



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**15 January 2008**

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## **More than 17 million Scriptures provided for the Bible-less**

More than 17 million Scriptures (17,713,004) have been placed in the hands of Bible-less Christians, persecuted Christians and seekers through Bible League's ministry in 2007.

"The gifts donated towards Bibles in 2007 have transformed millions of people's lives," National Director of Bible League Australia Grahame Smith said. "This is evident through the 27 percent increase, or the 539,154 new believers, who have been baptised after completing Bible League's *Project Philip* Bible study course.

"As more people come to know Jesus as their Saviour, the demand for Bibles is also increasing."

National Director of Bible League in Colombia said that despite the unrest and struggles with guerrilla violence, Bible League's ministry is expanding.

"Our ministry has been distributing Scriptures at a pace that is faster than the supply we receive," he said. "We have seen entire communities connected to Bible League programs.

"In some cases these regions have been characterised as dangerous areas of armed conflict and yet our ministry is having an impact there."

Bible League's 2007 Annual Ministry report also reveals a 10 percent increase in the number of new Bible study groups established, reaching 231,487 groups.

"In parts of Central Asia, where many are persecuted for following Christ, the number of Bible study completions was 90 percent higher than in previous year," National Director of Bible League Australia Grahame Smith said. "In the Philippines, Bible League workers established a phenomenal 40,923 new Bible study groups.

The National Director of Bible League in the Philippines said even after many years of Bible League's ministry they "do not run out of souls to win for Christ".

"Our *Project Philip* Bible study program has reached one of the least evangelised provinces of the Philippines," she said. "In spite of the dangers faced among rebels, our ministry is having a high impact in reaching the rebels themselves."

In Uganda, there has been a 14 percent increase in the numbers of Bible study groups and a 31 percent increase in the number of new Christians who joined a church.

"It has been a blessing to see people increasingly getting involved in studying God's Word," the National Director of Bible League Uganda said. "People from all walks of life have accepted Christ; Muslims, night dancers, witchdoctors, sorcerers, diviners, prostitutes and drug addicts. Marriages have also been restored through Bible study groups."

"We look forward to the provision of Bibles in 2008 and the impact that this will have worldwide," National Director of Bible League Australia Grahame Smith said.

To place God's Word where it's needed most visit <http://www.bibleleague.com.au/>

***Further enquiries: Contact Bible League's National Director, Grahame Smith, on***

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