

FALL/WINTER 2025

# WORLD NEWS



## Light in Kurdistan

*How Christian Books Opened  
a Door for the Gospel*

## Postcards from Ukraine

*Stories & Pictures*

 **latm**

CHRISTIAN BOOKS. WORLD'S LANGUAGES.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of **Bill Goacher**, whose generosity to LATM has fueled Christian books all over the world, and **Don Tingle**, with whom LATM partnered to produce 20+ books in four languages.

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*Brandon Kabourek*

*Ronald LeSieur*

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**Howard Mountcastle**

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## Extend your Legacy with LATM through Planned Estate Giving

Way back in 1992, we couldn't have known that a partnership with people like you would result in 1,670 projects in 102 languages across dozens of countries and regions worldwide, impacting millions of lives for Christ. But that has become reality. We couldn't have known, because we can't know the future.

*Thank YOU for that partnership.* Through planning, daily purposeful decisions, and God's providence over the years, we, as Christ's body, have experienced a remarkable global ministry through books. So, even without future knowledge, a lot has happened.

Even though we couldn't have known this future, we can know one thing in our combined future: we will all eventually pass from this life. I hope this doesn't frighten you. If you know Jesus Christ as Lord, you have eternal assurance. I bring it up to encourage you to plan for the stewardship of your material possessions after you're gone.

You may feel cash-strapped now, but consider what you own—your home, retirement savings, and insurance policies. When distributed, these assets represent real resources that could expand Christ's Kingdom globally. Have you thought about where they will go? To the government? To family? Or perhaps, also toward publishing biblically grounded books in languages where people are waiting to find, follow, and serve Jesus?

Recently, LATM received generous legacy gifts through donations, life insurance, and trusts. These donors cultivated generous hearts and planned ahead to equip Christian leaders worldwide with books that transform their communities for God's glory.

The principle is simple: whether you have modest means or greater resources, you can direct your estate toward this vital work after you've gone to be with the Lord. Like the servants in Matthew 25, you can multiply the Master's resources for His mission globally.

I encourage you to develop a generous Kingdom heart now and plan accordingly for your estate. Imagine your legacy enabling leaders to publish Christ-centered, biblically solid resources in the languages of the world, even after you're with the Lord. Contact me if you'd like help preparing your estate for this Kingdom impact.



**Karl Halverson**  
*Executive Director*



# Light in Kurdistan

*How Christian Books Opened a Door for the Gospel*

In the high desert of northeastern Iraq, a significant event is unfolding in the semi-autonomous Kurdistan region. God's Spirit is moving. He is calling people to Himself, and one of the ways that He is doing it is through Christian books.

For more than a millennium, Islam has dominated the region. The Kurds, a people of nearly 32 million, are the largest people group without their own nation, and are settled in the part of the Middle East where Iraq, Iran, Turkey, and Syria meet. For hundreds of years, they have been Muslim.

Just a few years ago, a Bible Institute was established to help train new Kurdish believers, both to develop their own faith and to teach them how to share that faith with those around them. The local government granted permission for the Bible Institute to open, but stipulated that it must have a textbook for each class in the Kurdish language. Not having hardly any Christian books in the Kurdish language, John\*, a missionary from Cameroon, contacted LATM. He assembled a team to translate the books needed for the classes. And because of generous donors with a heart for God's kingdom, LATM has

## “Is there really such a thing as Kurdish Christians?”

sponsored the translation, editing, and printing of the needed books, with 24 books having been completed since 2021.

Over the past four years, students have been learning, the church has been growing as people come to Christ, and work has increased among the refugees living in the massive UN camp outside the city. God has been blessing their efforts.

At the beginning of 2025, they had an idea to participate in the city-wide, eleven-day book fair. LATM sponsored their participation in the fair, covering the exhibition fee, and the fair commenced on October 3rd. Two young Christian Kurdish couples manned the booth, displaying the Christian books and Bibles.

