



# From **Generation** to **Generation**



## Global Impact Report | 2018



Phil teaching *Revolution* in Ukraine

*How great are his signs,  
how mighty his wonders!  
His kingdom is an eternal kingdom;  
his dominion endures from generation to generation.  
Daniel 4:3*

Throughout my years of ministry at Walk Thru the Bible, I've noticed a pattern. When God plants an idea in my head for a new biblical resource, I create the content and begin to teach it to the best of my ability. Then He uses it in ways none of us at Walk Thru the Bible could ever have imagined.

### Igniting Revolution

When I first developed *Revolution*, Walk Thru the Bible's newest biblical resource, I envisioned a course that would primarily resonate with a North American audience. The story of King Josiah, a young reformer who revived a nation after rediscovering God's Word, illustrates the incredible potential of the millennial generation. I frequently meet millennials who desire to shape their culture, but they feel unsupported and unappreciated by older generations. When several of Walk Thru the Bible's global leaders first encountered *Revolution*, they asked me if I really thought the U.S. was the only country in the world with generational differences. So over the 2017-18 fiscal year, I accepted their invitation to teach *Revolution* at five continental conferences around the world. The response couldn't have been more encouraging.

At Walk Thru the Bible, we frequently reference the three main ministry contexts in which we operate. In 151 countries around the world, we serve the biblically unengaged, the persecuted church, and under-resourced pastors and Bible teachers. As I teach *Revolution* at home and overseas, I've witnessed how our training and resources meet the needs of people in all three contexts. In the U.S. this year, I've come across so many people who don't understand the big picture of the Bible or know how to apply it to their lives. For them, the challenges of Bible characters like King Josiah resemble their own challenges. They begin to read the Bible with heightened interest. They dig deeper. For persecuted believers, like those I met at our Middle East-North Africa conference last summer, *Revolution* offers hope in dark places. In countries like India and Ghana, where we hosted two regional conferences, we equipped dozens of pastors and Bible teachers who are hungry for truth they can teach to

# Letter From Our **President**

thousands more after their return home. In all three contexts, God uses our resources to change lives.

We can't even begin to imagine the impact each of these men and women will make in their homes, churches, and communities. When I think about the leaders I met over the past year, I often think of Vitaly, a 34-year-old Russian leader who attended the *Revolution* conference in Ukraine. In the former Soviet Union, the fall of communism created a major cultural divide between generations, even in the church. Older Christians believe that the youth and their churches lack credibility because they have never experienced serious persecution for their faith. From the perspective of the youth, the older generation is hopelessly mired in the past.

In this environment of distrust and polarization, Vitaly serves as the director of youth ministry for the Baptist Union of Russia. He travels around the country to equip and encourage youth leaders in 1,800 churches. At the end of the *Revolution* conference, he shared that he plans to teach this course to 2,500 teenagers at the Baptist Union's annual youth conference. In a highly secular culture, God has opened an unexpected door for Kingdom impact.

### Moving Ahead

As *Revolution* blazes through many of the countries where Walk Thru the Bible works, *otLIVE* and *ntLIVE* are also picking up steam. This year's launch of *ntLIVE*, our shortened version of the traditional New Testament overview event, complements the *otLIVE* event that our global leaders are using to reach more people than ever before. The accessibility and streamlined storytelling of the dual events continue to attract wider and more diverse audiences.

Looking ahead to Fiscal Year 2018-19, we plan to expand that audience even more by launching the next installment in the *Biblical Character Series* at our Middle East-North Africa conference this year. Please join me in praying that this new resource, which draws lessons from the life of Simon Peter, will challenge readers to grow and take risks to become everything God intends them to be.

Between *Revolution*, *otLIVE* and *ntLIVE*, and our existing resources, Walk Thru the Bible equipped more than 16,800 pastors and church leaders in Fiscal Year 2017-18. With the addition of the resource on the life of Peter, we aim to equip even more in Fiscal Year 2018-19. In the past year, I've been greatly encouraged by the high percentage of young people in our training classes and audiences. These millennial leaders are desperately in need of high-quality tools and resources to shape their cultures with God's Word. God has given Walk Thru the Bible incredible opportunities to equip them. To take full advantage of these opportunities over the next year, we will unveil a newly designed website and other essential updates to our systems.

