



## Faces of Walk Thru the Bible



# GLOBAL IMPACT REPORT **2023**

“**T**here are no ordinary people,” C. S. Lewis once said. “You have never talked to a mere mortal.”

According to Lewis, there is a special holiness that accompanies every one of our normal daily interactions. Each person we encounter is precious to God and therefore should be precious to us. Each person is eternal, and each interaction we have with each person has eternal consequences.

At Walk Thru the Bible, we know that the Bible changes everything—changes lives, changes families, changes communities, and most importantly, changes eternities. For more than 47 years, our mission has been helping people everywhere live God’s Word. We work to make eternal impact—Kingdom impact—through our innovative live events and biblical resources. We help people in more than 140 countries experience life transformation and eternity transformation through engaging with the Word of God in memorable, innovative ways.

Because how do we get to know God? How do we grow in our relationship with Him? How do we understand who Jesus is and all that He has done for us? Through the Word of God—which is one of the main ways He communicates with us.

And as our world grows ever darker—with all the news of wars and rumors of wars, of political and civil unrest, of economic turmoil, of a pandemic that is still causing sickness and destruction, and more—our world needs more of God, more of His Word, more of His peace.

## **The Year of More**

When we were creating our initiatives and goals for FY23 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)—and we had just successfully met our 3-year goal of doubling our global ministry impact—we wanted to be sure to capitalize and build on that momentum in FY23.



## *A Letter From Our President*



OPEN OUR  
EYES,  
**LORD**



And we wanted *more*—we wanted to reach more people in more places, we wanted to create more tools, we wanted to incorporate more voices. We wanted to reach and teach more children. We wanted to distribute more content through more channels. We wanted to train more children's instructors and serve more pastors.

We wanted to make *even more* global impact.

By building on the momentum we gained through our 3-year vision of doubling our global impact, we did surpass our FY23 goal of the number of people that we impacted.

## More Opportunities

In John 4:35, Jesus tells us: "Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." Jesus wanted His disciples—and us—to see people through His eyes. He gives us opportunities to open our spiritual eyes to the people we encounter in our neighborhoods and workplaces, in our coffee shops and elementary schools and grocery stores, at our family gatherings and church small groups and mission trips, and more. By seeing people as He does—as a life who needs to know Him and His Word—our interactions take on a holy significance, a meeting with eternal consequences.

God gave us so many open doors, so many more opportunities for global ministry this year, to see others through His eyes. Around the world, Walk Thru the Bible is igniting passion for God's Word.

During FY23, our Biblical

Character Series course called *Refuge: Finding Home in a World of Change* (based on the life of Ruth) was televised on Alfa Omega satellite TV with Romanian subtitles. *Refuge* is helping people in Eastern Europe minister to Ukrainian refugees. *Refuge* was also launched in Arabic in our MENA region.

We were given permission to teach *otLIVE* (our event that teaches the big picture overview of the Old Testament) to public school children in Ukraine. We also increased our public school presence in Malawi, where we teach *otLIVE* in 54 schools, where many of the children are from other faiths.

Walk Thru the  
Bible impacted  
**4,657,268** lives  
around the world.

In South America, we have entered into a partnership with the Colombia Bible Society to train their leaders to teach *otLIVE* to their audiences in their contexts.

In the Philippines, Michael Gunnin (WTB's executive VP) taught *Catalyst: Helping Others Pursue Their Purpose* (our Biblical Character Series course based on the life of Barnabas) and *Bible Study Simplified* to more than 155 pastors, with 26 going on to be trained as teachers. I traveled to Hyderabad earlier this year to equip our South Asia leaders—from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka,

Bhutan, and Bangladesh—to both teach and train others to teach *Catalyst*. So many of the people in that area of the world are suffering so much. They are losing hope and losing heart. They are facing great danger and persecution, there is widespread political corruption, and there is great division among denominations in the church.

## Global Impact

As a result of all the strategizing, prayers, and hard work by our WTB global family; your prayers and support and encouragement; and especially God's guidance and inspiration, Walk Thru the Bible impacted 4,657,268 people around the world this year. That includes 1,326,518 children and more than 2 million live event attendees!

At Walk Thru the Bible, we continue to reach and teach people with God's Word, and we never forget that each interaction we have has eternal consequences. Thank you for your faithful partnership and support in this work God has called us to do together.