They were blown away by the events of those 11 days. One of the Christian men, Amir\*, said, “Something happened at the book fair that I can’t explain, except to say it was the Holy Spirit. So many people were asking us about the Bible. They asked, “Is there really such a thing as Kurdish Christians?” A mullah (a teacher of Islamic theology and law) came and sat at our booth and asked us to explain the differences between the Bible and the Koran. A number of people told us that they have been having dreams about Jesus for years, but they didn’t know any Christians to ask about Him.” Amir continued, “For ten years, I’ve asked God to use me to share the gospel. In those few days of the book fair, 10,000 people came through and saw that there are Christians here. We need prayer. We ask God to use us to tell all of Iraq about Jesus. May He even use us outside of Iraq.”

The two couples had wonderful conversations with the visitors to the fair. They were repeatedly asked, “Can we come to church?” They answered, “Yes, you can come! It is Jesus who calls you. How can we refuse you?”

One of the Christian young women, Maryam\*, grew up in Syria, where ISIS killed her father. She recently became a Christian and had felt very timid. Then she spent six months reading the Bible, and says God has changed her, making her bold. She said that she will never forget



**“For ten years, I’ve asked God to use me to share the gospel. In those few days of the book fair, 10,000 people came through and saw that there are Christians here.”**

the experience they had working at the book fair. She said that because of the books, she had unprecedented opportunities to share with people about Jesus. Maryam continued, “I have seen that God chose me to share Him, to be a light, in the Middle East.”

Two television stations had reporters at the fair, and they interviewed the Christians on camera. Despite personal risk of making faith and identities known to everyone, the Christians said in the interview that they were happy to share about their faith in Christ with anyone.

The fair even gave them the opportunity to connect with Christians who were unaware of other Christians in their city. These new contacts are ready to gather with the church and join classes at the Bible Institute.

And best of all, through many conversations at the fair, they were able to teach several university students about Christ and these students placed their faith in Christ and were baptized.

John believes that “the impact of this book fair will be even farther reaching than they know or can explain.” He added that this experience has challenged them all to be bolder. He said, “We need to be ready to risk it all if the gospel is going to reach the Kurdish people.”

*\*Their names have been changed.*



GREETING FROM

# POSTCARDS From UKRAINE

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GREETING FROM

Despite three and a half years of war, LATM's partners in Ukraine have persevered and have worked hard to continue to advance the Kingdom of God with books. This September, Karl and Jill Halverson of LATM visited these partners and witnessed firsthand these ministries and how Christian books are an integral part of the work. Here are a few highlights from the trip.

## September 23rd *Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast*

The Bible Translators of Ukraine (BTU) are translating Scripture into six dialects of Romani. We visited a church that is actively reaching out to the Roma. There, we met Ivan, who is a part of the BTU team. As a young man, he was involved with the mafia and spent four years imprisoned in Czechia. After his release, he spent time with his mother, who had joined a Bible study group. In this act of studying Scripture together, Ivan was drawn to Christ, and he and his wife committed their lives to Jesus and were baptized. Since then, Ivan has devoted himself to traveling to Roma Gypsy villages throughout Ukraine, sharing the gospel with these often overlooked people.

As we visited with Ivan and the BTU team today, Ivan shared a gospel message with the Roma children and their mothers and gave each child an LATM children's book, called *Holy Help*, a small Christian book written for Roma children. Following the outreach at the church, we visited the structures where these families live, made from tarps, boxes, and wood scraps. The people are caught in a cycle of addiction, poverty, and lack of education. The BTU team is committed not just to addressing these physical needs but also to delivering the transforming message of Christ.



## Sept 28th

### *Kyiv*

We stayed several days at the home of LATM partners Sergei and Olga Golovin. It was great to be with them and listen as they described their long history of partnership with LATM that has produced hundreds of books. About 2 am on Sunday morning, Olga woke us to tell us that the city was under attack and we needed to hurry into the small storage room. For over seven hours, we heard bullets being fired from drones and missiles passing overhead toward targets in the city, as well as the sound of anti-aircraft guns trying to shoot them down. We prayed, trusting God as the outcome remained uncertain (and Jill even managed to sleep some).



