

God's Word for every language — in this generation!

seedlinks

Following The Leaders

Igniting A Passion That Counts

Growing Up With A Vision



A Generation Embracing BIBLE Translation



Words from Roy



had the privilege last fall of attending Lausanne 2010, a gathering of global Christian leaders in Cape Town, South Africa. Themes included reconciliation, suffering, the diversity of the Church and unreached people groups.

At the first Lausanne Congress in 1974, no one knew how many unreached people there were — so how could believers fulfill Jesus’ command from Matthew 28:19-20 to “go and make disciples of all nations”?

Fast forward to 2010, the Third World Congress on World Evangelization. Woven throughout the messages was the urgency of eradicating Bible poverty. Opening keynote speaker, Dr. Os Guinness, noted, “Unless this generation gets it right, there is only a fifty-fifty chance that our civilization will survive. This is sobering and a narrow canyon to navigate. This is the most critical time since the first century.”

In the midst of suffering, young people are finding the courage to take the Gospel to their people. All 4,200 of us wept together when a teenager from Asia told us the story of her father, who had been martyred for his faith. Then she stood, trembling in prayer for spiritual freedom for her country.

While the world worships at the altar of diversity, Lausanne’s speakers reminded us that Jesus is the Truth. The Church cannot compromise that fact. At my table discussion group, a pastor from India told his wife’s story. Her family was of the highest caste, and had dedicated her to become a temple priestess. It deeply distressed her as a teen. One night, a parcel fell from a passing truck and broke open. A Gospel tract fluttered out at her feet. It led her to Jesus. Today, this couple is working with unreached people groups throughout their nation.

The Church is on the move, despite apathy, pluralism and persecution. This generation is embracing Jesus and the Great Commission. As you and I partner with national translation teams, we can help them receive the most basic tool for ministry, the Truth — God’s Word in their languages.

Roy L. Peterson | President



Over 4,000 leaders from 198 countries came together in Cape Town, South Africa, to confront the critical issues of our time as they relate to the future of the Church and world evangelization.

Learn more about the history, vision and global impact of the Lausanne Movement at www.lausanne.org

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Following the LEADERS —



From left to right—
Heidi Rickels
John and Verla York
Rick and Jan Britton
Tara and Ryan Tiller

Becoming the LEADERS

Heidi Rickels doesn’t have time for one more thing in her life. Like many other 30-some-things, Heidi juggles family, job and volunteer responsibilities. But when she heard she could participate in Bible translation, Heidi was excited to help. Heidi’s retired parents, Johnny and Ricki Hein, are passionate about their “second careers,” which includes prison ministry, pastoral care, and being avid advocates of Bible translation.

Denver Friends Changing Lives Together

Heidi’s parents found out about The Seed Company when John and Verla York invited them and other friends for a potluck dinner at their Denver home. The Yorks asked each couple to bring a dish and a check in the amount of what eating at a nice restaurant would have cost. The group then pooled their resources to help support a national-led Bible translation project.

That was in 1990. Many years and dinners later, this “Denver Group” has grown. Having partnered with many national translators, they’ve touched countless lives around the world. Now a younger generation is joining them. For their recent

Enthusiastic young people and their circle of friends are pooling resources to help national Bible translation efforts.

bi-annual meeting, Heidi, who has worked with many nonprofit organizations, got involved. Eight of her friends filled a table. “This stage of life is difficult for young families who struggle to balance time and money. One couple at my table has three kids. But they got a babysitter for that night; I was honored that they could come!

I’m seeing how having the Word of God in a heart language impacts people. I’m a big fan of finding the most efficient way to impact people.”

Young Couple in Springfield Taking the Lead

In Springfield, Missouri, Ryan Tiller answered a phone call in March to find Jan Britton, a mentor and the mother of close friends, on the other end. “Pack your bags and go with us to the President’s Forum,” she said. She explained briefly about the worldwide need for Bible translation and assured Ryan it would be a mountaintop experience.

When they returned, Ryan and his wife Tara organized a large meeting with scores of friends and invited Seed Company President, Roy Peterson, to share with them. “They put together the whole thing,” Roy noted. “Young couples are ready to take the Word to those who still need it.” ✨

Igniting A Passion That Counts!