In these pages, you'll see lots of people that we have ministered to. If you ever wonder if what we do matters, if you ever wonder if what you do matters, just look at all the faces.



# 2023 at a Glance



**18,344**

pastors & Bible  
teachers **trained**



**32,164**  
**events**



**2,122,852**  
event **attendees**



**1,326,518**  
**kids** attendees



**896,712**  
**digital** consumers



**292,842**  
**resources** distributed



**4,657,268**  
**lives** impacted



**141**  
**countries** where you  
made a difference

# Changing **hearts**, changing **lives** ...



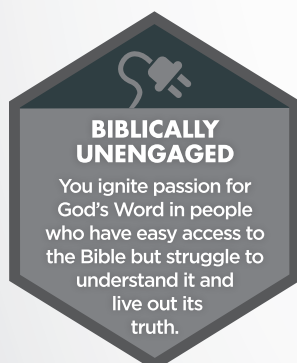
## Our Tools



## Our Content



## Our Audience



**F**or more than 47 years, Walk Thru the Bible has been committed to helping people everywhere live God's Word. We know that when people truly, deeply engage with Scripture, their lives are forever changed. This year, by God's grace and your partnership and support, nearly 4.7 million people

experienced God's Word through our live events and biblical resources. That's nearly 4.7 million souls who had the opportunity to engage with the Word and its Author. And every day, that's nearly 4.7 million opportunities to make an impact and change a life. Because the Bible changes everything.



# Helping People in Ukraine Live God's Word

## Finding true hope and peace

Yan Pilipak is a young pastor from Korsun in Ukraine's Cherkassy region.

In 2015, he and a group of believers began an outreach ministry, a rehab facility, for people with addictions—drugs and alcohol, as well as people who had been released from correctional facilities. Then, in 2016, Yan and the others started a new church for the people they were serving in the rehab center. And one after another, they began to find true freedom in God.

Gradually, following their previously lost sons and husbands, their parents and wives began to attend the church, and they also became Jesus-followers. The church began to grow—in addition to the prison and rehabilitation ministry, the church started new ministry offerings to students, children, and families. They also began a men's ministry.

Then, God expanded Yan's ministry; when the Russian invasion started, he was called to coordinate and mobilize a group of churches in the region.

As the war began in Ukraine, millions of internal refugees

moved from war-torn areas to safer parts of the country. At least 4,000 refugees came to the town where Pastor Yan lives. "Their eyes were visibly filled with feelings of loss and loneliness," says Pastor Yan. "There is so much pain and despair. There are so many stories of personal tragedy."

He began a new type of ministry through his church for the displaced people.

The church has coordinated aid and assistance from partners, and they began providing food, clothes, hygiene items, temporary shelter, and more. "But there was no humanitarian aid that could meet the needs of people's souls—they needed comfort, compassion, and hope," says Pastor Yan.

So every time they gave out food or clothing or supplies, they talked with people about where to find true Hope. And in the right moment, Pastor Yan and his church found Walk Thru the Bible's Biblical Character Series course, *Refuge: Finding Home in a World of Change*, based on the life of Ruth.

"We had received some manuals on trauma relief from international partners and other organizations.



It was helpful information, but it was sometimes complicated, and some people were unable to handle it," he says. "And then we got clear

and simple Bible teaching from the book of Ruth. It was just what we needed and more importantly, what the people we served needed at just the right time.”

When the refugees were later asked “Who helped you to go through these difficult times?” a majority of them answered, “that there is no other structure who helped them to survive and revitalize our hope as the church did,” says Pastor Yan.

“We were overwhelmed by this response. We couldn’t believe that these suffering people see us as a Boaz from the book of Ruth,” he says. “We quickly realized that God is writing new redemption stories in this terrible reality, both in us and through us.”



Recently, the Walk Thru the Bible team conducted an *otLIVE* event in Pastor Yan’s church in Korsun.

But he could not attend the event. He was facing his very own, very personal tragedy. His baby daughter, Abigail, had a serious heart defect. The Lord called her Home the next day.

Boris Volkov, Walk Thru’s Regional Director for Northern Eurasia, visited with Yan and his wife and

prayed with them. “Please know,” said Yan, “that the story of Naomi and Ruth comforts not just our refugees, but it comforts me and my wife. *Refuge* speaks to us and gives us hope and a vision of the future.”

