

## THE GOD NEWSROOM

JANUARY 2025

## YOUR GIVING LED TO A SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTER ON THE ROAD

ave you ever been afraid of walking to someone's house, not knowing if you would survive the walk? Have you ever had to look over your shoulder, watching the shadows in case someone wanted to hurt you for your faith?

For Mati,\* these fears are a reality he lives with every day.

But thanks to generous donors like you, he has been able to share the gospel in spite of this fear.

Mati lives in South Asia, in a region where Christians are persecuted, harassed, and sometimes even killed for proclaiming Christ as their Saviour. But as a believer, God called him—as He has with all believers—to share the gospel. To share the Good News.

Mati dedicates his days to God, bringing Grid training to believers in his region of South Asia so they can share their faith with those around them despite the fear they live with. He has been able to do this because of your generosity, and the resources your giving has provided.

"I have been blessed with a ministry that involves training people and visiting villages and churches to train pastors and believers," Mati told us. "I teach them about the importance of the gospel and how it is not just the responsibility of pastors and evangelists, but also of all believers to share the gospel in every place."

Finding safe areas to share the gospel has been difficult, but Mati puts his trust entirely in God. And his trust was in God when he was stopped on a road one day. He had found another village to visit, and knew they had little access to the gospel.

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The village was in a rural, hilly region with no proper road. Mati couldn't even ride his bike over the rough stone, so he began his journey on foot.

As he approached the village on the beaten path, Mati was stopped by a group of men. They called out and

yelled at him. They knew his goal was to bring God's message to the village and told him he had to turn back.

If he didn't, they would kill him.

But Mati didn't turn away. He stepped forward, knowing the risk he was taking because he knew it would be worth it for the Kingdom of God. The group attacked him, throwing him to the ground. Before they had the chance to seriously harm him, another group of men came running to his rescue. Thanks to their support Mati was able to escape his attackers and find safety in the village, where he was welcomed in and kept safe.

During his time in the village, he was able to share the gospel with them. "I am also grateful to ShareWord Global and its support. It has had a profound impact on me and my wife. I am grateful for His guidance and excited to reach out to more churches and non-believers in the upcoming months."

Thanks to your support Mati has not only been mobilized himself, but has been able to train believers in his community, giving them the courage and resources they need to share their faith.

\*name changed for security reasons





# THE CHURCH IN AFRICA IS GROWING STRONG BECAUSE OF YOUR GIFT!

Pastor Rhona didn't miss a thing. She clung to every word at the Discovery event that your support brought to her community!

She was inspired by the Grid training and the resources your gift gave her. And the Grow Your Church Kit was invaluable. With a beautiful Africa Study Bible, Scripture magazines, and audio Bibles for people with low literacy or visual

Rhona was on fire.

impairments.

Immediately after the event, she went out into her community with her husband and shared the gospel with resources generous donors like you supplied. When she left, she was a pastor without a church, but she knew God had plans for her village. When she returned from that outreach, she created a church of eight people.

And then...more gospel presentations!

It turned her church into 14, not including children. Every single one of the church members were trained on how to share their faith, to share the Word of God, and none of it would have happened without the training and resources your generosity supplied. And one day, one of the newer members showed up to service with 50 chairs. Rhona asked him what he was doing.

"I believe God will bring His people to His church."

Nine months after that first event Rhona attended, God filled every seat in that church. All the new mem-The Grid bers were equipped with Scripture training has resources. Now the fire is spreading across Kenya and the rest of Africa. taken my Churches are growing, in size and passion for spiritually, thanks to your support. evangelism to a And Pastor Rose was one of the higher level. first to receive your help. She was

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and for the last three years she has been faithful in her commitment to discipling the people who join her church.

one of the first pastors to partner

with ShareWord Global in Kenya,

"The Grid training has taken my passion for evangelism to a higher level," she shared with us recently. "The magazines serve as a follow-up to the word we speak with people."



But there are those who have a hard time reading, either because of low literacy or visual impairments. That's why your generous giving is so important. Your gift allowed Pastor Rose to bring audio Bibles to those who need it, and it has helped her understand the Bible in a deeper way.

Thank you for your dedication to bringing the incredible and life-changing Word of God to those who need it most—to those who are lost, doubting, and hurting. They now know the hope that is found only through Christ.







## YOUR SUPPORT BRINGS NEW LIFE

In the place where Jesus came to earth and became our Emmanuel, the birthplace of the church as we know it, people are in desperate need of hope. People of all ages live in constant fear. Their future is unknown.

But thanks to your giving, the lives of people in the Middle East are changing one by one.

Yusef\* is one of those people. He recently sent a message, sharing how your generosity has changed his life.

"I thank God for the *Hope* magazine, which I truly believe was sent to me by God. I received [it] at a very critical time in my life. I was living under constant fear—fear of losing my life as rockets rained down. It felt like, at any moment, one of them could hit me or someone I love. That fear became overwhelming after one of my

friends lost his nephew in one of the attacks. I was really scared. I didn't know what to do, and the fear just wouldn't let go.

"When I first got [the magazine], I read through it, but to be honest, I didn't really feel the impact of the verses. They were full of encouragement, but I wasn't sure if they were meant for me or someone else. You see, I wasn't following Christ; I wasn't committed to Him at all. When I reached the Gospel of John, I didn't even bother to read it; I just skipped it and went straight to the last pages.

