



## Global Impact Report | **2017**

MORE  
than EVER



## Global Impact Report | 2017

# LETTER from our PRESIDENT

I watch the news through a different lens than most people. As violence erupts, refugees flee, natural disasters strike, and political battles divide, I pray for the safety of my colleagues around the world. I think about the risks they're taking to share God's Word in dark places. Walk Thru the Bible's ministry exists to meet the needs of today, and the needs of today are vast and urgent.

### Expanding Our Reach

This time last year, we were anticipating a bold year of expansion. God has answered our prayer. In the 2016-17 fiscal year, Walk Thru the Bible impacted over two million people in 139 countries, including some countries we have never reached before. The group that attended this summer's regional Middle East/ North Africa conference in Jordan was our most diverse yet. Seventy-five church leaders from 16 countries gathered to learn new

biblical material and to encourage each other in a time of rising persecution.

The highlight of my year was the opportunity to teach a small group of pastors from a highly restricted country. Each one of them came from a Muslim background and was relatively new to faith in Jesus. I've never experienced such an outpouring of gratitude and enthusiasm—and I've taught hundreds of groups overseas. I didn't expect them to return home with paper copies of our resources in their luggage given the high risk of seizure and imprisonment, but many insisted. "God will blind the eyes of those He doesn't want to see the materials," they said. Their faith is astounding.

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challenging circumstances.

The expansion of our ministry is not just limited to the persecuted church. As the global church grows in numbers, Walk Thru the Bible is training more under-resourced pastors than ever before. In Fiscal Year 2016-17, we trained 12,100 pastors in 39 countries. In so many places around the world, small investments in training are setting off a chain reaction. Last winter, for example, I helped train 27 South Asian pastors at a regional conference in India. These 27 people went on to train 1,000 more. Through this model of spiritual multiplication, our ministry is making a kingdom impact with every dollar we invest. This year, our global leaders continued to reach entire churches with God's Grand Story, Walk Thru the Bible's six-week Bible engagement campaign.

### Opportunities for Growth

Fiscal Year 2016-17 has been a phenomenal year for Walk Thru the Bible. As I think about the year ahead, I'm looking forward to walking through new doors of opportunity as a ministry.

The first major opportunity that comes to mind is *otLIVE*. Several years ago, some of our global leaders identified the need for a streamlined event to attract a broader audience. Years of development came to fruition this year with a new two-and-a-half hour Old Testament overview event. In its first few months in action, *otLIVE* has exceeded our expectations. In today's world, it's proven much easier to ask people to attend an event the length of a movie than to give up an entire day.

In North America, live event attendance has risen and more

churches are interested in hosting events. As our international leaders begin to teach *otLIVE*, we look forward to the ways God will use this event for His glory around the world.

We're also anticipating the global impact of *Revolution: How Millennials Can Change the World* in 77 countries. This new installment in our Biblical Character Series examines the life of King Josiah, a reformer who grounded societal transformation in biblical truth. As I begin to teach this new resource, it's rewarding to see people from vastly different backgrounds consider the ways God might be calling them to influence their own culture.

