


God Opens the Way

bringing the whole Bible to new languages



The Lord lives,
and blessed be my rock,
He brought me out
into a broad place; he
rescued me, because he
delighted in me.

This God—his way is
perfect; the word of the
Lord proves true; he is a
shield for all those who
take refuge in him.

For it is you who light my
lamp; the Lord my God
lightens my darkness.

—from Psalm 18

**God is making a straight
path for the whole Word
to reach Bibleless people,
leading into a broad
place of growth, local
leadership, and the light
of His love.**

For over ten years, Whole Word Institute has been preparing translators and teachers in biblical Hebrew to bring the Old Testament directly into languages that have never had it before. Today, these leaders are training others, multiplying access to Scripture and strengthening translation efforts across nations.

We want to help bring the full story of God's deep love, rooted in the Old Testament and shown in every verse of His Word, to every person in their own language. That has always been the vision before us: ***The whole Word for the whole world.***

What began as a vision has become part of a growing movement to bring the full Bible to every language, now bearing fruit as God's whole Word reaches new languages, shapes hearts, and lays a foundation that will serve local churches for generations to come.

Razack, now training others
in biblical Hebrew for
Bible translation in Benin

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From Vision to Reality: Meeting the Growing Global Demand to Accelerate Scripture Access

Ten years ago, through deep research, we became convinced that equipping Bible translators with the original biblical languages would exponentially advance the global effort to bring God's Word to every language. We calculated that over 4,000 additional translators were needed to translate the Bible into every language and prayerfully began building an organization that would become a leader in this space.

What we hadn't anticipated was the urgency and scale of demand from indigenous translators across Africa and Asia to learn biblical Hebrew so they can accelerate and improve their Bible translation efforts. **This unprecedented global demand for Bible translators proficient in biblical Hebrew marks a pivotal moment in the history of the Church.**

Whole Word Institute is uniquely positioned to respond to this need — with one-of-a-kind training in Jerusalem and Hebrew extension training programs in Indonesia, Benin, Mozambique, Ethiopia and South Africa. Approximately 90% of our graduates join local churches or translation agencies to work on new Bible translations. On average, each translator will facilitate three to eight new translations, helping local churches bring the Bible to their people for the first time.

We have been privileged to develop many enduring strategic partnerships with organizations including Wycliffe USA, Seed Company, Deaf Bible Society, and DOOR International. We are also members of Wycliffe Global Alliance, an accredited member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), and a member of Forum of Bible Agencies International (FOBAI). Our academic courses have been accredited by Corban University and University of the Holy Land.

Thus far God has enabled us to give training to 469 students speaking 503 languages, bringing Scripture access to hundreds of millions of people. **And with your help, together we will continue to grow this number for the benefit of the global Church and all who are yet to receive God's whole Word in their own language.**

SAMUEL CHIANG, BOARD CHAIR (2015-2025)
Deputy Director, World Evangelical Alliance
Co-founder & CEO, Global Center for Giftedness



Why Now?

The Old Testament is urgently needed for Bible translation.

- 90% of the world's languages lack an Old Testament. For millions of believers the Scriptures are inaccessible, preventing full understanding of God and His ways.
- On average every fourth verse of the New Testament is a reference, allusion, or quotation from the OT, so fully understanding the NT is a challenge.
- Pastors and teachers rely on a bridge language rather than the full Bible in their own language.



But Now!

Local leaders are trained to translate the Old Testament directly from biblical Hebrew into Bibleless languages. This shift is accelerating full Bible translation and multiplying the impact of Scripture.

- Direct from-the-source translation
- Local ownership
- Graduates leading training and multiply new translations
- Accelerated access to the full Bible in Bibleless languages

The whole Bible is moving faster into languages that have never had it. Churches and communities are encountering the full story of God's love. *Full Scripture. Full Impact.*

“For the first time I understood the story of Genesis without confusion. God’s Word spoke directly to my heart.”