When the all-clear signal finally sounded, it was 9:15 am and we headed to church. There, we found most of the congregation—exhausted from the night-long attack, but gathered to worship Christ together. Despite the dangers surrounding them in what was one of the biggest attacks yet on Kyiv, they lived triumphantly, confident that Christ's church cannot be overcome. This experience of prayerful waiting and joyous worship with God's people left an indelible mark on us.

## September 28th and 29th

### *Kyiv*

One of the primary ways LATM books are utilized in Ukraine is at Bible Colleges and seminaries. We were able to visit two of these: Tavriski Christian Institute and Kyiv Theological Seminary. Both places have been affected by the war: TCI had its original campus destroyed, and KTS was occupied by Russian forces for a time. Thankfully, both campuses are vibrant and back in operation. They expressed gratitude to LATM donors for enabling the publishing of important Christian books in Ukrainian.



ADDRESS

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## September 30th

### *Rivne*

What a special evening this was! Sergei and Olga drove us to a small town, where their entire book publication team had gathered for dinner. This is a passionate and effective team, having completed eleven books in Russian and Ukrainian in 2025 alone. One man, who has recently translated Mark Moore's Acts Commentary, made an eight-hour bus journey to join us. Seventeen of us squeezed into the living room of Svetlana, the primary Ukrainian editor and a university professor. Gathered around the table covered with traditional Ukrainian foods, they talked passionately about the work that they do and why they do it. Svetlana said that she knows that



for visiting such a perilous place. We shared with them that we were serving the Lord and working together with Ukrainians to help publish books that bring the hope of Christ.

And that's the root of it: the life Christians have in Christ is worth everything-- our finances, our families, and our safety. It is worth venturing into a war-torn country and spending time with people you don't know well. It is worth publishing books, trusting that God will bring the fruit.

Jesus made it clear when he said, If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. What profit is it to you if you gain the world but lose your soul? Or, what can you give in exchange for your soul? (Mt 16:24-26). Let us carry this commitment in our hearts and encourage one another to live boldly for Christ, wherever we are called.

the Christian books they make in Russian and Ukrainian will affect people for generations, as it is bringing about God's Kingdom.

Misha, a minister, and husband and father to two of the translators, told how his family travels to the frontlines in eastern Ukraine every other month to minister to wounded soldiers. They bring food and clothing, as well as share with them the hope of Christ through conversation and through singing. He asked us to pray for them as he, or his young adult sons, could be drafted at any time. He said that they long for peace to come, which was not surprising. But what was surprising was one of the reasons. Misha said that before the war, nine out of ten Christian workers in Russia were Ukrainians. One reason they hope for the war to end is so that they can resume sending missionaries to Russia.

After dinner, an unplanned time of worship began, as they stayed around the table, played instruments, and voices sang in praise in both Russian and Ukrainian. The atmosphere was charged with joy and reverence, making everyone reluctant to leave this holy moment together.

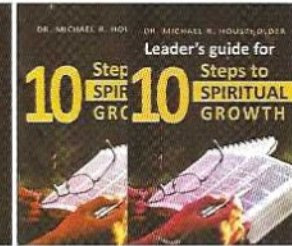
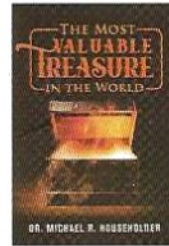
## October 3rd

### *Lviv Oblast*

We left Ukraine on the train. At the Polish border, we disembarked to go through security and switch trains. While waiting in line, we struck up conversations with several Ukrainians. They were pleasantly surprised to learn we were Americans and inquired about our reason



# RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS



*Most Valuable Treasure*  
*10 Steps to Spiritual Growth*  
*Most Valuable Treasure/10 Steps Leader's Guide*

Michael Householder continues to train church leaders in church growth through discipleship. He printed these English editions for use in Uganda and Kenya.