"That's when everything started to change. On those last pages, it hit me—I realized that I was a sinner and that I desperately needed Jesus in my life. For the first time, I understood why I was so afraid and why I had no peace. It wasn't just the war or the rockets; it was because I didn't

have Christ in my heart. Right there, I prayed, asking Jesus to forgive me and come into my life. I signed the commitment in the magazine on October 1.

"Now, I'm a new person. I still face some fears, but they no longer control me. I trust God completely, and I know that even if I were to lose my life, I would be with Him. That truth has brought me a peace I've never known before."

The impact you've made on Yusef's life will last an eternity. Your dedication to the mission of sharing the gospel through Scripture and Scripture magazines has been felt around the world. Thank you for all you've done and continue to do to support this ministry.

\*name changed for security reasons





## IT'S GO TIME!

This is your chance to be part of an incredible mission, where your faith meets action. You'll learn to share the Word of God, encourage other believers to do the same, and ignite local churches with a passion to share their faith.

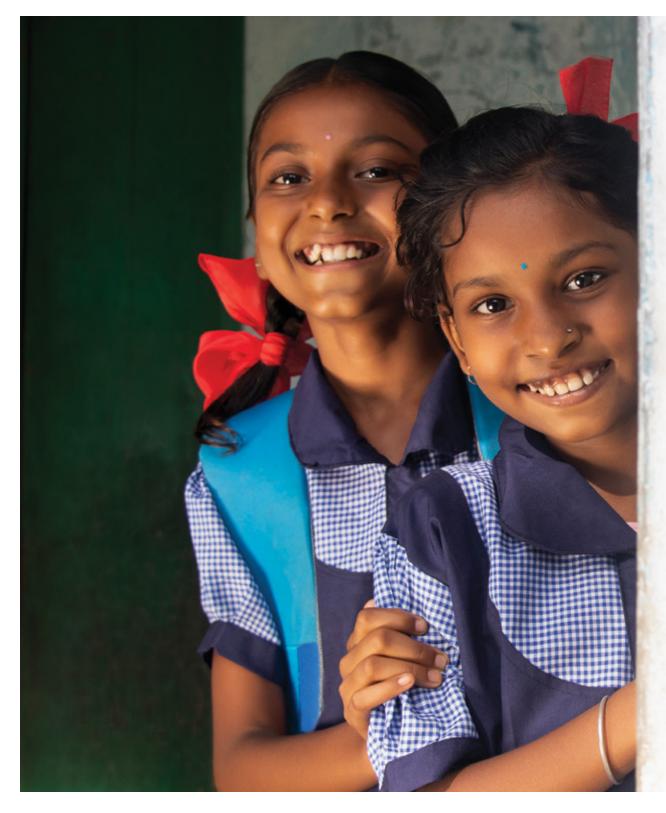
Embark on a transformative journey with purpose—on a GO Trip!

Ready to GO? Apply today! Visit **sharewordglobal.com/go-trips** or scan the QR code below





## LIGHTEN THEIR BURDEN



You read the story of Mati, and how despite the threat of death, he continued to carry out the Great Commission. It's a command for all believers to share the Good News to all corners of the earth. But there are those who don't have access to Scripture, people who need to read the Word to solidify their new faith. There are millions of them.

And just like Mati needed the help of those who protected him from harm, he needs your help. Believers in South Asia need you.

They need your continued support.

School administrators in parts of South Asia are asking in-country coordinators to come to their schools to share the gospel. Even knowing that it can put the teachers at risk, they know that the children, the next generation, desperately needs to know God.

So that's what they did. One of our local partners went to a girl's high school and shared with the young girls, their teachers, and their parents the *Hope* magazine so that they could learn about the living hope found in Christ.

Around the world, people have shared worries: finances, employment, health, and being able to care for their children. The people at the school discovered through the *Hope* magazine that Jesus will lighten their burden. That they now have a hope for their future. And with more outreaches like this planned, believers in South Asia need the resources to reach into their communities, their schools, and their workplaces.

You can make a difference today by supporting believers in South Asia as they bring the gospel into their communities and bring hope to people who live in fear.

Fill out the enclosed reply device to give your special one-time gift today and you can change the lives of people in South Asia forever!

#### **PRAISE AND PRAYERS**

#### Praise: Pastor Emelec

Since we introduced Pastor Emelec from Peru, he has continued to share the gospel in isolated communities. He travels with a facilitator named Oscar, who assists him with his visual impairments. They take a boat from Lima into the communities to share

the gospel, and from there they take a motorcycle to visit churches and train pastors to share their faith and mobilize their church members. Each pastor receives:

- a study Bible,
- a box of magazines (*Hope* and *Spark*),
- audio Bibles,
- and when possible, they go and practice with the pastor to do outreach in their neighbourhood

Pastor Emelec and Oscar have run 61 Ignite events

so far with resources donors like you provided. Please continue to pray for Pastor Emelec and his passion for bringing people into the Kingdom.

#### Prayer

In South Asia, Mati asks for a simple prayer. "I humbly request prayer for the protection and advancement of our ministry." Please pray that he and his family remain safe as he brings the gospel to rural and isolated communities.

### **STAY IN THE LOOP!**

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