“Our generation desperately wants to do something tangible to change lives across the world.”

“It’s more than ink on a page; it’s transforming people’s lives and entire communities.”



OneVerse Artist >>> Canopy Red Standing True

While harnessing the energy of an enthusiastic young crowd, band members of Canopy Red (l-r) — **Nicholas Cleary (18), Ryan Harvell (20), Forrest Krazit (20) and Joshua Schmidt (18)** — speak about the power of OneVerse. “You can impact the world by sponsoring one verse of Scripture,” calls out Forrest, the lead vocalist. “It’s more than ink on a page; it’s transforming people’s lives and entire communities, the same way God has transformed you!”

Canopy Red, named for “living under the shelter of Christ’s blood,” formed a partnership with the OneVerse Artists Program in 2009. “We hope to see the Arew people get God’s Word for the first

time, be transformed by it, and then spark a revival throughout all of Tanzania!” Joshua explained.

Band members know that even one verse can speak volumes; Mark 13:13 inspired the song “True” on their recently released EP with Creative Soul Records.

Challenging this rising generation to stand firm in the faith, Canopy Red is leading others to make a difference ... one verse at a time. ♪

Check out the OneVerse Artists Program at artists.oneverse.org

What happens when youthful passion intersects with God’s purposes? Since 2007’s Atlanta Passion Conference, college students have answered that question with more than \$592,000 to fund Bible translations impacting over 2.5 million people in nine language groups!

April 1-3 in Fort Worth, Texas, **Passion 2011** will draw thousands of students from throughout the nation, offering them an opportunity to deepen their relationship with Jesus. Many also will hear about Bible poverty for the first time and take back the OneVerse challenge to their campuses, youth groups or congregations.



ACHÉ OF PARAGUAY

Speakers: 1,500

Project goal: New Testament, and Old Testament portions

Project start: 2005

Est. completion: 2015



RUTARA OF SOUTH ASIA

Speakers: 200,000

Project goal: New Testament, and Old Testament portions

Project start: 2010

Est. completion: 2016



A Generation Embracing Bible Translation

Connect with other students, ministries and organizations called to Bible translation at:

www.oneverse.org
www.theseedcompany.org

Do Something Now!

Register online to volunteer at or attend Passion 2011 at 268generation.com/passion2011

Over the past four years, Taylor University's student body has been the primary partner providing funds for Aché translators in Paraguay to finish the New Testament for their people. They raised \$75,000 for a matching gift challenge from Taylor's alumni. And that's not all.

Through Taylor's Lighthouse Program, student groups have visited the Aché community for the past three years and helped build a preschool and an elementary classroom. When students returned home from these mission trips, they had lots of dirt under their nails and lots of love for the Aché people in their hearts.

Now Taylor is gearing up to participate in a second South American Bible translation project for the 1,500 Toba people who live in small wooden houses in six tight-

knit communities located on the edge of humid forests in southeastern Paraguay. Although up to 40 percent are Christians, many Toba believers are still clinging to old beliefs.

Aché translation consultant, Victor Gomez, will train the Toba mother-tongue translation team. Taylor University is challenging its student body to get involved in helping the Toba receive Scriptures in their own language.

True to form, Taylor students step up to demonstrate the rich joy in serving others and their passion for Bible translation.

And others are following the call.

After Abbey Konz and Cameron Crake attended a Passion Conference, they took the OneVerse challenge back to their campus. T-shirts were made to

"It's always surprising to people that the job of Bible translation isn't done yet."

— Michal Ann Morrison

raise money for Bible translation. Through viral marketing, word spread and more than \$5,000 was raised to help multiple people groups receive Scriptures.

Though Abbey and Cameron graduated, their legacy lives on at A&M. OneVerse on-campus director, Michal Ann Morrison, now oversees fundraising, T-shirt sales and event publicity. "It's always surprising to people that the job of Bible translation isn't

done yet," says Morrison.

Megan Dortch adds, "We can be a part of providing Scriptures for those who have none even while we're in College Station, Texas, attending the university. We want to be on the front lines of these missions."