Reaching the next generation with the truth of the Bible is challenging work, but it's also joyful, rewarding work. Thank you for joining this work with your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. I pray you're encouraged and inspired by the stories of transformation and hope that we highlight in the following pages. As God continues to grow and use Walk Thru the Bible's global ministry, we marvel at the ways He shows His faithfulness from generation to generation.

*Phil*

# 2018 at a Glance



**16,813**  
Pastors &  
Bible teachers  
**trained**



**1,741,847**  
live event **attendees**



**32,205**  
live **events**

*Because  
of your  
support*



**1,336,330**  
**resources** distributed



**151**  
**Countries**  
where you made a  
difference



**more than**  
**3,000,000**  
**lives** impacted

## Our Mission:



## 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.



How can someone live God's Word if they don't **understand** it?

Walk Thru the Bible offers **innovative live events** and **practical biblical resources** to help people break through walls of apathy, discouragement, and confusion. When people learn how to apply the Bible to everyday life, everyday life is transformed.



# Biblically Unengaged

For two months, Linda Miller spent her lunch break in the main auditorium of BellSouth's Atlanta campus. A local Walk Thru the Bible instructor had volunteered to teach the book of Jonah to any interested employees. "I remember how much we enjoyed the teaching," says Linda, who committed her life to Christ and developed a passion for the Bible at a young age. Only a few short years after she attended that Walk Thru the Bible study, the trajectory of her life changed dramatically.

"In 1995 I started noticing problems with my eyesight," Linda remembers. "The doctor diagnosed me with Cone-Rod Dystrophy, a hereditary disease that no one else in my family has. It's incurable. He said I would be blind in ten years." Ten years later, she had lost 80 percent of her vision.

"It was a big blow," she shares. "It seemed like my life was on track and then this happens. I couldn't grasp why it happened to me, but I've never asked God why. Where else can I go? You're either with God or with the devil, and I refuse to be with the devil. My Christian life is a life of challenges and constraints but also a life of strength and victory."

After becoming visually impaired, Linda resolved to live victoriously. "Holy Spirit is always going to help us," she says. "I don't know how I would be if I were visually impaired without Christ." Since 2005, Linda has graduated from a program that taught her Braille and daily living skills. Enabled by audio technology, she's the founder and president of R.U.N. the Way, a communications consulting firm. She's authored three books aimed at teaching children and teens about Jesus through unique storytelling.

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Linda has achieved far beyond what anyone expected of her. But it's studying and teaching God's Word that brings her the greatest satisfaction. "I want to be able to impactfully share the Word of God," she says. "I'm very, very careful in my study. I study weekly for hours to make sure I bring the Word clearly to all people. Without using Scripture, you won't see a change in a person's life."

Linda has taught adults and children at Clarkston First Baptist Church for many years. This summer, her pastor suggested a different approach for the church's Vacation Bible School program: *otLIVE*, Walk Thru the Bible's live event that teaches the big picture of the Old Testament using hand signs. Despite her many hours of study, Linda had always struggled to understand how the pieces of the Old Testament fit together. She couldn't get a full grasp of the big picture. *otLIVE* helped her overcome these obstacles. "For the first time in my Christian life, I understand the Old Testament dynamics," she says. "Before this, I wasn't totally sure with

how it all connected. Now I know how the kingdoms, the judges, the prophets all fit together." Despite her visual impairment, she learned the hand signs by listening to verbal instructions from the instructor.

Linda demonstrates all 40 hand signs of *otLIVE* with a strong voice and contagious smile. "I know it," she proves. "I teach it in children's church to bring the creativity part to my kids. I share it in Bible study for seniors. My evangelistic calling is to teach all generations in a relevant manner, and *otLIVE* has really got me on fire. Walk Thru the Bible has opened up another level of transcendent teaching."



# Persecuted Church



Maged Ghaly lives in Egypt, but God has placed Tunisia on his heart. “I’ve been many times, recently for longer stretches. I’m praying God opens a door for me to live in Tunisia and look after the new believers that do not know much about Him,” he shares. Maged’s calling is to disciple Tunisian Christians, especially recent converts, in an environment of mounting opposition.

Since the outbreak of revolution in 2011, life for Tunisian Christians has become increasingly dangerous. “Though Tunisia appears to be an open-minded country, there is opposition and aggression when it comes to religion,” Maged explains. “Families don’t

accept their sons and daughters embracing another faith. Terrorists are targeting believers, while the government either encourages them or can’t stop them. Like in any Arab country, Christians face difficulties.”

