

# Bibles To The Nations



A Ministry of Grace Bible Baptist Church

Pastor John Reaves, (417) 590-1336

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*The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him. Nahum 1:7*

*O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. Psalms 34:8*

When I was growing up, I was taught to repeat a prayer before meals which, although theologically correct, was not at all heartfelt. The "prayer" said, "God is great, God is good; now we thank Him for our food." At that time, I did not fully understand the truth that "God is good." It took several years of maturing before I would realize the awesome reality of God's goodness. I have come to experience God's goodness in a very real and personal way. Nahum's statement about God's goodness comes at the earliest part of a string of judgments that many might say is an expression of God's uninhibited wrath. And yet, Nahum had to declare that "the Lord is good!"

Recently, I have experienced God's goodness in a marvelous way. In my last report I stated that I had been diagnosed with breast cancer. Since that time, I have had surgery and the cancer has been removed. It was originally believed that it was non-invasive and so was at stage zero. After the surgery, however, it was determined to have a small part that was invasive which changed its "status" to a stage one cancer. All this seems irrelevant to me since the doctor says he got it all. I have had the stitches removed, and it all looks good to the medical staff. I appreciate you all so much for being the vehicle of His goodness as made clear in the outpouring of prayers and concern for my well-being. One more health concern has been raised with a stress test on my heart. Abnormalities showed up (again), and so I have been scheduled for a heart catheterization/angiogram for the end of this month. We are praying this will open up some blockages and give me some more energy.

On September 30th last year, we sent 4 cases of Bibles to a pastor in Kenya who had been waiting to hear of their delivery since October. We had been checking on the status of the order all this time from this end, and Pastor Moses had been looking on his end. The problem (at least part of it) was that there had been demonstrations going on in Kenya. Apparently, these held up the delivery, but in the last few days, Bro. Moses contacted me to tell me that the Bibles had been received and are being passed out. We are both rejoicing over this exciting development.

More recently, we have sent a good number of tracts to a missionary in England. We met these missionaries, who were on deputation, while we were traveling in Wyoming a few years ago presenting this ministry. Martha was privileged to play for him while he sang a special in a missions conference.

We also sent \$1,000 to one of our printing ministries to help with Bibles to be delivered to the Philippines. This shipment will be delivered by a sister ministry with which our church has previously worked.

**Prayer requests:** 1) Ministry funds to cover the cost of Bibles, literature, and postage. 2) Health concerns regarding my heart, my knee, and that my cancer does not return.

**Thanksgiving:** 1) Successful cancer surgery. 2) Faithful financial ministry and personal support. 3) *Faithful prayer support.*

Eternally HIS and Sincerely Yours,

*Bro. Glendon & Martha Gray*

Glendon & Martha Gray  
Director BIBLES TO THE NATIONS

*"... By the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to ALL NATIONS for the obedience of faith." Romans 16:26*

# BIBLES TO THE NATIONS

## Enclosure March 2026

### Meet Our Staff

In 1988, while sitting on the porch of the Mission house next to the Grace Bible Baptist Church building in Springfield, Missouri, Bro. Russ Hanson and Pastor Dennis Norwood laid out the plans for a Bible distribution ministry. This ministry would be based out of Grace Bible Baptist Church, and it would be aimed at providing Bibles to independent Baptist missionaries and national pastors and their churches. Bro. Russ passed away in 2023 after a return of his cancer.



Pastor Dennis Norwood (now retired) was not only instrumental in the formation of this Bible distribution ministry but, also, in enlisting Bro. and Mrs. Gray to join Bibles To The Nations. He led Grace Bible Baptist Church to be a solid Missions-minded church supporting up to 30 missionaries sent out by other independent Baptist churches, while at the same time sending out 12 missionaries from our own church. Although Bro. Norwood retired from the pastorate, he and Mrs. Norwood

are quite active in the church and in their support of the ministry of Bibles To The Nations.

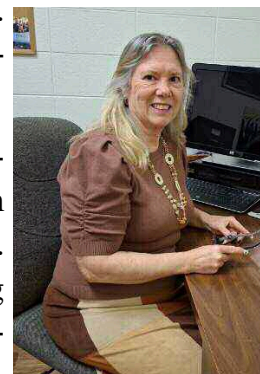
Pastor John Reaves and his wife Racheal were missionaries for 25 years in the Czech Republic. Bro. Reaves grew up on the mission field (Greenland and Canada), so he has a deep understanding of the needs and desires of missionaries. Beside their 2 daughters pictured here, Bro. and Mrs. Reaves have a married daughter and a son who is soon to be married, as well.



Bro. and Mrs. Gray joined this ministry in 2017 after serving in some area of ministry ever since they were married. I was looking to pastor again, when the Lord shut the door on that possibility and opened the door for us to join Bibles To The Nations. Bro. Norwood sensed that God was leading in a different direction and asked us to pray about joining this ministry as field representatives. God's answer was immediate, and we started going out to report to supporting churches and trying to expand the ministry. Now, Bro. Gray serves as Director with Mrs. Gray assist-

ing at his side.

Finally, we must acknowledge the most recent and absolutely indispensable addition to the ministry staff. She brings her experience in business and on the mission field, and, of course, love for the Lord's work to bear in her assistance to the Grays. She helps with proofreading, delivering materials to the post office, and providing ongoing emotional and prayer support. Additionally, she serves as church and missions secretary.



# Addendum

First, I want to apologize for the lateness of this letter. I hope my explanation will clarify what is going on.

This month has been full of doctors' appointments, and it appears the next few months will be, too. Just about a week ago, I fell onto our table while on my way to the bathroom. My wife eventually had to call for an ambulance which led to my hospitalization. I was diagnosed with the flu and a urinary tract infection. I spent most of the week in the hospital. I now have an appointment with home health care, on top of a series of radiation treatments, a follow-up with my primary care provider, and a dermatologist. I'm not sure that covers everything, but you get the idea. In fact, I am sure that many of you are going through much of the same issues, perhaps worse. My heart goes out to you, and my prayers go up for you.

I am not adding this statement for your sympathy but for an explanation of the tardiness of this report.