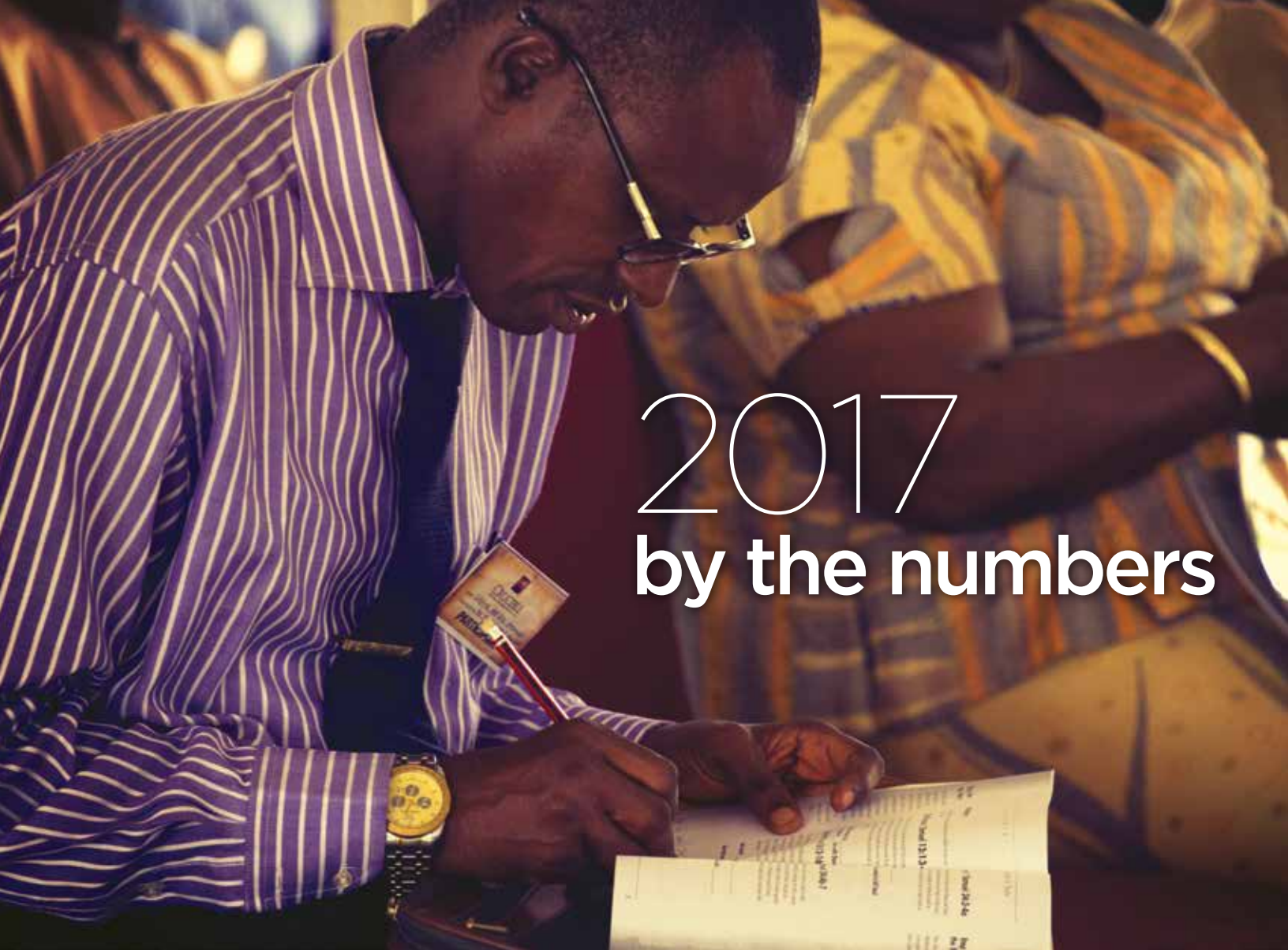
### Thank You for Partnering with Us

Fiscal Year 2017-18 is an important season for Walk Thru the Bible to grow in all areas, including financially. Thank you for being an integral part of this growth. Because of you, financial contributions continue to increase, ensuring that our ministry needs around the world are being met. By God's grace, your steadfast support, prayer, and encouragement make it possible to transform countless lives around the globe.

None of us knows all that the next year of ministry will bring, but we do know one thing: Walk Thru the Bible's mission will be more needed and relevant than ever before. The next time you are sobered by what you see on the news, please take a moment to pray for our ministry. More than likely, Walk Thru the Bible is there in the thick of whatever situation arises, offering the hope of God's Word to a hurting world.

*Phil*





# 2017 by the numbers

## In Fiscal Year 2017:

**139**

Countries where you made an impact

**12,100+**

Pastors & teachers trained

**27,800**

Live events hosted

**1.8 million+**

Live event attendees

**1.29 million**

Biblical resources distributed

**\$1**

Reaches one person with a live event or biblical resource

Now, more than ever, **Walk Thru the Bible** has the opportunity to share the truth of God's Word with a broken world.

