# ShareWord Global

Together we can tell the world



# **IMPACT REPORT** 2023/24

### How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation...

— Isaiah 52:7

So many of the photographs we captured this year seemed to illustrate this verse. Pictures of dusty paths. Winding, pot-holed roads. Asphalt alleys. Concrete sidewalks. Tiled corridors.

On all these routes, the feet of messengers were faithfully heading out to share the Good News. To engage people in conversation. To share a copy of God's Word. To invite the listener into a relationship with Christ. To connect them with a church nearby.

In the midst of that commonality was a striking contrast between the mission fields. Believers in Cuba with no resources to use in evangelism, while those in Tampa, Florida with an abundance. Christians in South Asia risking their lives with every gospel conversation, while congregations in Canada completely free to share their faith in public.

But what united them all—every church partner, every mobilized Christian—was a calling to say, "Yes, I'll go. I'll share with others what was shared with me."

We're excited about what God did through ShareWord Global and our ministry partners this year, and this report is a brief glimpse into the highlights. Our model of growing a community of believers unleashed to share the gospel through training, equipping, and outreach opportunities is a model in motion and bearing fruit for God's glory!

Which means thousands of people were introduced to Jesus and given access to God's Word to read the whole story.

Thank you for your role in impacting lives all over the world this year.

Giorgio Gori President



### **GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS**

(June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024)



#### Believers Mobilized:

Number of people who attended an Ignite event for the first time and shared the Good News with someone along with a copy of God's Word

#### **Gospel Presentations:**

Number of times someone heard the Good News as part of a gospel conversation and was offered a Scripture resource or invited to download the NewLife app

#### Active Church Partners:

Number of churches who either hosted an Ignite event, participated on a GO Trip, or received Scriptures from us

#### Scriptures Provided:

Number of printed Scripture resources that were provided to believers and churches for evangelism



Until the Good News that was shared with us, is shared with all...

#### **North America**



**Gospel Presentations** 18,712 **Believers Mobilized** 

2,289

Active Church Partners 101

Scriptures Provided 428.904



**GO Trips**: British Columbia, Canada Yellowknife, Canada



**GO Trips**: Brazil (x3) Nicaragua Peru Chile

### Latin America & Caribbean

**Gospel Presentations** 247,573



**Believers Mobilized** 13,961



Scriptures Provided 696,700

### Africa

Gospel Presentations 112,183 Believers Mobilized 18,155

Active Church Partners **1,470** 

Scriptures Provided **202,106** 



### **Middle East**



Gospel Presentations 212,260



Believers Mobilized 6,790



Active Church Partners **480** 

Scriptures Provided **226,000** 

### Asia



Gospel Presentations 6,980



Believers Mobilized 18,246



Active Church Partners 4,692



Scriptures Provided 666,151

## **GROWING A COMMUNITY**

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?

— Romans 10:14-15

All over the world this year, believers from different cultures, languages, social strata, and life experiences were lifting up a common prayer: "Lord, I need help in knowing how to share the Good News."

It was our joy to respond by coming alongside them and offering the help they were praying for—in churches of all sizes, in neighborhoods of all types, and with people from all walks of life. And knowing the importance of connection, we've now begun building ways for this newly active community to continue encouraging, supporting, and praying for each other—to help fuel the fire of evangelism.

In Canada, the community of **2,457** ShareWord Global members continued to reach out with the gospel through a variety of evangelism methods—even GO Trips within our own borders!

A few global highlights from the year:

- Re-engagement of the Global Church Partnership program in Canada
- Connecting with dozens of church communities in the **USA** for the first time
- Refueling hundreds of persecuted house churches in **South Asia** with Scriptures
- Training and resourcing volunteer ministry facilitators in key regions like Chile
- Sharing the gospel through churches in the **Middle East** via our ministry partner





Pastor Fernando in **Peru** was eager to learn more about community evangelism. So, when he heard about a ShareWord Global Discovery event happening nearby, he didn't hesitate to attend.

He enjoyed what he heard so much that he immediately signed up to host an Ignite event at his church. Together, the congregation learned new ways to reach more people with the gospel, and since then have been actively organizing evangelism outreach events. And through these outreaches, more and more people are not only coming to know Christ, but are coming to church.

"Since we've started to work with the material," he reported, "more people are coming to the church. We have 10 new attendees to the congregation and 20 more people joined Bible study groups." Since that message from Pastor Fernando, the church has grown from 60 to 75 members.

Thank God and ShareWord Global, for the [Scripture resources and training] because it helps us a lot for the discipleship of new souls and therefore the congregation has grown.