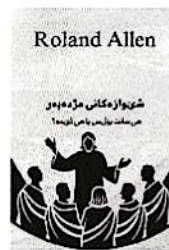


**Khasi** (new language! 101st language)  
*The Seven Sayings of Christ on the Cross*  
*Commentary on 1 Peter*  
*Commentary on James*

This is a new partnership with Cornerstone Bible College in Meghalaya State, India. Our partner there wrote: "Bible students and believers, including those who cannot read English, will read this book. They will help them understand the author's original intent and context, and be able to apply the lessons in our Khasi culture. They are being used by teachers in Bible studies, Bible Institutes, and cell churches. Many churches lacked any resources to aid their Bible teaching. Those who've heard about our partnership with LATM praise and thank God!"



**Farsi** (new language! 102nd language)  
*Baptism According to Scripture*  
We celebrate this first book in Farsi, a language spoken by more than 50 million people and the primary language of Iran. God has been doing a tremendous work in Iran and we are excited to have this first book in the hands of new believers, with other books to follow.



**Kurdish**  
*Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours*  
*Letting the Text Win*  
*Finding Faithful Elders and Deacons*  
*Let Us Pray*  
*Baptism According to Scripture*

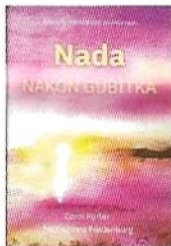
Each of these books were published with the Hope Bible Institute. *Missionary Methods* teaches the



RICK LEWIS

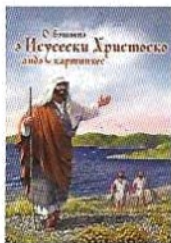
**Albanian**  
*Mentoring Matters*

Written by a visiting professor to ISTL, a Bible Institute in Albania, this class textbook is to help students become "strong Christian leaders, avoid burnout, and reach the finish line."



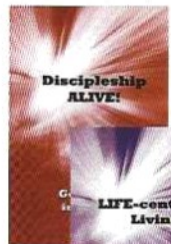
**Bosnian**  
*Hope After Loss*

Working with the "Voice for Life" ministry, Daniel and Katie Bayes translated this book as a resource to minister to those who have been affected by miscarriage or abortion.



**Crimean Romani**  
*Life of Christ Visualized*

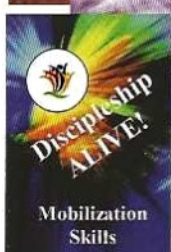
The Ukrainian Bible Translators are translating this book alongside their translation of the Bible into six different dialects of Romani. This book is suitable for both children and adults who are not strong readers and is the first dialect to be completed, and the five others are in progress.



**English**  
Discipleship Alive series (books 4-7)

*God's LIFE in my Life*  
*Transformed by God*  
*Community Impact*  
*Mobilization Skills*

For many decades, Larry Niemeyer has been discipling young people in Kenya. His work is multiplied through these 10,000 copies that have just been printed. One example of this is the 6,000 students who use the books in 200 different high school Youth for Christ clubs.



students biblical principles for reaching out to the people groups in their country, the Middle East and beyond. *Letting the Text Win* is being used as a preaching class text.

LATM partner, Julius, wrote of the need for *Finding Faithful Elders and Deacons*: In our highly Islamic context, where first-generation Christians are being raised to impact the next generation, faithful elders and deacons for the young church is a priority. Despite persecution, the church in the Muslim world will need the leadership of faithful elders and deacons. *Let Us Pray*, by Watchman Nee, will be a text for a Christian Living class, as new believers learn what it means for a Christian to pray.

*Baptism According to Scripture* has been printed so that these new Christians, coming from a Muslim background, will not have a distorted view of baptism from Islam but rather a biblical understanding.



