Oriya)
Indian Revised Version (Punjabi)
Indian Revised Version (Gujrathi)
Indian Revised Version (Telegu)
isiXhosa 1996 (Xhosa)
Ivan Ohienko Bible translation in Ukrainian (Ukrainian)
Kabardian Translation (Kabardian)
Khmer Standard Version (Khmer/Cambodian)
King James Version (English)
Kiswahili Contemporary Version (Swahili)
Korean Revised Version (Korean)
Kurdi Sorani Standard Version (Kurdish)
Modern Belorussian Translation of Luka Nikolaevich Dzekuts-Maley and edition Anton Lutskevich (1926) (Belarusian)

New Amharic Standard Version (Amharic)
NEW ARARAT Revised Version of Armenian translation
(Armenian)
New Geneva Translation (German)
New International Version (English)
New Kutsal Kitap (Turkish)
New Living Translation (English)
New Living Translation (Bahasa/Indonesian)
New Revised Version 2006 (Italian)
New Russian Translation (Russian)
New Sepedi Bible Translation (Sepedi)
NTLH Português (Portuguese)
Nueva Version Internacional (Spanish)
Ohienko Bible Version (Ukrainian)
Persian Standard Version (Farsi/Persian)
Polish Living New Translation (Polish)
Revised Urdu Bible (2010) (Pakistani Urdu)
Revised Vietnamese Version (Vietnamese)
Russian Updated Synodal (Russian)
Swahili Union Version (Swahili)
The Bible in Jula (Jula)
The New Interconfessional Translation (Japanese)
Tswana Bible 1970 (Tswana)
Tuvan Translation IBS-Russia (Tuvan)
VanDyke (Arabic)

INSPIRING
STORIES
OF GOD'S POWER
AND FAITHFULNESS

SHARED BY MEMBERS OF THE
POCKET TESTAMENT LEAGUE

THE
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LEAGUE™

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Volume Eighteen
2023

In the narrative of the Gospel of John, Jesus' first words are, "What are you looking for?" which highlights that in the heart of every person, we are looking for something. Jesus then says, "Come and see," which is ultimately the invitation to Jesus, Himself. He is what people are looking for whether they realize it or not. He gives an open invitation for all to know and follow Him. God is powerfully at work, and these beautiful stories allow us to "come and see" the beauty of Jesus and how he's been working through His Word as the lost are found.

30 million people have been reached with the Gospel in 3 years! While this is an amazing accomplishment to celebrate, the task is not done. Take time to be encouraged by these stories, and may they challenge us on to keep sharing the Gospel. Allow the Holy Spirit to give you your own stories of His amazing work. Until our last breath, we will march forward sharing the best news there is, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but will have everlasting life."*

**READ
CARRY
SHARE®**