In other parts of Ukraine, Walk Thru’s teams are also seeing more and more grief and despair, but they are ministering in God’s name. They are providing the hope and truth of His Word to children, to their parents, to the elderly, and more.

Boris Volkov and Catherine Martych, our Children’s Coordinator for the region (who

**“The story is still being written and there is hope,” says Pastor Yan.**

both live in Ukraine), are helping people in Ukraine live God’s Word.

“So many, many children here have broken hearts. They are displaced. They are orphaned. They have no hope,” says Catherine with tears in her eyes. “We are teaching them the Bible. We are teaching them about Bible heroes, those who were courageous and faithful and obedient and who followed after God. We are teaching them about how He loves them and has a plan for their lives.”

Catherine and her team are teaching Walk Thru the Bible’s *otLIVE* (our event that teaches the big picture story of the Old Testament) to kids in Bible camps, in public schools, in orphanages, even in the streets and behind

buildings. “We are doing so much ministry,” she says, “that sometimes we even forget there’s a war going on. We can help people find hope and peace through the Word of God, even during such loss.”

God is making Himself known around the world through the work of Walk Thru the Bible—even in the middle of a warzone, even in the middle of unspeakable tragedies. “The story is still being written and there is hope,” says Pastor Yan. “As the song says, ‘There’s no story You can’t redeem.’”

### About Korsun:

Korsun is a small town located in the very heart of Ukraine on the banks of Ros River. With a population estimate of around 19,000 (2023), Korsun is located about 90 miles south of Kyiv. Currently there are no active hostilities in Korsun, but since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, more than 4,000 forcibly displaced people have found shelter in the Korsun urban community. Most of the immigrants are families with children and elderly people. An extraordinary number of them arrive in the community with virtually no belongings.

# FY2023: A Report Card

## KEY GROWTH INITIATIVES

At Walk Thru the Bible, we help people everywhere live God's Word. Every day, we serve the biblically unengaged through our innovative live events and our biblical resources—from *otLIVE* to the Biblical Character Series studies, from *ntLIVE* to the *Bible Study Simplified* streaming series, from Step Into the Story Podcast to the Daily Walk Podcast, and more. Every day, we serve the persecuted church through our biblical resources that are used by individuals in secret churches, home groups, and more. And every day, we minister to under-resourced pastors around the world by equipping them with our biblical tools and providing training and community for them.

Our mission is to help people deeply engage with Scripture, to understand it and apply it their lives, to study its pages every day, to know why it's important. Our mission is to make the Bible more than accessible; instead, to make it understandable and applicable, to help people discover the beauty and wonder and joy in its pages. And our mission is to help people discover and explore the depths of meaning in God's Word.

We want the Bible to impact lives for God's Kingdom, for eternity.

In FY23, Walk Thru the Bible impacted 4,657,268 lives

around the world. This is an increase of 19.14% or nearly 749,000 lives over last year's lives impacted number.

The men and women of the Walk Thru the Bible global family have worked faithfully and tirelessly toward reaching and teaching more people in more places this year. In these pages, we will report on our FY23 progress in some key initiatives.

### 1 | CONNECT MORE KIDS TO GOD'S WORD

- Continue growth of the WTB kids' ministry in at least 10 regions resulting in ministry impact of 1.4 million kids by June 30, 2023.

Walk Thru the Bible's children's ministry is in 10 of our 11 regions now, with an impact in FY23 of 1,326,518 kids. This was accomplished through various strategies, such as establishing new ministry



in 3 new regions this year as well as expanding kids' ministry in already-established regions. Several new partnerships were initiated this year, including One Child in Honduras, Child Evangelism Fellowship in Jordan, and Colombia Bible Society. Throughout the year, we trained new kids' instructors in South



America and in Ukraine. An E2 Conference of children's leaders in the Southeast Asia/Pacific region was held in March (2023) where 33 new instructors were trained to teach Walk Thru kids' events, too. Our *otSTORIES* and *ntSTORIES*—follow-up curriculum for kids who were taught at an *otLIVE* event or an *ntLIVE* event, whether at school, at church, at an orphanage, and more—were created, produced, and distributed, and Global Children's Team leaders were trained in how to use them (and they will train others).



