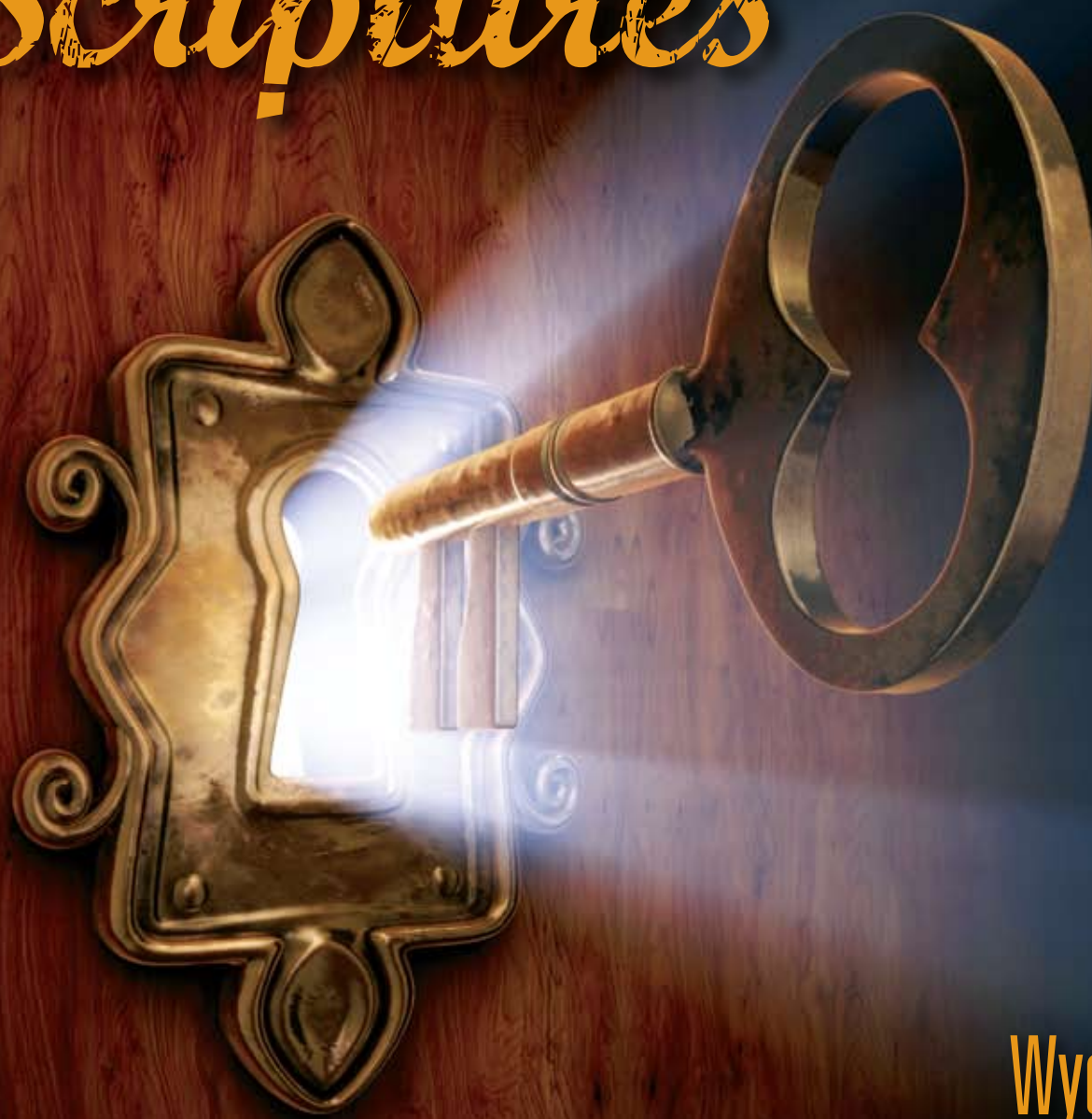


Faith Comes By Hearing[®]

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Unlocking *the* *Scriptures*



Wycliffe and
Faith Comes By Hearing

The Key is Partnership

Morgan Jackson, International Director



Morgan with pastor in Rwanda

I've said it before, but it's worth repeating – **Bible translators are right at the top of my list of heroes.** It takes a special calling and commitment to spend the years – or even decades – necessary to make Scripture available to a people group that has never had it before. That's why we are so honored to work in partnership with *Wycliffe Bible Translators* and *The Seed Company*.

My wife Mari and I are deeply blessed by our friendship with Bob and Dallas Creson of Wycliffe. Every time we spend time together, I am challenged by their commitment to see all people everywhere have access to God's life-changing Word.

Our thanks to Wycliffe and to you, our donors, for your partnership with us in taking the pure Word of God to poor and illiterate people the world over.

A Servant of Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morgan Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morgan Jackson

International Director

*Bob Creson, President,
Wycliffe Bible Translators USA,
on a recent trip to South Asia*



Closed Door No More

God's Word Transforms Lives

“Is there really one God?”
“Does He speak my language?”
“Can He hear my prayers?”

