



bible educational services

"Providing resources to Postal Bible Schools and others around the world."

"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

BES have Bibletime lessons at various stages of translation in 29 languages, and are working in 43 different countries.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Bible Educational Services has continued to grow over the last few months. There is an increase of students in a growing number of countries which is very encouraging. We want to see more young people "growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ". The lessons are being used in some places in an educational context and it is good that young people are learning more about the Bible. However we want the lessons to be used evangelistically so that young people will respond to the Gospel, so to this end, we work and pray seeking that God will put His seal upon this work and that many will be brought to know Him.



Above: Stephen Gillham with lessons printed at Every Home Crusade

A new development has been the printing of Romanian lessons for 40,000 children for a full year. The lessons have now arrived safely. Sam Balmer with Bert Gray went to Romania to train believers in the usage and distribution of lessons. Young people from churches throughout Romania will be using Bibletime lessons regularly. The work in Romania has been much blessed by the committed work of Mihaela Vlas. She prints and distributes over 6,000 lessons per month, so this is a tremendous step forward and much prayer is needed that all the lessons will be used wisely and those responsible will ensure efficient organisation and distribution of these lessons.



Training in Romania

Similarly Every Home Crusade are considering printing lessons in Malayalam and French. They are currently printing lessons for 2013, as they have done in the past two years, for Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Zambia and Ghana. We could not have progressed without the tremendous help and support which the whole Team in Dromara gives to Bible Educational Services.

In recent months we have had a number of meetings with Eikon Bible Art who are very anxious to publicise Bibletime Lessons through their Website and to encourage the use of Eikon Resources and Bibletime lessons in Churches and Schools throughout the world. We are still in conversation with Eikon and it is possible through the BES Web Site to obtain material which will be helpful to everyone who works with children.

The central pages of this Edition of BES News give a summary of countries where there are active teams using lessons at various stages in translation design, and printing. There are prayer needs throughout the world in this connection.

As we come to the end of a financial year, it is with much joy that we praise God for His provision of the financial needs for BES throughout this year. Each year we set a budget in faith recognising what we need to receive to see the work grow and how best this can be financed. There has been a big step of faith over the last two or three years as the budget has increased but the Lord has met our every need in a remarkable way. We are so grateful to those individuals, churches, Trusts and other sources who have supported us so well.

- Stephen Gillham

**SPRING
2012**

news

COUNTRY REPORTS



ARMENIA - Andreas Reh is coordinating Bibletime in association with Emmaus (ZAM), he has just visited co-workers there and writes "This year we should be able to launch BES. Year A is ready for print, year B needs grammatical checks and year C is almost translated.

VARIOUS SENSITIVE AREAS - A brother is having difficulty getting a team together for translation, some work has been done, however there is a sister in "N" who may be interested in helping in this project. A PBS coordinator writes "My friend Olga (missionary from X) emailed me that she uses Bibletime lessons for 25 poor children in a small village. She invites them to church and they work with the lessons there. She wants to start using the lessons in the south of her country with children through correspondence.

CONGO - Herbert Martin and Martin Vedder met with Sam and Revival Movement to discuss the possibility of printing thousands of French lessons per year for Congo. There is also interest in Ivory Coast to use the French version.

CROATIA - Damir coordinates the translation of the lessons into Croatian, and the printing of Level 1 in a religious magazine with a distribution of over 15,000 every month. Level 4 is used quarterly in another magazine with a distribution of 7000+. Damir is also using the English, French and Spanish translation of Bibletime for their language version of the same magazine. They have just requested German, Hungarian and Italian as well.

CANADA - Peter and Elaine Smith continue with the PBS centre and write "Our numbers have increased again this year so that last month we sent to some 1940 students. (Our team of teachers now numbers 244)." Praise the Lord".

EMMAUS - Our links with Emmaus are encouraging as we network together to reach the next generation. Emmaus (Zentralafrika Mission - ZAM) are using our material in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Armenia, Mongolia, Moldova, Germany and Congo. ZAM also print for the CIS countries they write "Please, pray for BES in the CIS. There is a great need as printing costs are going up!"

BES store lessons along side Emmaus ministries in Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa and Malawi. Other Emmaus centres show interest in the Bibletime material and some are already translating lessons e.g. Spain, Ethiopia, South Korea, UK and USA.



ETHIOPIA - Tadesse and the team continue to work hard on translation. One of the biggest challenges is the graphic design of the Amharic material. Please pray for Tamas and Tadesse as they make progress on this (see picture). The team need another laptop for the ministry. Once the translations and graphics are finished then the challenge will be printing. Please pray.