There has been continued growth in WTB kids' ministry in Ukraine. Our team there, under the guidance of Regional Director Boris Volkov and Children's Ministry Coordinator Catherine Martych, have been teaching children in Bible camps all around the war-torn country. Walk Thru the Bible Ukraine was also given permission to teach *otLIVE* in public schools.

Public school ministry continued to grow in Malawi, with 54 schools receiving *otLIVE* and *ntLIVE* instruction in their classrooms each week. More schools have asked Walk Thru the Bible to teach these courses to their children because of the impact they've seen and heard about.

- **Create and distribute two free resources to equip 500 parents to effectively teach the Bible to their children by June 30, 2023.**

While we did not complete this initiative in FY23, we did identify the top 5 challenges and obstacles parents face as they try to teach the Bible to their children, and we chose 2 of these issues to address. The content

for the video was written to complete the initiative; the project will be completed with the filming and distribution of the resources.

## 2 | CREATE RESOURCES THAT IGNITE BIBLE ENGAGEMENT

- **Create and distribute free WTB digital content for widespread use across all of our digital channels (website, social media, YouTube, app, etc.) at least 4x a week with an impact of 15,000 people.**

Walk Thru the Bible continues to increase digital content creation and distribution across multiple channels, including our website, social media platforms, email series, free downloads, and podcasts. The total number of people impacted in North America grew to 116,212 with more than 5,000 pieces of digital content downloaded; more than 1,000 podcast listeners (on average); more than 12,500 receiving a daily email devotional; more than 58,000 blog readers; more than 30,000 video viewers, and 1,900 app installs. Our media strategy has resulted in more awareness of Walk Thru the Bible, increased engagement and following on our social media platforms, and many downloads of free resources from our website.

- **Launch one Biblical Character Series (Catalyst) by October 1, 2022 which sells 400 products in FY2023 and produce one Biblical Character Series course available by February 1, 2023 which sells 250 products in FY2023.**



*Catalyst: Helping Others Pursue Their Purpose* (based on the life of Barnabas) launched in fall of 2022 in the U.S. As of June 30, 2023, 300 products have been

sold in the U.S. Many pastors in several of our global regions have been trained and have begun teaching the course to their congregations. Phil trained our South Asia leaders in January 2023 in the course, and Michael taught *Catalyst* in the Philippines in June to 155 pastors. Other leaders in the MENA region have been taught and trained in *Catalyst* as well. The second course, *Reset: How God Sees His Daughters*, has been filmed and is in production, as well as the workbook. We are planning for a fall 2023 release.



- Translate *otPANORAMIC* into 10 languages and distribute in 30 countries that reach 15,000 people by June 30, 2023.

*otPANORAMIC* has been translated into 17 languages and is currently being reviewed and edited for accuracy by native speakers. We're planning to launch these languages as soon as the editors complete their work.

### 3 | DEVELOP PASTOR TRAINING RESOURCES

- Develop a supplemental session for Bible Study Simplified that teaches basic sermon or Bible study creation by October 1, 2022 and test teaching full course in person internationally in at least 2 regions to 500 pastors by June 30, 2023.

The supplemental session for Bible Study Simplified was created, and Michael taught it to more than 200 pastors in the Philippines (SEAPAC region) and in Honduras (Central America region). Through these live training sessions, we discovered the need for a more robust training manual than we currently have, as well as some adjustments to the content to make it more compatible with live teaching.

### 4 | EXPAND OUR INTENTIONAL PASTOR TRAINING MODEL

- Develop, expand, and refine WTB's Pastors Institute model in 4 new regions (South America, East/West Africa, Eastern Europe, and MENA) that enrolls 800 pastors in FY2023.



This initiative continues to be refined and expanded. In the regions where Pastors Institute was established, we refined the model to bring those regions more in line with each other. For example, a pastor will go through four Walk Thru the Bible courses (i.e., be taught and then trained to teach it and to teach others) and then receive a certificate. The total number of pastors who enrolled this year in the expanded, refined Pastors Institute globally was 4,765.



These strategies and initiatives (plus more not listed here) support the growth of Walk Thru the Bible's global ministry impact. By God's grace and your partnership with us, Walk Thru the Bible ministered to and impacted 4,657,268 lives in FY23—and that's an increase of 748,226 lives over last year's lives-impacted number.