—Daniel, Indonesia



The Ancient Paths

Training in biblical Hebrew, multiplying translators, strengthening the Church for generations

“Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.”

—Jeremiah 6:16

Local leaders are stepping into a biblical vision that has guided faithful men and women for generations. By training in biblical Hebrew and leading translation efforts in their own languages, they are helping bring the full Bible to millions of people who have never had access to the Scriptures. These translators and teachers are helping others discover the “ancient paths” of God’s Word.

“The whole Bible is deeply needed in our community. So far, we only have the translations of Genesis, Esther, Ruth, and the Gospel of Luke in the Saluan language. Yet the Old Testament holds the roots of God’s story of salvation, and the New Testament fulfills it. Without both, people struggle to fully grasp why Jesus’ work of salvation is so significant. That is why translating the entire Bible is urgent.”

—Nerolin, Indonesia



A remarkable group of people from ten nations came to Jerusalem and graduated as the 2025 School of Biblical Hebrew. They became proficient in Hebrew and experienced the Scriptures come alive as they prepared to translate for their communities. These passionate individuals persevered through a time of war and uncertainty.

They represent the next generation of Bible translators and teachers committed to bringing God's Word to life in local languages for the global church.

The training in Jerusalem is a unique immersive learning experience. Students commit to speaking only Hebrew from the beginning, doing everyday activities and studying in the language and culture of the Bible. Understanding is further enhanced by frequent study trips to biblical venues where the events of the Scriptures are studied onsite. Learning takes place in Hebrew, and in sign language for the Deaf. Students can continue beyond the nine-month School of Biblical Hebrew to complete MA's and specializations in translation consulting, Oral and Signed Bible translation, or pedagogy for Biblical Hebrew instruction.



Only one full Bible exists in sign language today although 350 sign languages representing 70 million sign language users still remain without.

In 2025, eight Deaf students went on to become translation consultants and teachers working on nine sign language translations.



Eyerusalem, a talented student instructor, returned to Ethiopia to serve as a program leader and assistant teacher in our foundational “Jonah” course in biblical Hebrew hosted by our partner, Harvest Mission Ethiopia. Translators from South Sudan and other neighboring countries will join the Ethiopians in learning biblical Hebrew for translation. Ethiopia alone has over 80 languages of which only 16 have a full Bible.



Peleg is preparing to lead the ongoing program in Mozambique, and he served as teacher’s assistant for the South Africa “Jonah” course with local partner, Wycliffe SA. That course gathered translators from South Africa, Kenya, Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, Namibia, Lesotho and Eswatini, representing 23 distinct language translation projects.



Rachel and Yehezkel returned to Indonesia after their training to prepare to lead a local Hebrew Extension Learning Programs (HELP). They are serving with a church network of 800 churches with 1 million members, working on translation in several dozen languages.

“What this community really wants is the whole Bible, the Old Testament and the New Testament, fully translated and available to the people, so we can use the Holy Scriptures wherever needed to teach, to counsel, to lead sessions; and so that the Word of God can enter this place and transform people’s hearts.”

—*Razack, Benin*





New Growth

The Word taking root in Bibleless languages

In 2025, Whole Word's Hebrew Extension Learning Programs (HELP) multiplied rapidly. Programs in Indonesia, Mozambique, Benin, Ethiopia and South Africa trained translators for Old Testament translation into multiple languages in their regions. HELP is building local capacity for translation into Bibleless languages.

“My community needs the entire Bible in its own language to clearly understand the Word of God—His thoughts, His desires, and His expectations. Learning Hebrew helps me grasp the deeper meaning of Scripture and lead our translation team to render God’s Word faithfully from the original text. When we share these passages [from Genesis] people tell us how clear and easy to understand they are, even without additional commentary.”

—Rodrique, Benin



IN 2025

156

PEOPLE
ENROLLED
IN TRAINING

35

NATIONS

148

UNIQUE
LANGUAGE
PROJECTS



Stewardship

Like loaves and fishes, as we offer what we can, whether small or large, God is using it to make the way for His whole Word to reach people in their own languages.