These questions are asked over and over again by more than a billion people with no access to God's Word in their own language. And yet each individual life is precious to the Lord.

Wycliffe Bible Translators' goal is to serve these people by making God's Word accessible in the language of their hearts. Along with its partner organizations, among which Faith Comes By Hearing is honored to be counted, Wycliffe is passionately committed to seeing God honored through the transformation of lives – through Bible translation, language development and research, access to education through literacy training, and more.

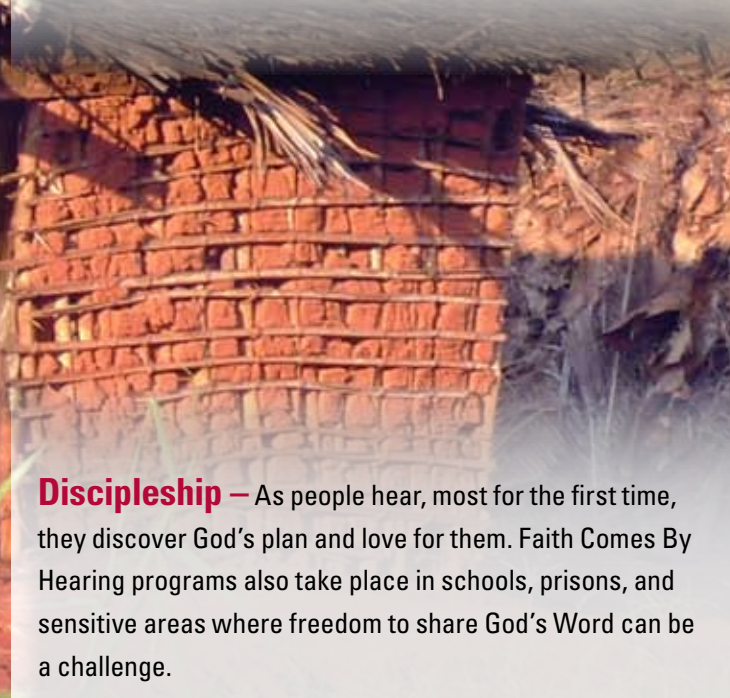
In 1999, this passion to see God glorified led Wycliffe to adopt Vision 2025: *To see a Bible translation program in progress in every language still needing one by the year 2025.* Working in partnership with mother-tongue speakers and other organizations, and using updated creative strategies, Wycliffe is witnessing an unprecedented acceleration in the rate of Scripture translation. With God's blessing, the last translation project may begin 100 years sooner than previously anticipated!

Faith Comes By Hearing is privileged to commit to recording every New Testament translation completed by *Wycliffe* and *The Seed Company*. With your support, we labor to bring God's Word to ALL people everywhere – so they might know who He is, that He speaks their language, and hears their prayers.

From Translation to Transformation



Translation – The first step in reaching oral communicators is translating the Word of God in their heart language. This is made possible through the sacrificial work of partners, such as *Wycliffe* and *The Seed Company*, who spend many years in the field completing each translation.



Discipleship – As people hear, most for the first time, they discover God’s plan and love for them. Faith Comes By Hearing programs also take place in schools, prisons, and sensitive areas where freedom to share God’s Word can be a challenge.

Listening Programs – Field partners and local churches take responsibility for starting Faith Comes By Hearing listening groups using the Audio Bible. A listening group in a village or church will listen together through the Scriptures regularly, discussing what they hear and how they should live. Existing churches mature...new churches are formed.





Recording – When a translation is completed, national Faith Comes By Hearing teams travel to the region to record the New Testament. The recording team, native speakers, and music and sound effects combine to create an Audio Drama Bible.



Working in partnership with other ministries, Faith Comes By Hearing's goal is to record New Testaments in every language that has been translated. Listening groups are started in churches and villages to disciple people in their own mother tongue.



Bridge to Literacy – As people hear God's Word in their own language, their desire to read for themselves increases. Many learn to read as they follow along while listening.



For millions of people, *hearing* God's Word is life changing.



Wycliffe Languages on Proclaimers

Through the Every Church Every Village program, church short-term mission teams take Proclaimers around the world, resulting in lasting discipleship long after the teams leave. Thanks to generous donor funding, more than 1,000 churches have taken over 19,000 Audio Bibles to 100+ countries!



México

– Nahuatl Guerrero language

“I have difficulty putting into words the way the Proclaimers opened doors and the wonderment on faces, as some heard their language come out of a box for the first time. The idea that Americans cared about their spiritual growth was encouraging. In English, *Thanks* is an overused word; I only pray that those involved in providing Proclaimers can truly understand the depth of appreciation the people of the church in Pochahuizco want to express. It has changed and is changing lives.”