# **EVANGELISM TRAINING**

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

- Colossians 4:5-6

"What is it that's holding you back from sharing the Good News with someone? Is it fear? Lack of confidence? Worry about saying the wrong thing? Feeling like you don't have all the answers?"

Those are some of the questions we asked participants this year at Ignite evangelism training events. The goal of the event workshops was to free them from whatever was restricting their joy and freedom in sharing the Good News. To empower them—with confidence, conversational skills, Scripture resources, and the realization that their story is a great starting point.

Training often works best when it includes real world experience, and that's why we tried to head out together into the community immediately after the workshop. We're still awestruck at how God touches so many lives through hundreds of these unplanned connections between strangers.

A few highlights from the year:

- Held 100 Ignite events in Canada with over 2,200 people trained
- Hosted Ignite events in the **USA** for the first time
- Introduced Ignite events in new **South Asian** regions
- Led dozens of Ignite events in Cuba
- Hosted first ever Ignite events in Zambia





Hand of God Pentecostal Church in **Malawi** organized an Ignite evangelism training event led by Bishop Patrick, who had a passion for gospel outreach. But something surprised him. More than half of those at the training event were youth. They all showed the same passion and dedication to expanding God's Kingdom and wanted to know how they could be part of that.

They got their opportunity when they went out into the community after the training. And as they spoke with those around them, the people they spoke with all demanded follow-up visits from the church members.

Through this training, the church members—including the youth—realized there is a deep need and hunger for the gospel. Sharing their faith had never been so easy before, and they have all committed to continuing their outreach events.

ShareWord Global brought a spiritual awakening to our church in the area of evangelism. The magazines have greatly impacted our ministry, as we have been doing evangelistic activities with them in recovery clinics, and child outreach with *Spark*. Ignite brought the fruit of souls to the church...

—Pastor Adriana Viana da Silva, **Brazil** 



Learn more about Ignite events

# **EQUIPPING WITH THE WORD**

It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. — Isaiah 55:11

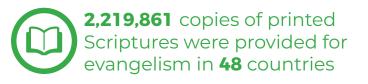
We want people to read more about the Jesus they hear about from evangelists. To dig into the Bible so they can fully embrace the message of the gospel. To experience for themselves the hope and love of Christ that believers are sharing with them through personal testimony.

That's why we continue to lean heavily on the Bible in our evangelism training, why we offer Scriptures to Christians to use in their personal evangelism, and why it's a core component of our church partnership programs.

Some of the Scriptures we shared were with believers who had none and who needed them for greater effectiveness in evangelism. But all were shared so the gospel would be proclaimed or received.

A few highlights from the year:

- Hope magazine created and introduced for the Middle East and for French-speaking Burundian refugees in **Malawi**
- · Launch of Spark in more South Asian languages
- *Hope* and *Spark* magazines created for the Chichewa people of **Malawi**, as well as a new typesetting of a Chichewa Bible
- New eMagazines created for use in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese
- Spark magazine impacting thousands of kids, notably Nicaragua and the Middle East





During a visit to a hospital, one of our staff members in **South Asia** prayed with Kaleb\* who was suffering from colon and pancreatic cancer. His wife was a Christian and had been praying for his salvation for many years. As he was leaving, our staff member handed over a copy of the *Light* magazine.

Two days later, he got a phone call from the wife with some good news. "My husband never touched a Bible before and was never interested to hear about Christ. But now we spent hours together on the *Light* magazine, turning page after page. Praise God, he was touched by the Word where it says, 'Your days of mourning will come to an end' in Isaiah 60:20. Praise God, my husband accepted Christ into his heart!"

Yusef\* was working as a Visa Officer in an embassy in the **Middle East**. One day, one of his coworkers asked: "Is the name Muhammed written in the Bible?"

While Yusef was a Christian, he admitted that he wasn't sure. But his coworker claimed that there was no way Yusef was a Christian if he didn't even know what was written in the Bible.

He went home that day and wept, calling out to the Lord. He wanted to strengthen his faith, and he wanted to be able to have the Word of God for his own. And thanks to ShareWord Global donors, Yusef received his own copy of Scripture. He read it every day and began to share what he was reading with his friends and coworkers.

\*name changed for security reasons



Learn more about our Scriptures

# **GOING INTO THE WORLD**

Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me."

— Isaiah 6:8

Those verses mirror what we've witnessed repeatedly this year. All over the world. Men, women, and children stepping out in faith to share Christ's story with people who are hungry for hope.

In the past year, we had 10 GO Trips where people walked alongside local believers. They stopped to talk to complete strangers, many of whom didn't even speak the same language. Thanks to the unflagging energy of their translators, they were able to convey the message they'd flown so far to share and offer a copy of God's Word.

