

Sovereign World Trust

News Update

November 2018



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2018 Update

Dear friends and supporters

At the time of writing we have just completed our annual mailings for 2018 for our regular recipients, with books reaching over 500 libraries and 700 pastors worldwide. The book on *Excellent Christian Leadership*, purchased with money given in honour of Jan Mungeam, has particularly prompted some excellent feedback from our recipients.



Between now and next year's mailing cycle we are working on major library collections for Malawi, Tanzania and Kenya.

Meanwhile, our translation work continues, with the first phase of our Swahili translation project near to completion. You can read more about this on *page 7* of this newsletter.

One of the major developments since our last Annual Report is in our pre-loved book collection. This has certainly gone from strength to strength and we now have a larger collection than ever before. We currently hold some 4000 books which have been categorised under 50 different headings on our database. We are using this collection to respond to specific requests – *see page 6*.

Our most frequently requested books are study Bibles, Bible dictionaries and whole Bible commentaries, so if you know of anyone who might be looking to downsize their book collections, and particularly to pass on this type of book, please do let us know. In the past, a wonderful source of pre-loved Christian titles has been retiring ministers; so if you are aware that a minister is looking for a 'home' for his collection we would be very interested to hear from you and happy to collect them where we are able.

A major challenge the Trust is now faced with is funds, and in particular regular giving. You can read more about this and our plans to address the shortfall on *page 5*. Meanwhile if you are aware of any churches who have an interest in supporting mission we would be so grateful if you could pass on details of the Trust or tell us about the church. Anything you can do to help spread the word here would be very much appreciated.

As this year draws to a close, on behalf of the team, our trustees and all those we serve, thank you so much for your support. We send all good wishes for the Christmas season and God bless.

Chris Moffett, Director

In their own words

Each day, thousands of people across the developing world are growing and deepening in their faith. This could not happen without Biblical teaching and preaching. Here are just a few of the messages from those whose lives have been transformed through the Biblical teaching resources we have been able to supply through your support:

French Polynesia & the Polynesian Triangle



"This is to express how thankful we are for the great books we just received including those we have received over the years. It has always been a blessing and will continue to be. We live at the very ends of the earth in the middle of the Pacific and receiving such phenomenal literature brings great joy and relief."

Eduardo & Aline Cicero, Vision of the Harvest

Transforming lives in Burundi



"Thank you so much for the amazing support with books...These books will help me as leader, and I will also share them with others. Burundi is a country with very, very limited Christian writings. You are helping us to change this nation as we raise up a generation of Godly leaders to transform our society."

Freddy Tuyizere, Burundi Youth for Christ

Supporting evangelism in India



"I do tell you about your precious books which are very helpful for us in preaching and presenting God's messages at various open-air meetings, pastor conferences and churches...we have been strengthened with divine knowledge and wisdom Moreover the books give us more confidence when we stand at pulpit..."

Pastor Vasa Musala Kotaiah, India

In their own words...

One of the highlights of each working day is the news we receive from the nations – seeing how the work we are doing, with your help, makes such a difference to the lives of our recipients:

Coping with limited resources



Some of the pastors we support, preach in very basic buildings, which often have more than one use -like this school hut in Busia, Kenya. "I have been able to have reference on my sermon preparations, share with my leaders who also rejoice for the books received."

Pastor Ogendi, Busia, Kenya

Pastor library, Nepal



Pastor Singh from Nepal is using his small home library to support local church leaders and to help them "strengthen in God's words". Pastor Singh recently received more titles from Sovereign World Trust as part of our Library Mailing.

Pastor Singh from Nepal sent us this photo

Student news, Kenya



"...these books are of great help to us because we use them for teaching purposes in our Bible School and church worship. The photograph was taken on 22nd July 2017 (graduation day) showing some of the students who have benefited from these books."

Calling Life Centre, Kenya

Connect 100

Background

Over recent years the regular income of the Trust has been declining as many of our elderly supporters are not in a position to continue to give. We need to urgently redress our fundraising in order to sustain the ministry in its present form and we especially need to attract younger supporters to the ministry.



The plan

Our vision is to connect with a large number of churches, each contributing an affordable amount monthly. We are aware that there are many demands on church budgets, so we would like to partner with 100 churches, each providing - say - £30 per month.

How you can help

Would your church give us a 5 minute slot at Sunday Worship to briefly explain the importance of the work of the Trust and to invite participation?

We are aware that a great many churches are involved in practical projects which, of course, make a very obvious difference, but we feel

that poor and remote areas of the globe do need help with spiritual resources also.

If each member of the church family would increase their regular giving to their church by, for example, £1 per month, the target of £30 per church is easily achievable.

