

BIBLE SUNDAY PROJECT

BIBLE TWINNING

On Bible Sunday 2017, Bible Society NI wants to encourage you and your church to be active and twin your Bibles.

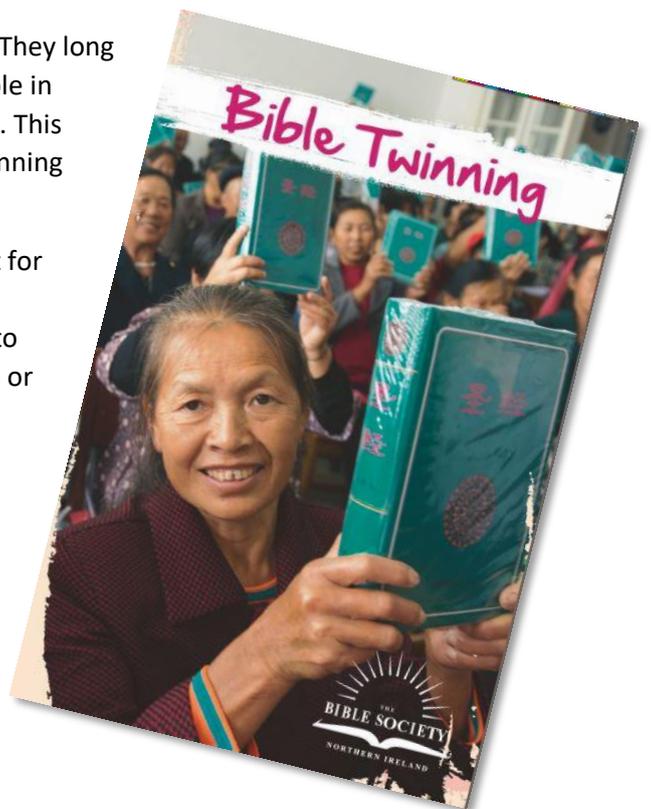
What is Bible Twinning?

People in China, Cuba and Togo are desperate for Bibles. They long to read or listen to the words of Jesus. But for many people in these countries the Bible is a luxury that they can't afford. This Bible Sunday you could make their dream a reality by twinning your Bibles.

If you own a Bible you can twin it – whether you've had it for years or it's a brand new Bible. You can twin a Bible as an individual or twin lots of Bibles as a church. All you need to do is cover the cost of a Bible for someone in China, Cuba or Togo.

Bible Society NI have a great leaflet that will give you all the details you need for twinning Bibles. [View the leaflet here](#) or contact Bible House on 028 9032 6577 to receive some copies in the post.

Read the following stories to find out what it means to people to receive their own Bible.



CHINA

Huge numbers of people in China are becoming Christians and asking for Bibles. Bible Societies are helping to print Bibles in China, making them available to people in even the remotest areas of the country. **Just £5 will twin your Bible with a Bible in China.**



Wu reads the Bible with her daughter.

“Why are you so different?”

Wu Qing is a sales manager from Shanghai. Three years ago, she was burning incense in temples, trying to save her marriage but nothing worked. Her marriage failed and she felt weighed down by the burden of fending for herself and her daughter. On the verge of break down, Wu got in touch with an old school friend called Zhu. Many years before, Zhu had given her a Bible but Wu had set it aside. Now Wu reached out to her friend, asking her to bring her to church.

It only took one visit to the church before Wu’s life began to change.

“My first time to church felt like a long-awaited homecoming. I believe God had been preparing my heart to receive Him. I’ve finally found what I had been looking for all these years—unconditional love, complete forgiveness and acceptance that only God can give.”

Wu was so touched by God that she decided, on her second visit, to pray to receive Jesus into her life. A year later, she was baptised.

“Hearing God’s Word really refreshed my soul. I felt as if I was ‘intoxicated’. Just a small cup of water would satisfy my parched soul deeply,” recalled Wu. The first book of the Bible that Wu read was the Gospel of John. “I was very touched by the love of God and cried uncontrollably,” shared Wu.