People of every nation, culture, language, and tribe face obstacles to understanding and living out the Bible. Persecution. Lack of resources. Apathy. Confusion. Walk Thru the Bible's **innovative live events** and **transformational biblical resources** help overcome these obstacles. You're making it possible for people in 139 countries to understand and practically apply the Bible. When they do, everything changes.

### OUR MISSION:



Helping People  
Everywhere Live  
God's Word

### OUR TOOLS:



#### LIVE EVENTS

You help people learn the big picture of the Bible in a memorable, interactive way through attending innovative live events.



#### BIBLICAL RESOURCES

You provide biblical resources that invite people deeper into the Word of God and transform the way they apply it in their everyday lives.

### OUR AUDIENCE:



#### BIBLICALLY UNENGAGED

You ignite passion for God's Word in people who have easy access to the Bible but struggle to understand it and live out its truth.



#### PERSECUTED CHURCH

You bring encouragement and biblical food to believers who face intense persecution for their faith.



#### UNDER-RESOURCED PASTORS

You provide vital resources for church leaders who lack the biblical resources they need to teach God's Word and multiply their impact.





# BIBLICALLY UNENGAGED

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you.” EPHESIANS 1:18a

“If they cut off my head and sacrifice me, that’s on you,” Stephanie Lewis joked to her friends when they dropped her off at Grace House in San Antonio, Texas. She had no idea what to expect when she enrolled in a residential rehab program that immerses at-risk women in the hope of God’s Word. At that point in her life, the Bible was about the only thing she hadn’t turned to in order to cope with the dysfunction she experienced from an early age. Her alcoholic father and emotionally absent mother divorced when she was a young child. By 13, Stephanie had moved out and begun to live a rootless, destructive lifestyle with her friends in a small town in Arkansas. What began as casual drug use escalated when she befriended a much older man who had been in and out of jail for manufacturing and dealing methamphetamines. Despite multiple attempts to get sober, nothing slowed Stephanie’s momentum on the reckless path her life had taken. “A car wreck couldn’t get me clean,” she reflects. “Prison couldn’t get me clean. Rehab didn’t get me clean. What else is there?”

In her first month at Grace House, Stephanie found her answer when she began to learn about the Bible from a veteran Walk Thru the Bible instructor named Arlie Francis. “When I met Arlie,” she remembers, “he was beginning the story of Creation and it just caught my eye. The next week I told the story back to him. It was really bumpy, because I didn’t grow up in church.” Stephanie felt insecure about her lack of biblical knowledge, but something

about these weekly Bible lessons captured her attention. “I loved the hand signs and the stories so much—they just touched my heart,” she remembers. Gradually, God began to draw her to Himself. She surrendered her life to Christ after just a few months in the program.

As a new Christian, Stephanie soaked in as much of the Bible as she could. Every week, Arlie would teach a new story to the women in her program. “It doesn’t get much better than the outline that Walk Thru the Bible uses,” Stephanie says. “It was almost like going to seminary because

Arlie taught so much depth.” After she graduated from the Grace House program in January 2016, Stephanie watched God put the broken pieces of her life back together. She regained custody of her two young sons and found a job as a receptionist for a local business. A generous Christian couple, Danny and Kathy Villalobos, invited her and her sons to live with them in a healthy environment.

Today Stephanie still attends Arlie’s Sunday school classes to add to her knowledge base. Once a week, she spends time with current residents of Grace House to impart whatever biblical truth she can. She’s passionate about engaging people like herself with God’s Word—people who have been written off by society. “In 1 Corinthians Paul says that God takes what is weak in the world to shame the strong, what is foolish to shame the wise. A lot of people think that we’re worthless. But God will give knowledge and wisdom to people not for pride, but to give it to others.”