## Thank you!

God has indeed been at work and done amazing things through Walk Thru the Bible's global ministry in FY23. He has led and guided us through challenges and persecution and more. He continues to lead us through a culture shift within Walk Thru that includes new ways of doing ministry and reaching people we never would have reached before. He continues to lead us as we build on the momentum of the past 3 years, and as we've utilized and leveraged technology to reach new audiences. Because of these shifts and more, and because of all of the doors He has opened for Walk Thru the Bible, we continue to impact more and more people around the world.

We are so grateful for God's leadership and His grace that inspires and humbles us. We are so grateful for this mission of helping people everywhere live God's Word that He has called us to. And we are grateful for our Walk Thru the Bible global family, men and women working tirelessly to ignite passion for God's Word in the hearts and lives of people.

And we are especially grateful for you, for your partnership, support, and encouragement. You have continually shown your faithfulness to Walk Thru the Bible over the years. Thank you for walking with us, for partnering with us, for praying with us, as we serve the Kingdom together.

## GROWTH OF WTB LIVES IMPACTED

2019  
**1,960,908**

2020  
**1,850,131**

2021  
**2,319,966**

2022  
**3,909,042**

2023  
**4,657,268**







# Global **Impact**

July 1, **2022** - June 30, **2023**

## Asia Pacific

**2,733** instructors trained  
**44,625** live event attendees  
**1,036** live events  
**57,103** resources distributed  
**104,461** total lives impacted

## Central America

**559** instructors trained  
**25,888** live event attendees  
**247** live events  
**10,234** resources distributed  
**36,681** total lives impacted

## East/West Africa

**3,648** instructors trained  
**1,059,446** live event attendees  
**2,137** live events  
**5,615** resources distributed  
**1,068,709** total lives impacted

## Eastern Europe

**2,824** instructors trained  
**844,805** live event attendees  
**866** live events  
**19,676** resources distributed  
**867,305** total lives impacted

## Middle East/North Africa

**4,845** instructors trained  
**32,204** live event attendees  
**126** live events  
**4,956** resources distributed  
**42,005** total lives impacted

## North America

**75** instructors trained  
**17,489** live event attendees  
**171** live events  
**261,614** resources distributed  
**279,178** total lives impacted

## Northern Eurasia

**1,178** instructors trained  
**62,325** live event attendees  
**484** live events  
**13,256** resources distributed  
**76,759** total lives impacted

## South America

**249** instructors trained  
**3,564** live event attendees  
**138** live events  
**2,215** resources distributed  
**6,028** total lives impacted

## South Asia

**2,002** instructors trained  
**1,971,668** live event attendees  
**24,624** live events  
**17,500** resources distributed  
**1,991,170** total lives impacted

## Southern Africa

**77** instructors trained  
**119,687** live events attendees  
**815** live events  
**12,132** resources distributed  
**131,896** total lives impacted

## Western Europe

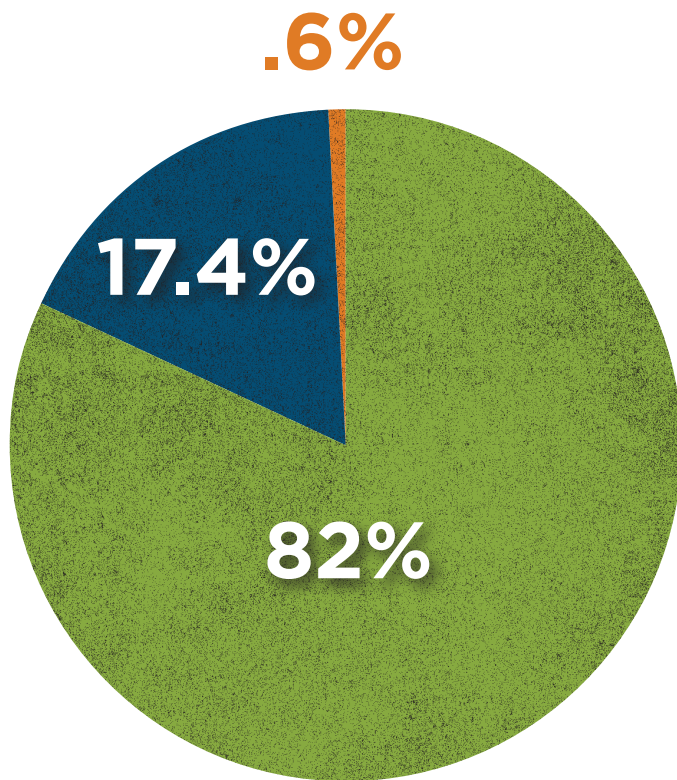
**154** instructors trained  
**48,169** live event attendees  
**1,691** live events  
**4,753** resources distributed  
**53,076** total lives impacted