Terri Stralow, Secretary, Iglesia De Ministerio Internacional El Shaddai, Monroe, NC

Cameroon

– Kako and Kom languages

“We introduced Proclaimers at a national conference for church leaders, pastors, teachers, and evangelists, and they were remarkably well-received. Approximately 100 people learned how to use the Proclaimer and became inspired to do so. In fact, a Proclaimer service was already taking place by the time I left – and plans were also in place for each set of six Proclaimers to be taken to its language area for immediate use.”

Pastor Charles Adams, Toledo Foursquare Church, Toledo, OR

Ecuador

– Quichua Chimborazo language

“Our trip to Ecuador was absolutely wonderful! I believe the Lord used us to accomplish much where Jesus is not well known. The village leader was deeply grateful for all that took place and amazed that we would come so far to help – but he came to understand that it was for the love of Jesus Christ. I sense that they now comprehend the love of Christ and the Proclaimer will be a wonderful tool to provide more teaching!”

Team Leader Jan Pritts, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Bloomington, IL

Mali – Bambara language

“After sharing the Gospel with a village that had never heard it, six men accepted Christ and we gave them a Proclaimer. Returning the next day, a man with the player under his arm told us, ‘We gathered the village together last evening and listened to it until bed. And then we took it to the fields and listened as we worked all day.’ This is a wonderful tool for the Gospel of Christ.”

Pastor Ryan Perry, Bayview Baptist Church, Columbia, SC



Partnering with our Local Churches

Christ Community Church – St. Charles, IL



Eric Hanson, International Impact Director

Christ Community Church helped fund the Audio New Testament recording of the Wycliffe translation for the Ticuna people of Colombia, Brazil, and Peru. While on mission trips around the world, the church experienced first-hand the benefit of sharing God's Word in audio.

Eric Hanson shares their church's heart for missions and how God's Word in audio is helping them achieve their mission goals.



FCBH: Not many churches take 30-35 mission trips a year. What makes your church so missions oriented?

HANSON: The father of our senior pastor grew up as a missionary kid in north India, so he has a heart for missions. It makes it much easier when the senior leadership holds that value. Missions is not just a department in our church, but a thread that runs through everything we do.

FCBH: Does God's Word in audio help in your mission's goals?

HANSON: When I heard about Faith Comes By Hearing, I immediately realized this was not just a new upstart ministry, but very deep and broad and that it had great potential related to what we're already doing.

We work together with indigenous leaders in unreached, frontier areas dealing with translation issues and orality. So I could see a lot of synergy for what we already do.

FCBH: Have the Proclaimers helped?

HANSON: We work in six countries: Sierra Leone, Haiti, Brazil, Bangladesh, Mexico, and Czech Republic. We found our partners in Sierra Leone were already using Proclaimers, and as new languages become available, we're bringing them over.

In Bangladesh, they had used some other type of audio unit, but they were having problems with them and they were breaking; the Proclaimers are more heavy duty.

You can put a tool like the Proclaimer in your partner's hands. It's also something you can take along with your teams to equip them. It helps give our teams confidence wherever orality is an issue.

Our thanks to Christ Community Church for their support and partnership in world missions!



Divine Appointment

Billy Hibbs, Jr.



A passion for missions inspired Billy Hibbs, Jr. and his wife Tisa to become a major force in sending Proclaimers around the world. Their support of Faith Comes By Hearing's partnership with Wycliffe is having an eternal impact on thousands of program participants. Billy shares how they became involved:

“We had our first exposure to Faith Comes By Hearing through what can only be described as a ‘God instance.’ I was president of the Friendly Class at Marvin Methodist Church in Tyler, Texas, which has been broadcast live on the radio since 1930. A mutual friend named Steve Hemphill was the guest teacher. Steve gave a program on the Proclaimer and talked about how it had the potential to change the world for Christ, particularly for the illiterate.

A few weeks later we learned that an East Texas couple with substantial resources had pledged a major gift based on listening to that radio program. Their adult children were successful missionaries in Africa and they understood that this was a tool the missionaries were lacking. With Proclaimers, new Christians could continue to grow in the Word of the Lord, even after the missionaries moved on. That gift inspired a number of opportunities for our Sunday school class, including Proclaimers for hospitals, the homebound, our own church missionaries, and others working across the world for Christ.

We receive a tremendous amount of satisfaction supporting Wycliffe and Faith Comes By Hearing. The organization is very responsive and allows us to place Proclaimers in the hands of our missionary friends on short notice. The adjoining picture shows five Ugandan pastors who are experiencing

the Good News from a Proclaimer for the first time. This spontaneous moment was captured by our friends, the Barretts, and expresses the amazing joy of these people in an unforgettable way. What a wonderful tool with which to share the Gospel!”



Billy and Tisa are creating an imperishable legacy by embracing the Lord's work as their own. The Faith Comes By Hearing programs sponsored by the Hibbses are opening the riches of God's Word to listeners and focusing the power of His love where it is most needed in their lives.

“With Proclaimers, new Christians could continue to grow in the Word of the Lord, even after the missionaries moved on.”

Faith Comes By Hearing®

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It is our editorial policy to change the names of some individuals for their protection. All Scripture verses quoted in English Standard Version (ESV).

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