**At that point in her life, the Bible was about the only thing she hadn’t turned to in order to cope with the dysfunction she experienced from an early age.**





# PERSECUTED CHURCH

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”  
2 CORINTHIANS 4:8-12



Aizhamal first encountered Jesus in the mountainous metropolis of Almaty, Kazakhstan. As a student in one of the city’s major universities, she befriended a group of Christian students whose lives stood in stark contrast to the norms and customs of the country’s predominately Muslim culture. In Kazakhstan, Christians often experience fines, threats, and arrests, particularly if they have converted from Islam. Nevertheless, these students persisted in sharing the gospel, and God drew Aizhamal to Himself through their testimony. She surrendered her life to Christ and joined a local church, where she met Azamat, the man who became her husband.

After becoming a Christian, Aizhamal began to walk a path that diverged greatly from the example her Muslim family had set before her. For a time, her relatives severed contact with her in protest. After Aizhamal married Azamat and had children, they were excluded from family gatherings. Her heart ached for the relationships she had lost.

In time, God started to heal her broken relationships. But as Aizhamal reconnected with her estranged family members, she realized that she wanted more than reconciliation. She wanted an opportunity to reach her family with the gospel that had transformed her as a student in Almaty.

In a culture that is increasingly hostile to Christianity, Aizhamal is grateful for practical tools that will help her reach the people around her with biblical truth.

Finding common ground with her Muslim family became an easier task after Aizhamal attended a Walk Thru the Old Testament live event hosted by Walk Thru the Bible. In Aizhamal’s words, “Walk Thru the Old Testament was such a great blessing for me” because the Bible became “not just a spiritual book, hero personalities, or important facts, but a lively story, a complete chain of events that leads to the Creator—*Isa Peygamber*.” Adopted from the Turkish language, “Isa Peygamber” has found its way into the Kazakh vernacular to mean “Jesus the Prophet.” Kazakh Muslims honor Jesus as one of the great prophets preceding Mohammed. They also respect the *Taurat*—the Torah, as well as the prophetic books of the Old Testament, as legitimate Scripture.

Through the Walk Thru the Old Testament seminar, Aizhamal gained a clearer understanding of how every character, prophecy, and event described in the Old Testament ultimately points to *Isa Peygamber*: Jesus Christ. Now she has the tools to show that the great prophet who lived in first-century Palestine is the same Person who fulfills every prophecy and every hope woven throughout the narrative of the Old Testament.



In a culture that is increasingly hostile to Christianity, Aizhamal is grateful for practical tools that will help her reach the people around her with biblical truth. “I’m sure that now my testimony will be more powerful,” says Aizhamal. “It will be much easier to share the gospel with my family.”





# UNDER-RESOURCED PASTORS

“Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity.” **HEBREWS 6:1a**

Pastors Carlos Mendoza Matute and Mirna Archaga Vargas crossed five rivers and traversed a winding tangle of country roads to reach their destination. Eleven hours after they set out from their home in northern Honduras, they arrived at a small church in the remote seaside town of Iriona. Forty couples waited expectantly in plastic chairs for Carlos and Mirna to begin teaching the church’s first-ever marriage conference. For the next seven hours, Carlos and Mirna led them through *A Biblical Portrait of Marriage*, one of Walk Thru the Bible’s transformational biblical resources.

“They were so thirsty to hear that they listened until ten in the evening,” share Carlos and Mirna.

“God was glorified as many publicly sought forgiveness, cried, and hugged. Others made a commitment to God and each other to fight to have a marriage that conforms to His Word. Still others decided to become legally married. Really everyone was amazed.”

For the past twenty years of their marriage and ministry, Carlos and Mirna have answered God’s call to feed and instruct Honduran couples and families with biblical truth. They live in San Pedro Sula, the second largest city in Honduras, where they faithfully serve 200

impoverished families that work at the municipal landfill. The sector of the city where these families live and work is “so hostile, riddled with misery and delinquency,” according to Carlos and Mirna. In addition to providing for the basic

physical needs of the families, the couple endeavors to offer spiritual resources that plant hope in depleted, blood-soaked soil. But they

constantly face setbacks. “On more than one occasion, we’ve felt discouraged by the lack of resources and how big the growing needs of this population are,” they admit.