Maged, who has experienced persecution in his own country, works to point Tunisian Christians to the only real hope they have. “When there are troubles, there’s no other hope but to go back to Jesus,” he says. “God’s Word has given us hope and new perspective in a hopeless situation. When we share the Bible, people’s lives change even through difficulty. What God has promised in His Word assures us of eternal life and that He won’t leave us alone.”

Maged uses Walk Thru the Bible’s biblical resources as tools to share the hope of God’s Word in Tunisia. “One of the benefits of these resources is that they simplify the Word of God but at the same time they are deep,” he says. “They benefit the mature believer and also build up the new believer who’s discovering the Bible. The resources are practical—they’re not about information to memorize but about choices and decisions. They ask me how to live what I’m learning.”

Every time Maged attends Walk Thru the Bible’s annual Middle East-North Africa conference, he leaves equipped with new material to share on his journeys. After receiving *Revolution* at the most

recent conference, he’s excited to share what he’s learned. “My plan and prayer is to use the course with discipleship groups and Bible studies when I go back to Tunisia,” he says. “We’ll use the material in different sessions to study Josiah’s life.”

Every time Maged visits Tunisia and teaches new material to local believers, he fulfills his calling to evangelize and pastor new believers. “What we’re living right now is what people in the Bible lived,” he reflects. “I want to use Walk Thru the Bible’s resources to help people draw near to the Word of God. As they come near to the Word, they start a journey of change.”

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# Under-Resourced Pastors

In the vast rural expanse outside Nicaragua's capital city, Pastor José Urrutia cultivates a clear vision for the members of his church. "It's my desire to see every person in my congregation serve the Lord wherever they can, even beyond the borders of Nicaragua. My dream is for them to become evangelists, teachers, and preachers for the Kingdom."

José knows the challenges that each person in his congregation faces. After Haiti, Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Poverty, substance abuse, and political unrest permeate the region. For pastors and church leaders serving outside the capital, the absence of biblical training and resources often breeds discouragement and ineffectiveness.

But José has also experienced God's provision throughout his years of ministry. "Many years ago I was invited to a conference to learn from Walk Thru the Bible," he shares. "The teaching grabbed my attention because we could get everything we needed to go and train others." In response to the lack of resources in Nicaragua, Walk Thru the Bible's Central American team frequently visits to train pastors and church leaders. "Some pastors have nothing to preach with because they didn't receive any type of instruction or training," says Alejandro Oviedo, Regional Director for Central America. "When we equip them, they have new material and this is the first thing they share when they return home."

In José's experience, Walk Thru the Bible offers a unique opportunity. "There's no other training like this in Nicaragua," he shares. "It's a huge mistake to send out pastors without equipping or training. Walk Thru the Bible offers resources we didn't have before." Training conferences offer him the chance to spend time with other

pastors and grow in his own knowledge of the Bible. "The most important thing for a pastor is to always be examining the Bible, because God has left us treasure in His Word," he says. "We learn something new about the Bible every time we receive new teaching. It makes us better pastors, parents, and spouses."

Each time he returns to his church after attending a training conference, José has a new biblical resource to teach from the pulpit and in small groups. He feels more equipped to help his congregation fight spiritual battles with God's Word. "It's not easy to put the Bible into practice," he reflects. "It's a daily fight

until Jesus returns. Christians need to be filled with the Word of Truth so that they are prepared to confront tests of faith. And then when there's a test, they will immediately respond with the Word. I think daily about the people in my church and how a pastor can't change them—only God's Word can do that. It's my passion to see God raise up these men and women so that they testify to the power of His Word."