Left: An Amharic lesson

FRENCH - The translation is on-going and Tamas is doing a great job on the graphics. Praise God for such a dedicated team. Bibletime is being translated for the magazine in Croatia, and for the French speaking world. Sam plans to meet the team in June.

GERMAN - Tamas went to Andreas Reh's in Austria, to train Andraes and Mathais, on the Quark program to produce the German lessons for printing. Andrea Prezewoodnik has done the bulk of the translation work... God has sent us some wonderful people to work with.

GHANA - Praise God Sam had a great trip to Ghana and saw the storage and use of the lessons in three main cities. Pray for Israel who coordinates the BES ministry in Ghana.



Winifred, an orphan exiled in Ghana, completing a lesson.

ITALY - Sam Balmer is just back after a visit to Rod Jones who is coordinating the translation of the lessons. He has a team together, and it was great to meet with them and share the vision for BES. Please pray for this team. (below) They translated some of the Bibletime for use at camps. Croatia want to use the Italian version for the magazine produced in their country. The plan is to have the A series ready for use in January 2013 DV.



The Italian team.

INDIA - Praise God we have now signed a translation agreement with IBL India. They have commenced translation into Hindi, Tamil and Telegu. Revival Movement have shipped approximately 480,000 English Bibletime lessons for IBL to distribute all over the

country to various users. Sam plans to visit in the autumn to carry out some training for the believers at IBL. Prayer for these practical issues would be appreciated.

Kerala - By the grace of God the Ministries are going well here. "We were able to send over 1400 lessons out to various schools, churches and evangelists in different parts of India both in Malayalam and English."

IVORY COAST - Sinza who was at the BES conference has taken French PDFs that were ready to try and use them there. However he would love to have French printed lessons. If Revival Movement can help with French for Congo we may be able to send some to the Ivory Coast.

JAPAN - Sam had the privilege to meet Jim Holmes who with his local church continues to translate as they can, mainly for use in English classes. Jim has prepared a summary of how he uses bible time to teach English as a second language if you are interested in this contact sam@besweb.org.



Group that use the lessons to learn English.

KENYA - Sam Balmer and Stephen Gillham plan a visit to Nairobi in May and will have the opportunity to visit many of the schools where the lessons are being used. Teens for Christ reach over 100,000 teenagers every week and are using Bibletime as discipleship material for many of the students. They have a need for Bibles.

LIBERIA - Pat Pieters reports "I have just got back from a two week trip to Liberia. James Kaye, a pastor and leader there in ACFI is leading this effort. He is planning on using the materials in about 2 or 3 churches in Monrovia in the coming months. Then based on the success, he will begin to roll it out to the other 200 churches. Our church has donated funds for a printer and ink for them to make copies for the Sunday School use. Pray that they will take the time to do the pilot scheme soon and that it will be well received."

MALAWI - John Finegan reports "Regarding Bibletime, we have found that the level of English literacy is poor at best, and the puzzle and word-search concepts are beyond most of our readers ability. Those adults who were doing the English Emmaus studies were able to cope - sometimes - with the Intermediate and Senior Bibletime which we sent along with their ECS courses. May be the Lord could raise up someone to start translation of Bibletime into Chichewa."

MOLDOVA - Toli who works with Emmaus writes "Pray for the planned playground and camp, as well as for God to send those who are willing to work with children and to be instructors." Hariuc in Moldova is getting lessons from Mihaela, approximately 1500 per month, he says if he goes to churches he could use 7000 per month. We are hoping that the lessons sent from Revival Movement will be able to get to Hariuc. The problem is getting the lessons across the border from Romania to Moldova.

MONGOLIA - Andreas Reh writes "A major Sunday School project

of New Tribes Mission material (56 pictures with texts) has been translated. This means, that our translator in Ulaanbaatar should be free now to start translating for BES."

NORWAY - In the International Church in Skien, there are a number of nationalities who may be able to assist with translation in various languages. Prayer appreciated.

PORTUGUESE - They have a number of lessons translated by Rosana Carosso and Gil Vargas has done the graphic layout. In Brazil others are helping with the translation and graphics and we would value prayer that this would continue to progress. Portugesse is the 7th most spoken language in the world.