Pause for thought

“Reading scripture on a daily basis will cause unexplainable joy, a peace that passes all understanding, overflowing love, mountain moving faith, a knowledge of His good and perfect plan, and ever rising strength; plus a multitude of other blessings that we can neither ask for or imagine.”

Anon



Pre-loved Books

Our collection of pre-loved books has ‘mushroomed’ and we now have some 4000 excellent titles which have been so generously donated to us.

In order to distribute them we have had to catalogue them into around 50 categories and huge thanks must go to Rob and Marion Marshall who have undertaken (and continue to work on) this sizable task.



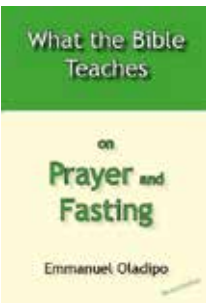
We are using our pre-loved books to build a stock of library collections for our recipients, but also to respond to particular needs for specific types of books. We are currently preparing a collection of around 1500 titles to significantly expand the library at Salima, Malawi.

Some of the books, of course, are more suited to a UK readership so please look out for news of another of our Book Fayres where you will have the opportunity to pick up some titles at bargain prices. In the meantime, if you would like to host a pre-loved book sale in your area or at your church please do let us know.

Most of our pre-loved book donations have come from Kent but we have had some great books coming in from more distant locations, and we are happy to arrange collection of books as this is a great way of connecting with Christians in other areas and making new friends.

Publishing

What the Bible Teaches - Prayer & Fasting



This year we have published another in-house book in the *What the Bible Teaches* series.

This time Emmanuel Oladipo looks at *What the Bible Teaches on Prayer & Fasting*. The new publication was included as part of our 2018 pastor mailing.

Starting as a Travelling Secretary with the Fellowship of Christian Students in Northern Nigeria, Emmanuel Oladipo has been in full-time Christian work since graduating from Ahamadu Bello University in 1967 until his retirement. He was African Regional Secretary of the Scripture Union for ten years before moving to the UK on his appointment to head up the world-wide movement. It is a ministry that has taken him to over 100 countries.

Translation News

The Bible Student - a Swahili translation

The challenge

Across the world there are many churches where the pastors have only had primary school education in their own language, so their English is limited or non-existent. However, the church is growing so fast in the developing world that such pastors can find themselves in positions of spiritual leadership, for example rural pastors in Malawi or catechists in the Anglican Church of Tanzania.

The result is that sincere and enthusiastic pastors can often teach completely wrong messages to their congregations. It is not their fault – it is just that they have not had the teaching themselves.

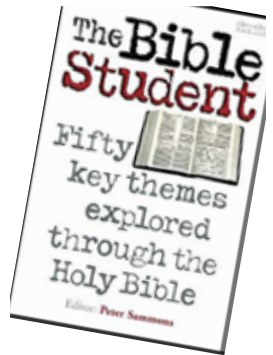
How we can help

The Bible Student is a Biblical teaching book with 50 chapters covering key topics. The book originated in the context of the East Africa Revival. Its aim is to provide straightforward teaching and links Bible passages together. The Trust is currently translating this book into Swahili.

We are releasing the material in booklet form, roughly twelve chapters at a time, so that we can roll it out quickly and distribute it easily. Our initial print run will be 3000, but we estimate that altogether 25000 copies will be needed of each of the four parts.

Why we are translating this title

We know this teaching is helpful as our Swahili translator is John Madinda, former principal of St Philips Theological College in Tanzania. He understands as well as anybody what the pastor's need.



The way forward

We have also had endorsement from bishops and senior church leaders in Africa telling us that this resource is particularly valuable.

Initially we will be focusing on two dioceses in Tanzania and once we can demonstrate the benefit from feedback, we will be looking to raise the funds to roll out the translation to a wider audience.

In other news

Support for pastor teaching conferences

In June 2018, Reverend Mark Ndubuisi came to the UK to collect Christian books and teaching resources for Nigerian pastors.

Reverend Mark had planned a teaching conference in August, which was combined with the distribution of teaching and preaching materials to registered and approved pastors. By distributing books at such conferences, we can save on individual mailing costs and ensure that the books actually reach the hands of the pastors.



From a collection point just outside London the boxes, containing some 900 books, were taken to a container and from there shipped to Nigeria in good time for the conference.

Supporting Matters

We are so grateful to all our regular volunteers and supporters, without whom we could not function.

We have had great help in the office cataloguing and packing, and other aspects of administration. We have people who pray for us and support us financially, and those who have donated pre-loved books.

We are also so thankful to the authors who have given us copies of their books and to publishers for giving us some wonderful prices.

Thank you to all of you for your gifts of time, prayer and donations.



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