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Two years ago, their prayer for more resources was answered when they received an invitation to a marriage conference from Alejandro Oviedo, the director of Walk Thru the Bible’s Central American ministry. “This visit changed our lives and ministry,” they agree. After the conference, Carlos and Mirna were one of the couples chosen by their denomination to embark on a two-year family-focused course of study with Walk Thru the Bible. “This helped us strengthen our family ministry, and we ourselves have been highly blessed and edified by what we have learned in our two years with Walk Thru the Bible,” the couple says.

Even before completing the course, Carlos and Mirna accepted the

challenge of training pastors from 25 other churches in their area. Using foundational Walk Thru the Bible resources like *A Biblical Portrait of Marriage* and *Raise Up a Child*, they’ve organized diverse training conferences both in and out of their denomination. Now, for the first time, many churches have the spiritual resources they need to launch family and marriage ministries. Carlos and Mirna, in turn, have been deeply encouraged by the life transformation they’ve witnessed as a result of the tools that Walk Thru the Bible has provided.

strengthened family ministry in each church where we have shared Walk Thru the Bible, for the work that they do is extraordinary and significant. For us it has been a tool that God is using to transform families in Honduras.”





# GLOBAL IMPACT

## North America

**100**  
church leaders trained

**27,500**  
live event attendees

**223**  
live events

**1,290,000**  
resources distributed

## Latin America

**434**  
church leaders trained

**40,378**  
live event attendees

**221**  
live events

**5,768**  
resources distributed

**9,057,000**  
TV viewing audience

**7,560,000**  
radio listening audience

## Europe

**1,720**  
church leaders trained

**120,614**  
live event attendees

**1,615**  
live events

**57,822**  
resources distributed

**15,800,000**  
TV viewing audience

**1,710,000**  
radio listening audience

## C.I.S.

**1,294**  
church leaders trained

**159,090**  
live event attendees

**5,733**  
live events

**18,355**  
resources distributed

**26,000,000**  
TV viewing audience

**3,050,000**  
radio listening audience

## Asia

**1,826**  
church leaders trained

**1,113,736**  
live event attendees

**18,062**  
live events

**100,570**  
resources distributed

## Africa

**6,424**  
church leaders trained

**342,336**  
live event attendees

**1,061**  
live events