RUSSIA - Steve McDonald has just returned following a visit to meet the team developing online lessons. They are making progress on Bibletime for various iOS, android and PC systems. Please pray for Steve as he helps the team for Nikolay. This is an exciting project and we look forward to the prototype release. Steve writes following his visit: "The development team made good progress on the technical side, Nikolay seems pleased. I was also able to sit with the designers and work on the design side, and good progress was made here also. I think the standard of work on both sides is really great. My desire for the programme is for it to impress anyone who uses it, Christian or otherwise, in order to bring glory to Him and to spread His Gospel to millions around the world. There is still a long way to go but I feel excited that, God willing, it looks as though we will fulfill this vision. Exciting times!!!"

SOUTH AFRICA - Sam has had contact from a brother who is interested in translating Bibletime into Africans. Please pray for wisdom and God's will in discussions. Marlon continues to use the lessons along side Emmaus.

SOUTH KOREA - Brother Sung-Mo Yuh has requested details to translate into Korean. This could be a potentially massive audience of children. They have a pilot project started with New Life material. Pray for a team to commence Bibletime.

SPANISH - There is a demand for the Spanish lessons in Croatia and other Spanish speaking countries. It is a challenge for the Emmaus team to keep up with the translation as they are already under pressure.

TANZANIA - "A good foundation is to be built to this generation we serve. We feel privileged to participate in this work. The container with the B series lessons has arrived and we now need to transport these to Moshi. Let us keep praying for the people who are using them." Sam and Stephen Gillham plan to visit David Ombeni, users of the lessons and the Swahili translation team in their African trip during May.

UK - Sam and his son Matthew are planning to visit some of the PBS Centres in the UK from the 15th -22nd April. Prayer for safety in travel, and encouragement for all concerned would be valued. UK postage is being increased by over 33%. This will mean massive increases in costs for PBS centres, pray that the Lord would meet this extra need.



The Living Word PBS team in Stoke-on-Trent (UK)

UKRAINE - In association with Emmaus, Ukraine have commenced to print in colour and are having a good response from various churches. Stepan writes " Our prayer requests; in three regions (out of 24) we do not have BES instructors. Pray that the Lord will provide in these regions His servants for the children. Pray for wisdom in the proper organisation of ministry in Ukraine, especially among the different denominations who are showing an interest in using Bibletime.

USA - The Bibletime lessons are being "Americanised" and we are indebted to Jamey Walls for her help in doing this, along with the BES graphic designer Steve McDonald. Eikon Bible Art will use this version of our material to be distributed free, so we trust others may show interest in the USA. Continue to pray for the Kelderman's in Wichita, who are using Bibletime for some students locally.

WELSH - The Bibletime lessons are available in Welsh on our website and we trust that people from the Welsh speaking community would make use of the resource.

ZAMBIA - "We are overwhelmed by the number of churches and now private schools, wanting to register. Pray with us as we manage all the training that is needed for all churches and schools. We have had a training seminar with over 300 youth workers / elders in Nyangombe. The believers in the Nyangombe area have commenced translation into Lunda. Sam and Steve McDonald had the privilege of meeting Gordon McKillop who is helping with coordination of the Lunda project."

WEBSITE - The BES site www.besweb.org has over 1500 registered users downloading lessons for use all over the world.



Missionary Children in Cameroon completing lessons downloaded from the website.

UGANDA - A user called Elisabeth D writes "I am very thankful to you for the Bible Lessons which are available on your website! I use the Senior Lessons constantly for my Secondary School Students here in South Sudan. About a month ago we also started using the New Life Lessons with one of the groups."

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees need prayer in the appointment of New Trustees and if possible appointment of Associates. There are some people who work in other countries who would not regularly be able to meet with us in this country, but who play a vital part in the BES Ministry.



Bert (third from left) and David (far right) with the trustees.

As Trustees, we are very much in need of prayer. David Purchase, who has been our Treasurer since the commencement of Bible Educational Services in the UK has asked to be replaced during the course of 2012. David has done a tremendous job keeping all the accounts very accurately and he will be missed for his counsel and financial help.

Bert Gray has also indicated that he feels the time has come to step down as a Trustee. Wendy and Bert were responsible for the first Postal Sunday School, BES in Ireland, and the development of Postal Bible School Centres in the UK and around the world. He will continue to work with Bible Educational Services as much as possible.

FINAL THOUGHT

When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."

- **Matthew 9: 36-38**

BES TRUSTEES & CONTACTS

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Some Trustees are available to give reports and encourage prayer for this worldwide ministry.

Further copies of this BES news can be downloaded from the BES website - www.besweb.org