At Whole Word Institute, we are radically committed to these translators and their people. Because of this, we often accept student translators who cannot cover all the fees for their training. Many of them come from some of the poorest nations in the world—places where the most Bibleless languages remain. Yet these Bible translators are willing to give their lives, sacrificing income and often leaving family and community for extended periods. Their passion is to see their own people have the whole Word of God.

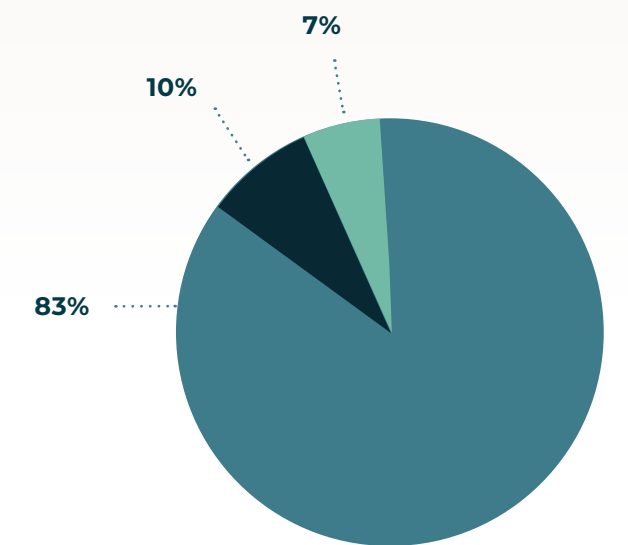
The generosity of faithful partners; individuals and families, churches, organizations and foundations, enables Whole Word to serve these heroes of the faith so that they can bring the “bread of life” to their communities.

Thank you for your continued generosity. Your gifts are multiplying opportunities for new Bible translations, like loaves and fishes in the Lord’s hands, feeding many thousands with His Word.

	2023		2024		2025*	
REVENUE						
Contribution without Donor Restrictions	322,309	7%	486,522	11%	499,415	20%
Contributions with Donor Restrictions	3,820,806	84%	3,349,028	79%	1,861,312	76%
Services	400,444	9%	401,322	9%	80,760	3%
TOTAL REVENUE	4,543,559		4,236,872		2,441,487	
EXPENSE						
Program	3,746,640	84%	3,734,441	83%	1,965,516	83%
Management	474,982	11%	457,291	10%	240,682	10%
Fundraising	264,597	6%	330,845	7%	174,131	7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,486,219		4,522,577		2,380,329	
TRANSLATION ADJUSTMENT						
	-		1,468		-	
Change in Net Assets After Translation Adjustment	57,340		(284,237)		61,158	

*Unaudited

The war in the Middle East had a dual financial impact in 2025. On the one hand, travel restrictions caused the student cohort to be significantly smaller than the previous year resulting in lower than projected revenues. On the other hand, the rise in the costs of goods meant that operating costs increased. Nonetheless, a positive cash balance was maintained and there was an increase in net assets from the previous year. Further rebuilding steps are being put in place for 2026 and beyond.



● Program ● Management ● Fundraising



Whole Word Institute is an accredited member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) and complies with its rules for Christian ministries, including an annual independent financial audit by Capin Crouse.

Board & Leadership

“When my mother accepted Jesus there were no Old Testament Scriptures in Sindhi, leaving her confused when the New Testament referenced stories she could not read...”

I have seen firsthand the unprecedented unity of the global Bible translation movement working to bring God’s Word to all nations. Sadly, a billion people still lack access to God’s whole Word in their own language. For the movement to sustain momentum and translate Scripture into the 6,500+ languages still lacking a full Bible, we need more translators proficient in biblical Hebrew.

Whole Word Institute’s training programs in Israel and regional hubs continue to set the standard for this work. I am not alone in believing that the work of Whole Word Institute is vital if we are to be within reach of gifting God’s whole Word to all people in their heart language in our generation. It has been my privilege to serve on their board of directors since 2015, and I wholeheartedly recommend them.”