But hundreds more of these kinds of encounters happened close to home. Ignite event participants were sent out to have gospel conversations with people and give them a copy of Scripture.

Here are just a few more highlights from a busy year of ministry:

- First official GO Trip to Northern Canada (Yellowknife)
- Hosted a team of Brazilians for a GO Trip to British Columbia
- First GO Team from a **USA** church, reaching people along the Amazon
- Active evangelism happening in **Haiti** in the midst of horrific violence
- Multiple opportunities to share the gospel with police, military, judicial, prison, or medical personnel in **Latin America** and **Africa**
- Churches actively reaching isolated, displaced, indigenous, or poverty-stricken communities all over the world, including several GO Trips to these areas





Gospel presentations were made to at least **597,708** people globally GO Trips lead to unplanned conversations far from home. Like the time John, from southern **Alberta**, met a First Nations man in a hospital waiting room in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. John was sitting with a *Hope* magazine in his hands when the man came over and sat beside him. When offered the magazine, the man looked at the cover and politely declined and said, "I have no hope. There is no hope."

John didn't press and instead just put the magazine down between them. They spoke for a few moments, then at one point the man picked up the magazine. "I might as well take it," he said.

Not wanting to miss his chance, John asked if he could share what was inside the magazine, and the man agreed. John shared the gospel with his new friend, told him all about Jesus, and how even when there seems to be no hope, God is there through it all.

John then asked him if he'd like to receive the Lord. With a single tear rolling down his cheek, the man said yes. Later, as the man flipped through the magazine, he was moved to see that it had photos from his part of Canada—and that there were even pages with Scripture in First Nations languages. "This is in my language!" he said.

[For] someone who has never travelled or done missions work before, [a GO Trip] is a great way to 'dip their toes in', get out of their comfort zone, and see how God uses the experience to grow and change them!

—GO Team member, Nicaragua, June 2023



Learn more about our GO Trips

# **Ministry Partnership**

...May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. — John 17:23

It was a joy this year to once again work alongside ministry partners whose heartbeat for evangelism and sharing God's Word matched ours. The scope of engagement was truly global, leading to many more lives being introduced to Christ than we could have accomplished alone.

In certain regions where in-country engagement as a foreign entity wasn't an option, we were also privileged to partner with passionate, domestic ministries. Many of these regions have church communities that are extreme minorities, persecuted, and desperate for help. Thanks to local partners on the ground, our donors had a chance to support their brothers and sisters in Christ with evangelism training and Scriptures.

Our European partners in the UK, Sweden, and Norway played a vital role in fundraising, personal involvement on GO Trips, and sharing the gospel in their own countries. We're grateful for the **\$1,137,957** that fueled ministry in regions all over the world.

We don't have the liberty to share the names of partners in regions of risk, but here are a few of our other key ministry partners:

- Good News for Everyone!
- Goda Nyheter
- GodtNytt
- WordSpread Foundation
- Together Network
- Fellowship of Christian Farmers Canada

- Word of Life
- Thru the Bible
- Tampa Bay Baptist Association
- Free Methodist Church
- Tyndale House Publishers
- $\cdot\,$  Artists in Christian Testimony

#### "For six months, a pastor visited me almost every weekend and talked to me about Jesus Christ. I was listening to him just to pass the time. Since I'm a labor worker, I was addicted to different kinds of drugs, and my wife and family were affected by my actions. But the pastor was kind and never gave up on me despite my attitude and addiction.

One day he gave me a *Light* magazine as a gift, so I started to read it. And I started to realize that what the pastor was telling me was recorded in the Bible. 'God loves me, I can be a child of God, and God is willing to forgive my sins.'

This caught my attention. I started to think about my life and how miserable I was. I spoke to the pastor and I prayed the sinner's prayer, which gave me a big relief in my heart. I was able to come out of drugs and when my wife saw the change in me, she accepted the Lord Jesus, too. Now we both go to church. Thank God for saving me and my wife!"

#### —a story from South Asia

### **Financial Summary**

For the year ended May 31, 2024\*

Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	\$2,767,843
Total Revenues	\$12,681,100
Expenses	
Mobilization Programs	\$1,676,258
GO! Ministry Programs	\$2,152,636
Scripture Resourcing	\$5,425,028
Program Operations	\$601,157
Awareness Programs	\$668,216
Fundraising	\$1,428,531
Administration	\$841,710
	\$12,793,536
Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses	(\$112,436)
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$2,655,407

\* Financial figures are in Canadian dollars throughout this report. Audited Financial Statements are available on request or at sharewordglobal.com



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