### Lisu

*Bible Study Lessons on the Beatitudes*

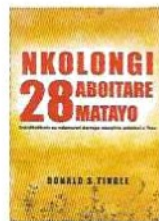
*Commentary on Revelation*

These two books were written and published by a new partner in Myanmar, the Emmaus Bible Institute.

*Scripture Message Nuggets Children's Ministry Lesson Guide*

Written by a Lisu woman who has spent her life teaching the children in church. This

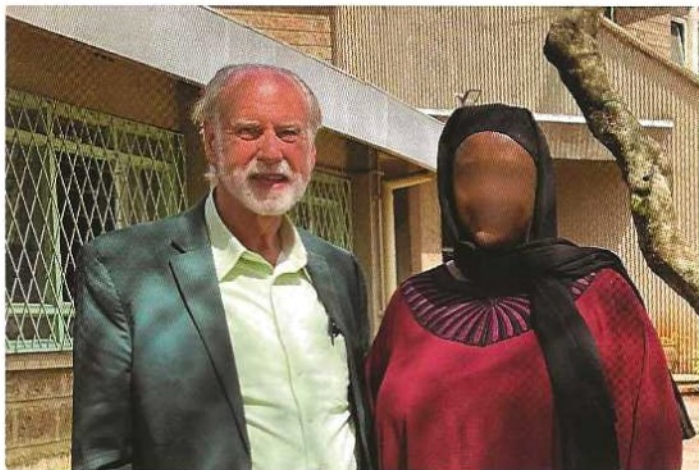
book will be used in every Lisu church in Thailand, Myanmar, and along the borders in India and China.



### Maasai

*28 Days with Matthew*

Remembering Don Tingle: Just two weeks after publishing and distributing his book *28 Days with Matthew* (in Maasai), with different groups of Maasai believers, Don entered into the presence of our Savior. We are thankful for the long-time partnership LATM had with Don, publishing more than twenty books in four languages. Don's life of service to Christ was marked by his desire to communicate the Gospel clearly among those least reached.



Дал е Бог антигеј?



СЕМ АРБЕРА

### Macedonian

*Is God Anti-Gay?*



### Malayalam and Tamil

*The Faith Once for All*

This is the last book of an "Elder's Library" consisting of Jack Cottrell books for use among elders across many congregations connected with South India Church of Christ Mission.



### Portuguese

*First Steps (Japanese/Portuguese bilingual edition)*

*Preparing Joshua*

*College Press NIV Commentary: Old Testament Introduction*

*College Press NIV Commentary: Mark*

More books for the benefit of Portuguese language Bible colleges throughout Africa, including print and digital versions.



## Romanian

### *Serving Them with Love (Tender Care)*

New partner Cami Vlasin translated this book for a ministry that supports Romanian missionaries serving around the world.



## Swahili

### *Most Valuable Treasure/10 Steps Leader's Guide*

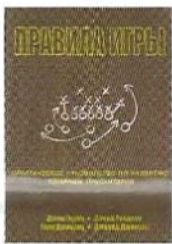


## Russian

### *Faith, Science, and Worldviews Clash* *College Press NIV Commentary: Luke*

Sergei Golovin and his team are working on the giant task of

translating the entire College Press NIV Commentary series. They are available on a website, for free, chapter by chapter, as they are completed. Once completed, they are also available as ebooks. Sergei reports that this series has become very popular because it is comprehensive, easily understandable, and free from denominationalism.



### *An Elder's Playbook* *Date Your Wife*

Russian partner, Konstantin Nazarov, translated *An Elder's Playbook* and said, "The best thing about this book is its practicality. We are using it

immediately to train church elders." Of the need for *Date Your Wife*, Konstantin wrote that many Russian marriages have failed recently.