—**RAM GIDOOMAL CBE**
BOARD MEMBER (2015-2025)
 Chairman, South Asian Concern and Former Chairman, Lausanne Movement



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 Chief Partnerships Officer, Wycliffe Bible Translators USA



“Having the full Bible in our own language is such an incredible privilege. I was totally blown away to realize that only the letter to Philemon in the New Testament has no quotations or allusions to the Hebrew Scriptures. Today, 90% of the world’s people groups do not have the Old or 'Original' Testament in their heart language. They have no way of knowing the backstory to the gospel or the words and invitation of Jesus. How can they understand Hebrews 11, when Abraham was tested, offered up Isaac in obedience, and became an example of faith for us?”

Knowing the backstory is critical for understanding the whole story in Scripture, creating communities of faith, and to completing the Great Commission. God is doing work through Whole Word Institute to resource translators and consultants in biblical language training so that they can provide His whole story to those still waiting.

As we adjust to new realities, one thing that remains certain is God’s faithfulness to provide His Word to the nations, and the hope and peace that it brings.”

—**REVD CANON CHUA SIANG GUAN**
 Vicar of St. James' Church, Singapore

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The University of the Holy Land



Prayer

**The Lord lives,
and blessed be my rock,
He brought me out into a broad place;
he rescued me,
because he delighted in me.**

**This God—his way is perfect;
the word of the Lord proves true;
he is a shield for all those
who take refuge in him.**

**For it is you who light my lamp;
the Lord my God lightens my darkness.**

—from *Psalm 18*

Eternal and Risen Lord, you are our Rock. We pray for those bringing your Word into dark places, and that many who are still waiting may be rescued and find life in Your truth. Your way is perfect; shelter and protect all who seek refuge in Your name. Shine Your light along the paths of those who labor to bring Your Word to every part of the world.

תוֹדִיעֵנִי אֲרַח חַיִּים; בְּנִגְדֶּךָ שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה.

**You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence is abundant joy.**

— *Psalm 16:11*

May we walk faithfully, guided by Your voice behind us: “This is the way; walk in it” (Isaiah 30:21). Shine Your light in us and through us: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness” (John 8:12). May we be part of the new things You are doing—making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland (Isaiah 43:16, 19).



The Way Forward

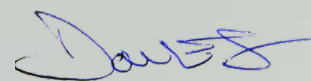
This year has reminded us of the extraordinary ways God opens a path where, humanly speaking, there seems to be no way. Across the globe, churches long for the Old Testament—for the stories of creation, God's ways, and the significance of who Jesus is. The task can feel immense, yet time and again, we see God multiply what we bring, just as He did with the five loaves and two fish.

156 people studied biblical Hebrew through our programs this year, stepping into roles that multiply translation efforts and biblical language training across nations. From Jerusalem to new extension locations across Africa and Asia, these leaders are now training others, helping local churches access Scripture and translate God's whole Word and biblical resources into languages that have never known it before.

Even as more translations are underway, the need remains urgent. Still today, only 10% of languages have a full Bible translation, and many communities are still waiting to receive and experience the whole story of God's love. In the burning bush, in the wilderness, in calming the storm on the Galilee, and in the Great Commission, His Word shows again and again that God is present with His people, that **the Great I AM is with us, "even until the end of the age."** We want every community to know this story—to encounter it, to carry it, and to experience a living God who walks with them.

We move forward with confidence, trusting that **His Word will not return empty but will accomplish all He purposes** (Isaiah 55:11). Thank you for walking alongside us, for your partnership, and for helping bring the whole Word to the whole world.

With you in His service,



David Swarr PhD
President & CEO



“Now I know I have
dignity, because I am
made in God’s image.”

—Marjorie, Zambia





The whole Word for the whole world



wholewordinstitute.com



2025
ANNUAL
REPORT