Total Lives  
Impacted  
Around the  
World:

**4,657,268**



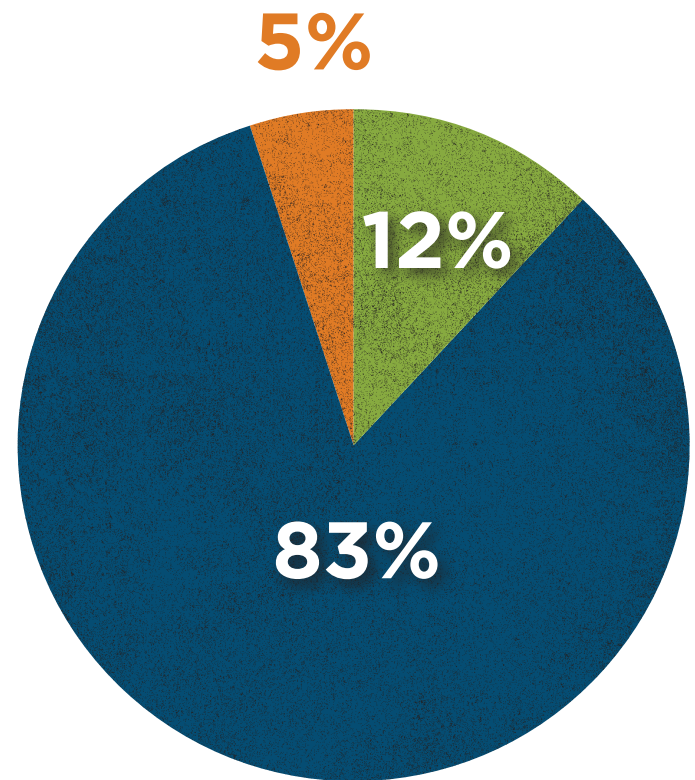
# Fiscal Year 2023



## Revenue Sources

Contributions	3,592,584
Program	770,884
Administration	28,240

**TOTAL REVENUE** **\$4,391,708**



## Operating Expenses

Fundraising	521,772
Program	3,540,347
Administration	227,870

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$4,289,989**

**PROFIT/LOSS** **\$101,719**





# Letter from the **Chairman**



Looking back on this past year, I am so grateful and amazed at how God has worked through Walk Thru the Bible around the world. A few encouraging statistics will illustrate: In fiscal year 2022-23, more than 4.6 million people encountered God by way of WTB initiatives, both transformational biblical resources and innovative live events. More than 18,000 pastors, church leaders and instructors were trained in Walk Thru courses and events. Typically these leaders then take this biblical

content back to their people where spiritual growth and multiplication inevitably follows.

God has given Walk Thru the privilege and responsibility of now serving and discipling in 141 countries. But we continually remember that while impacting millions of people around the globe, we do this one person at a time. This mission can be summarized in four areas of focus: 1). Helping the biblically unengaged understand the Scriptures and fall in love with its Author. 2). Providing under-resourced pastors and church leaders with tools and techniques by which they can reach their people. 3). Encouraging and supporting persecuted believers in some of the darkest places on earth. 4). Teaching children the Scriptures so they can come to know and live for the God who so deeply loves them.

Walk Thru the Bible is truly making an impact around the world for both the eternal good of millions and the glory of our Father. All this was enabled by your partnership in prayer and financial support, the tireless efforts of our capable leadership and staff and the ever-present favor of our Lord Jesus.

As God continues to provide ministry opportunities and open doors around the world, will you continue this journey with us? We commit to you that we will remain faithful and fruitful in our efforts to strategically “help people everywhere live God’s Word.” Now as never before, our mission rings true as the great global need of the hour.

Thank you and God bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Isch". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. John Isch

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Bible Ministries



## About Us:

At Walk Thru the Bible, we have more than 45 years of helping people everywhere live God's Word. Millions of people in more than 140 countries have experienced the Bible in a whole new way—and their lives have never been the same...

***because the Bible changes everything.***

## Contact Us:

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