Wu has now read the entire Bible twice and is on her third time. “Now I am at the book of Exodus. I am humbled as I can identify with the sinful nature of the Israelites and at the same time grateful for the fatherly love God has towards His people. It’s a love that’s beyond earthly parental love.”

The knowledge of who God is has changed Wu’s perspective towards life. She has learned to continuously surrender and commit her burdens to her Heavenly Father. The change in Wu’s life has become very noticeable to her friends and colleagues. One of her clients asked, “Wu, are you really Chinese? Why are you so different from your co-workers?”

“I think most sales managers would seem profit-oriented and shrewd. I am more straightforward and open in dealing with my clients. Yet because of my straightforwardness, I’ve gained the trust of my clients and boss, and I am able to do well in my job too,” explained Wu.

Besides her clients, Wu’s mother-in-law also noticed the change in Wu. She received Christ a year ago and was recently baptised.

Comparing her days before and after she came to know God, Wu says, “The period before I came to know the Lord was really terrible and dark. Now that I am in the bright light of God, I never want to go back to the darkness again.”

CUBA

Bible Societies are helping to distribute Bibles in Cuba through the 'One Million Bibles' project. With 40% of believers in Cuba without a Bible of their own, God's Word is in great demand. Bible Societies are currently permitted to import Scriptures into Cuba, so now is the time to be active and help.

For just £5 you could twin your Bible with one in Cuba.

"Every week people ask us if we have Bibles"

Rev Elmer is 69 years old. He is a Baptist Pastor and teaches at the 'Christian Centre for Training and Services' in Cuba.

"At least once a week there is a knock on our door, and someone asks to buy a Bible. Most often we have nothing to offer them, sometimes we have a New Testament that we can give away. People are very surprised when they hear that we, a Christian seminary, do not have Bibles."



Rev Elmer with his wife Gisela

He was a teenager during the revolution in Cuba and remembers what it was like for Christians then:

"There has been a total change in attitude, from a total rejection of God's Word to a great hunger for the Word."

At the moment Bible Societies can distribute Bibles within Cuba. Rev Elmer would love more Bibles and Christian Literature for the Christian Centre. He longs to be able to give Scripture to people through the various ministries he is involved with.

"Books are so expensive. Also, it is so expensive to get a pair of glasses that many seniors cannot afford to go to the optician. Therefore, many older people need a Bible with large print."

Rev Elmer's church is working to bring the Word of God into prisons:

"First, the guards were reluctant to let us into prison, where we handed out Gideon New Testaments. But as they saw the prisoners who read the Bible get a whole new life and behave much better, they were more than willing to let us in. A prisoner came and asked us to get an additional Testament. "It is my jailer, but he is too shy to ask himself". The guard had seen what the Bible had done with the prisoners, and he wanted to have a Bible for himself as well."

TOGO

The Bible Society in Togo is reaching out to people who cannot read or are visually impaired. The Bible Society are providing Proclaimers (wind-up audio Bibles) to help these people access the Bible in a way they can use. Groups of people are gathering in churches, prisons and schools to listen to the Bible.

For £18 you could twin your Bible with a Proclaimer in Togo.

“The entire Gospel resides in my heart”

“My name is Dorcas and I am a deacon in the Assemblies of God Church of Kolokopé. When I go home after listening to the Sunday sermon, I find myself not remembering much of anything because many things are not conveyed correctly by the person interpreting from French into Ewé (my language). I also tend to forget more because of that.

When I listen to the Gospel in Ewé, using the Proclaimer, however, I remember so much more easily and I obey as a result, because it is as if God is speaking to me directly. Since I have received a Bible in Ewé from Bible Society of Togo, I feel like the entire gospel resides in my heart now.

After each listening session, I try to read some more and discover even more things through the reading of Scripture in my mother tongue, Ewé. I can only praise God and ask him to abundantly bless the lives and projects of those who gave us the gift of this Proclaimer and Bible in Ewé.”



Dorcas and the Pastor of her church hold Bibles and Proclaimers.