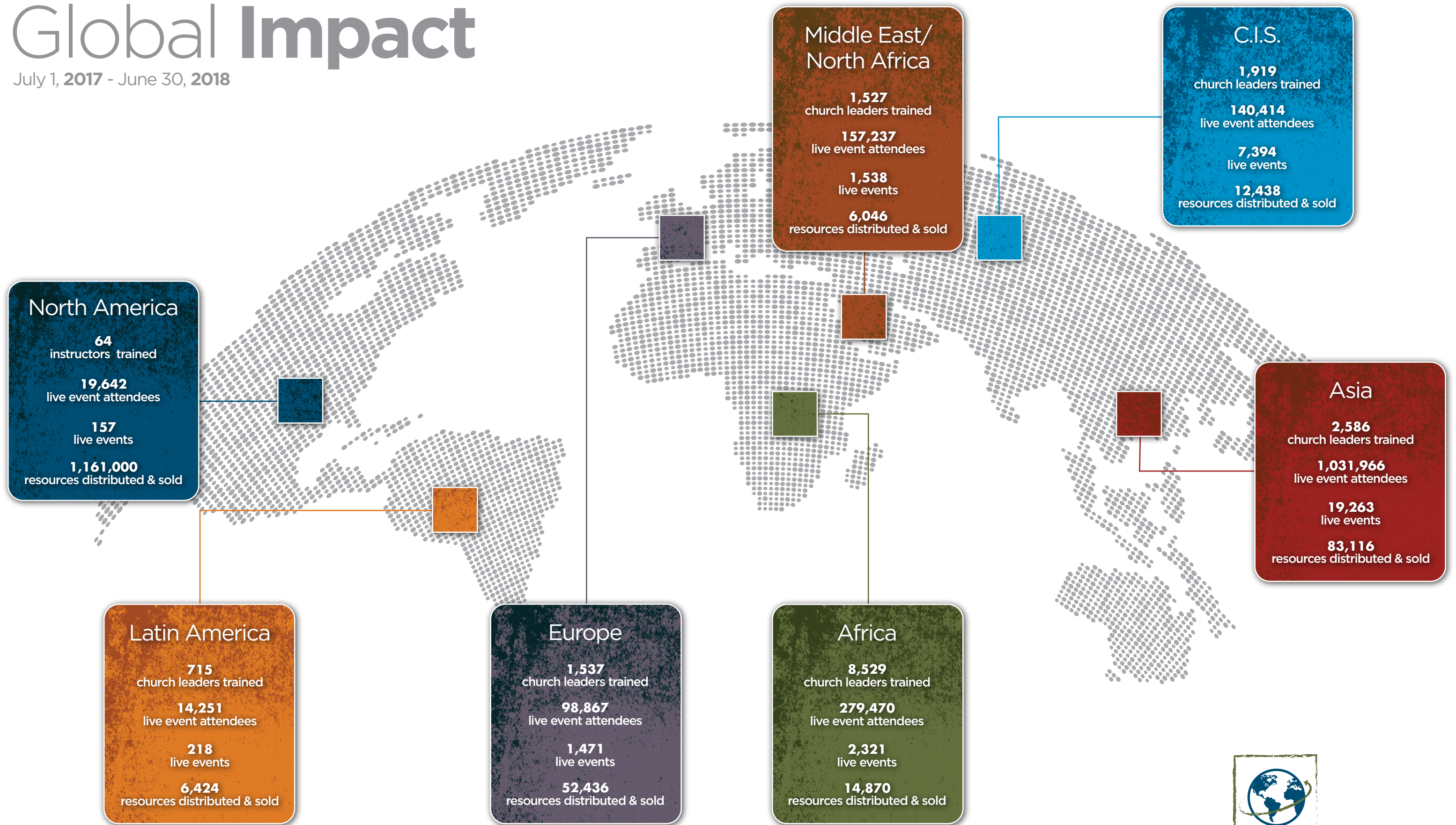
As he's used Walk Thru the Bible's materials to raise up new leaders in his church, José has also expanded outreach in his community. "Our church started a school

across the street to train leaders," he shares. More than forty children, many from families that are not part of the church, learn about the Bible using Walk Thru the Bible's resources. José has watched some of his students become teachers and ministry leaders. He's encouraged to see the fruits of discipleship when leaders are equipped to teach the Bible. And he's grateful for the ways God has used Walk Thru the Bible in his ministry. "If I didn't have this training, I would be missing something," he concludes. "And if I were missing something, my church would be too. I thank God for the way Walk Thru the Bible invests in us."