## Serbian

### *Your Mind Matters: The Place of the Mind in the Christian Life* *Mad or God: Jesus the Healthiest Mind of All*

Serbian partner, Samuil

Petrovski, along with a campus ministry team, uses these books for evangelism, often promoting books alongside seminars, and for discipleship of university students.



## Spanish

### *Beyond a Reasonable Doubt* *Baptism According to Scripture*

Two new resources are available for Spanish-speaking churches. The first is an apologetics book presenting strong evidence for

Christianity and will convince even the most skeptical jury of the reasons for our faith. The second invites readers to set aside tradition and examine what the Bible teaches about baptism.



## Ukrainian

### *College Press NIV Commentary: Acts* *College Press NIV Commentary: Romans*

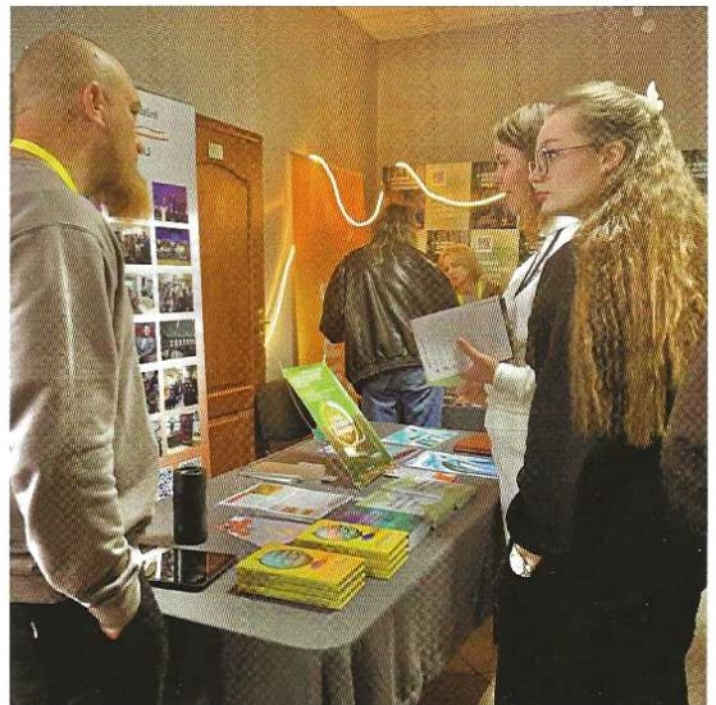
The entire College Press Commentary series is being translated into Ukrainian. Three books are now completed in the series. They are available in print and online and are already being used by many people.



### *Does God Exist? (reprint)* *Alien Intrusion* *Stubborn Facts* *Faith, Science, and Worldview Clash*



*Apostolic Church Planting*  
This book is a part of the effort to mobilize the Ukrainian church as missionaries to take the Gospel to the Nations. It coincides with a class organized to prepare people for the task of church planting.



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## A Meaningful Way to Give This Christmas



Since February 2022, our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ have faced daily threats of missiles and gunfire. Yet by God's grace, they've intensified their ministry—sharing God's Word and publishing Bible-centered books to bring hope to their suffering nation.

One partner team recognized an urgent need – resources from the Book of Revelation for spiritual encouragement and strengthening. They're creating *Revelation Appreciation*, a combined Ukrainian edition of three works: *Revelation's Rhapsody* by Robert Lowery, *Revelation Simplified* by Greg Robbins, and *The Joy of the Apocalypse* by Sergei Golovin. **We need \$12,000 for publishing.**

Additionally, through Project Access, we're expanding our LATM website bookstore (nearly 500 books available so far!) to make globally published books accessible in the US. **We need \$8,000 to complete this by early 2027.**

Please prayerfully consider giving to one or both initiatives as 2025 closes. Go to [www.latm.info/donations](http://www.latm.info/donations) and choose one of the following categories to give to: "Ukraine Revelation" or "Project Access 2026." You can also mail in an extra donation marked with one of those same categories.

**THANK YOU for your faithful partnership!**