



bible society making the bible heard

GOD'S LOVE MEETS ALL NEEDS

Autumn 2002

Dear friend

We hear of brutal assaults like this all too often. We see the frightful injuries and, instinctively, our hearts go out to the victims. But offenders are often victims too – victims of abuse, abandonment, intolerance – the unseen things that can drive people to drink, drugs, violence and a life of crime. Their need for God's love is just as great, even if they are unaware of it – no one is beyond the reach of God's love.

The spread of violence, despair and inhumanity is not unstoppable. And the erosion of the Christian faith and biblical values in the UK is not irreversible. By enabling individuals to encounter God's life-changing message, we can begin to reverse the tide and start the process of renewing society – one life at a time.

One life at a time

Take a young man we'll call Mark. Abused by his stepfather and despised by his mother, in his teenage despair he wreaked angry revenge – arson, animal cruelty, assault on property. Mark inflicted suffering to ease his own pain. Despite all this, Mark believed that somewhere, somehow, there must be a meaning and purpose in life.

In his search for answers Mark began going to church. Here he heard Jeremiah 29.12 quoted – "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper, not harm." That promise, and the hope it gave, was how Mark began his slow journey to God. Through the Bible he learned that God is forgiving and that nothing could separate him from the love of God. Now, at more than 50 years of age, God's promise of a plan for his life still keeps Mark going. And keeps his faith strong.

Making God's Word meaningful to all

Bible Society works with passion to bring the wisdom and inspiration of the Bible into the lives of people in this country and around the globe. We translate and distribute Bibles where there are none, encourage fresh encounters with the Scriptures, help people think differently about the Bible and work with the Church to help it live out God's Story. Our vision is for a world where everyone has the opportunity to encounter and engage with the power and drama of the Bible for themselves. Only then will the voice of the Bible inspire the lives of individuals, communities and nations all around the world.

MARK WAS AN ARSONIST . . .
NOW HE SEES LIFE IN A **NEW LIGHT**



Mr A B Sample
Sample Job
Sample Company
123 Sample Street
SAMPLETOWN
Sampleshire
WX1 2YZ

99999

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WHO NEEDS **GOD'S LOVE** MORE. . .
ELSIE, OR THE PERSON WHO
DID THIS TO HER?



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