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# Global Impact

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

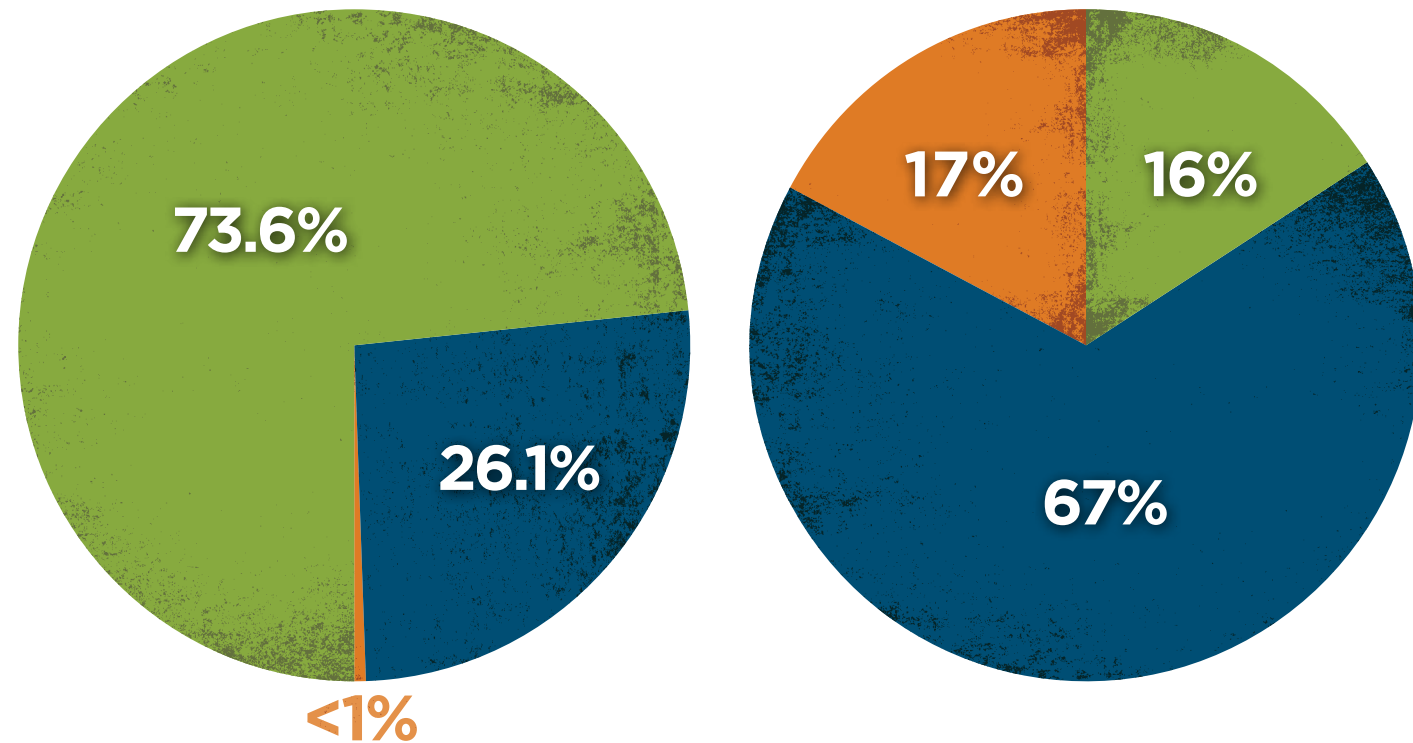


Revolution

170 leaders trained to teach *Revolution*

120 countries these leaders serve

# Fiscal Year 2018



## Revenue Sources

Contributions	2,680,253
Program	952,070
Administration	10,077

## Operating Expenses

Fundraising	617,232
Program	2,586,807
Administration	645,556

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$3,642,400**

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3,849,595**



# Letter from the Chairman



Walk Thru the Bible and its mighty mission have never been more needed here in the U.S. and around the world. The fields are white to harvest, and our job as a ministry is to equip and send as many harvesters as God allows. As I reflect on the past year, I'm overwhelmed by the blessings He pours out on those who simply walk through the doors He has opened.

In Fiscal Year 2017-18, more than three million people encountered the Word of God through Walk Thru the Bible's transformational tools and resources. Their lives form a patchwork of cultures, languages, and backgrounds, but they're knit together by a powerful truth: the Bible changes everything. By equipping local leaders to share biblical truth with their people, we continue to witness the 2 Timothy 2:2 principle of spiritual multiplication in action. Whether they're facing persecution, spiritual apathy, a lack of resources, or other challenges, pastors and Bible teachers are using the training they receive from Walk Thru the Bible to make disciples around the globe. In a single year, we train thousands of leaders that go on to train hundreds of thousands more.

The result is a lean, effective ministry model. I'm confident that the impact of each dollar invested in Walk Thru the Bible's ministry compares favorably with any other global Christian missions effort out there. As the leadership and support teams in Atlanta and overseas embark on another year of ministry, please join us in praying for God's blessing and provision. Pray that He will continue to use this ministry for His glory and for the eternal good of countless men, women, and children around the globe. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. They make all the difference as we continue this Kingdom work together.

God Bless,

Dr. John Isch

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