**61,107**  
resources distributed

## Middle East/ North Africa

**389**  
church leaders trained

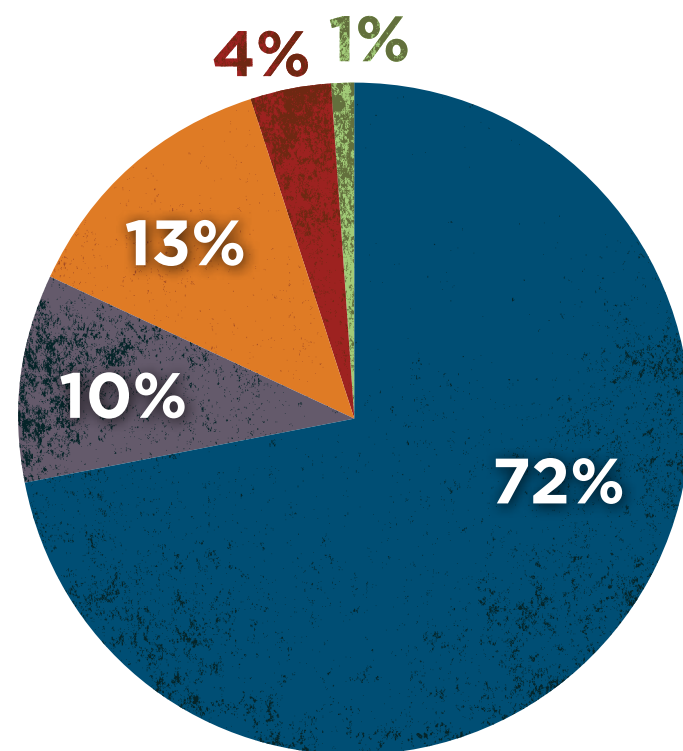
**45,031**  
live event attendees

**917**  
live events

**5,950**  
resources distributed



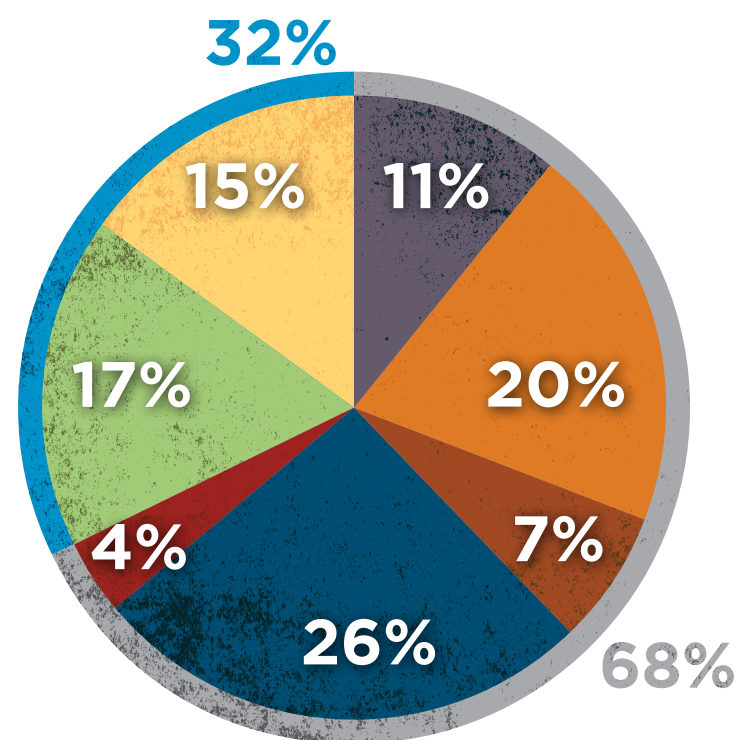
# FISCAL YEAR 2017



## Revenue Sources

Contributions	\$2,769,237
Publishing	400,181
Live Events	482,375
Resources	158,472
Other Income	20,741

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$3,831,006**



## Operating Expenses

Publications	\$457,352
Live Events	837,369
Resources	304,998
International Ministries	1,090,194
Media Development	174,814

**Total Program Expenses 2,864,726**

Administration	693,542
Fundraising	625,850

**Total Supporting Services 1,319,392**

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$4,184,118**

# LETTER from the CHAIRMAN



In a world that is increasingly dominated by uncertainty and fear, confusion and chaos, hatred and conflict, the Bible alone provides practical, personal solutions in very diverse contexts. Whether it's helping the local church address growing biblical illiteracy, equipping under-resourced pastors, or helping the persecuted church thrive, God has endowed Walk Thru the Bible with great privilege and responsibility.

Walk Thru the Bible is well-positioned to make a greater impact than ever before with the resources God has provided. Phil is a unique leader, full of integrity and creativity. His leadership team is talented, committed, and diligent. The staff is lean and flourishing in their new location. Our global team abounds with godly men and women who are giving their lives to the call of Christ, often in very difficult situations. Our financial health is challenged only by the great global needs that await. The Board is unified, energized, and thankful to have a small role in shepherding this world-changing ministry.

Truly, it is "for such a time as this" that Walk Thru has been called into the Kingdom. Thank you for your ongoing prayers, your wisdom, and your faithful financial partnership. Now, more than ever, we can trust that God has placed our ministry exactly where He wants us to help people everywhere live His Word.

God Bless,

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Publisher  
Portland, Ore.

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**Genny Baxley**

**VP OF NORTH AMERICAN  
MINISTRIES**

**Allen Baxley**

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

**Wahid Wahba**

**DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL  
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