OneVerse representatives at Fort Worth's Passion 2011 will give every student attending a chance to do just that. ∞

University Students Making *the* CONNECTION



“Lord, please use me among the tribal people,” said 10-year-old Linda Tobing.

Linda was amazed to learn the Sawi people saw Judas as the hero in his betrayal of Jesus. Because they idealized and plotted treachery as a way of life, they considered Jesus weak. But God, in His mercy, revealed Truth to them in a way they could understand. Peace between the warring Sawi clans could only be achieved through the gift of a “peace child.” The Sawi chiefs had to exchange a child to be raised by the enemy tribe. As long as that child lived, there would be peace.

Linda realized how Jesus was God’s gift to bring peace between Himself and sin-stained humanity.

“I realized that He wanted me to help train and equip ministers, consult in Bible translation and help the mother-tongue translators.”

Linda has already participated in three translation projects in Southeast Asia, by helping train mother-tongue translators and checking their drafts. She’s also taken specialized linguistics courses related to Bible translation and learned translation-related software that she will train others to use. Her academic preparation will continue through both formal schooling and informal mentoring by an experienced consultant.



Growing Up With A Vision

When the movie *Peace Child* ended, 10-year-old Linda Tobing of Indonesia sat sobbing. The story she had watched about a missionary couple’s work among the Sawi people of Eastern Indonesia, had so impacted her heart, it would form her destiny.

Right then, Linda knew she wanted to spend her life introducing people to God’s Peace Child.

“I saw how great our God is,” Linda said. “He loves those people I saw in that movie.” She then made a commitment that became her life’s motivation: “Lord, let me study as high as I can so that I can teach them and help them have better lives.”

Before her college graduation, Linda again prayed, “Lord, please use me among tribal people.”

With no idea how to contact a mission agency, Linda went to the yellow pages of the local phone book. She made calls, gathered information and started moving toward God’s calling. As she made connections and gained more training and exposure to missions, the Lord led her to Bible translation. Linda had found her niche.

Translation needs are far beyond what the current Bible translation consultant force can handle. Linda and 56 others are in training to bridge that gap. Over the next four years, the Consultant Development Program plans to add an additional 139 interns. This will allow for essential growth in the number of active Bible translation projects so those who still need God’s Word can have it as soon as possible. ∞



Today Linda Tobing is helping train mother-tongue translators.



Training as a Bible translation consultant requires spiritual and academic preparation. Please pray for our consultants, and pray that others may hear God’s call into this dynamic and rewarding field.

Born for This

Lisa, a translator in a sensitive project in Asia, was raised in a traditional home. "I thought everyone was like us, knowing the national language well. I reasoned that doing Bible translation was a waste of time."

That changed during her first year of college, when Lisa agreed out of curiosity to help check the translation of the Book of Genesis in her heart language. "Growing up, I thought I didn't have a good memory. I stayed after school to recite my lessons because I couldn't remember them. But while I was helping check Genesis, I could retell long passages after listening only once in my mother tongue."

"That experience totally changed my attitude toward Bible translation. I realized the signifi-

Racing for God's Word

One young runner is taking God's Word to the streets — with urgency. As part of Team OneVerse — linking runners and supporters for the cause of Bible translation — Austin Groff, age 28, ran the Philadelphia Marathon on November 21. Cheering him on were supporters who pledged to support Scripture translation. Their total of \$1,500 is now making possible the translation of 55 verses in the Rutara language of South Asia!

Although an injury forced him to finish at the halfway mark, he felt victorious, proudly holding a "Blank Bible." Prior to the race, he explained, "I am running a

cance of learning God's Word in the heart language. Through working on the Scriptures, my heart was transformed! It was God's blessing that I was born [in my language group] so I could do the work He has called me to ... so my people can know God's great love and the salvation He has prepared through His Son." ∞

marathon for the glory of God and for someone without a Bible. Why wouldn't I run the marathon with a Bible in my hand? It won't be convenient, but often the Christian life isn't convenient." ∞



"Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."

— Psalm 119:105 (NLT)

Bible Translation is Discipleship



"With the Scriptures in my own language, I am memorizing verses and they are not disappearing from my head. I used to have some verses memorized in English and Rutooro, but I failed to understand or retain them; the languages were not my own."

— Mr. Bony, a Lubwisi pastor, Uganda



A Chain of Prayers and Bible Translation Continues

In spite of severe warning, missionaries Jenny and Frank began planting a church among the reputedly fierce Yazai people of Southeast Asia in the 1930s. Recognizing the need for Scripture in the mother tongue, the couple devised an alphabet and translated the Gospel of Mark. Just three years into their ministry, Frank died of typhus and Jenny returned home. Though she left the Yazai, the Yazai never left Jenny's heart and for 60 years she prayed for the Yazai. In 1997, a SIL International translator and two

Yazai brothers formed a translation committee, and The Seed Company partnered with them in the project. Though Jenny died in 2003, her prayers have continued bearing fruit.

In 2009, the Yazai church, now more than 40,000 strong, dedicated their New Testament.

A new generation will grow up reading Scripture in their mother tongue. The main Yazai translator is now preparing as a consultant for the Yazai Old Testament project and will be helping other Bibleless people groups hear about Jesus. One believer commented, "The New Testament is like a shirt, but we need pants!" ∞

GOD'S WORD CHANGING LIVES — AROUND OUR WORLD

KidsDiscover Bible Translation

When someone in Heather Harbaugh's homeschool e-group recommended KidsDiscover, Heather enrolled four of her children. "We have enjoyed having two different examples of storytelling. The kids liked having the other activities to do. The print-out of the story for them to practice was helpful."

My 10-year-old has become much more expressive in her storytelling."

Give your children a positive, new Bible experience. Watch them grow in their faith as they share Bible stories with their friends. Enroll your family at oneverse.org/kidsdiscover. ∞

Share your passion with the young people in your life. They'll get the word out. It's what they do.



One Click and Teens Discover Bible Translation

Our youth are totally in touch with the latest trends. Social media has become the new grapevine. Just one click and it spreads like wildfire. ∞

Blog.theseedcompany.org is a great resource filled with stories about how God is changing lives. Check it out. Add thoughts. Share with others. Thanks!



inter SEED

“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray...’” — Luke 11:1a

Jesus had just finished praying. And the disciples had been watching Him. Their observation led to curiosity, and curiosity created a desire to learn, to grow, to experience what Jesus experienced. So they asked Him to teach them — to train them — to pray.

It serves as a reminder to me as a young father that when I pray, two little guys are watching me too. What do they observe? Are they curious? Do they have a desire to learn, to grow, to experience what I experience in prayer?

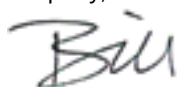
Maybe all they need is an invitation.

So I’m challenging myself to *invite them*. I encourage you to begin inviting your children or grandchildren to join you. Share about the people group for whom you’re praying. Explain that these people don’t have the Bible in their language, and tell them about the team working to translate God’s Word for this people group.

Then pray together. As you do, listen to their prayers ... and observe.

You (and I) just might learn something.

Let us pray,



Bill McCoy | Director of Prayer

“GOD speaks MAJANG”



ETHIOPIA, AFRICA

Speakers: 40,000

Project goal: New Testament

Project start: 2009

Est. completion: 2014

God is moving in a mighty way to build the Majang-speaking church. Since the late 1900s, many have chosen to follow Christ. About 85 percent now attend church. Prayer partners play an essential role in lifting up this young church’s foundational work in Bible translation.

Call **877-593-7333** or visit theseedcompany.org/pray to support this team in prayer.



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ABOUT US

Vision: God’s Word transforming lives in every language in this generation.

Mission: To accelerate Scripture translation and impact for people without God’s Word through Great Commission partnerships.

Our Commitment to You: We commit to always maintain the highest ethical and financial standards. The Seed Company is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), and complies fully with their rules for Christian ministries.

Core Values:

- Honoring God in all we do
- Valuing individuals and relationships
- Committed to effective partnerships
- Encouraging creativity and innovation
- Managing for quality results

