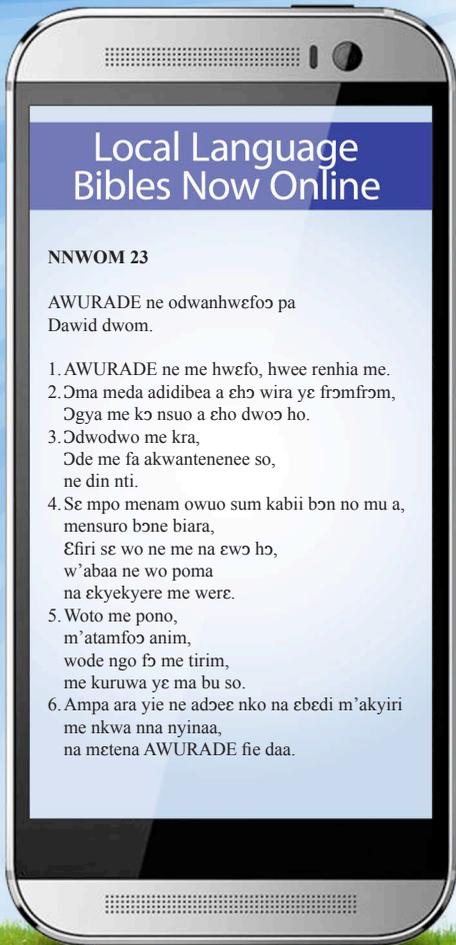




# LINK

MAY 2016

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF GHANA



## Local Language Bibles Now Online

### NNWOM 23

AWURADE ne odwanhwefoƷ pa  
Dawid dwom.

1. AWURADE ne me hwefo, hwee renhia me.
2. Oma meda adidibea a eho wira ye frɔmfɔm,  
Ɖgya me ko nsuo a eho dwoƷ ho.
3. Ɖdwodwo me kra,  
Ɖde me fa akwantenenee so,  
ne din nti.
4. Se mpo menam owuo sum kabii bɔn no mu a,  
mensuro bɔne biara,  
Efiri se wo ne me na ewo ho,  
w'abaa ne wo poma  
na ekyekyere me were.
5. Woto me pono,  
m'atamfoƷ anim,  
wode ngo fo me tirim,  
me kuruwa ye ma bu so.
6. Ampa ara yie ne adɔee nko na ebedi m'akyiri  
me nkwa nna nyinaa,  
na metena AWURADE fie daa.



2 THE BIBLE SOCIETY AND  
THE CHURCHES IN GHANA

4 2016 BIBLE WEEK

6 CELEBRATING 150 YEARS  
OF THE GA BIBLE

12 ENTRUSTED WITH THE WORD

18 KITASE BIBLE VILLAGE  
RETREAT CENTRE PROJECT

20 FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**THE BIBLE:  
GUIDE TO GODLY  
LEADERSHIP**  
TITUS 1:7-14

# THE BIBLE SOCIETY and the CHURCHES IN GHANA

The Bible Society of Ghana for many years has been in active partnership with the churches in Ghana to promote the Word of God. This partnership started in the year 1964 when series of meetings were held by representatives of the churches in Ghana with the purpose of ascertaining the need for an autonomous Bible Society and how such a Society should be organized to ensure the support of the whole Church in Ghana and yet be the servant of every individual Church.

Every year, the Church joins in the celebration of Bible Week, a week set aside to thank God for the gift of the scriptures and admit the relevance of the Bible in our daily lives. The week is additionally celebrated to raise funds for Bible Work in Ghana. The doors of many churches are opened to us, as we join to celebrate together with them, thanking God for this gift and promoting unity in diversity among churches.

The Church in its relations with the Bible Society of Ghana also makes modest donations to the work of the Bible Society of Ghana every year. These donations have gone a long way to help make the Word of God available and affordable all over the country.



Rev. Erasmus Nii Bonne Odonkor  
General Secretary  
The Bible Society of Ghana

Furthermore, the Bible Society of Ghana has received immense support from the Church in the work of Bible Translation in that they support us with experts in Bible work and theologians who aid in the careful translation of the Bible and eventual publishing. The Church has gone ahead to allow its members, including some Heads of churches, to make up our Council and Committee members. These have, over the years, given good counsel to the Society.

The participation of Heads of Churches and their members in our Annual General Meetings held in August (previously May) every year has been an encouragement to us and goes a long way to convince us

that the Church is interested in the work we do as a Society.

The Bible Society of Ghana marked her Golden Jubilee Anniversary in 2015 with a number of Church leaders warmly receiving us and coming together in the various regions to celebrate 50 years of Bible Work. At the service for the grand launch of the Golden Jubilee Anniversary in February 2015, were six Heads of churches to support the BSG and its operation.

During the African Biblical Leadership Initiative Forum (ABLI), hosted in Ghana in the year 2014, the Bible Society of Ghana saw immense participation from the Church and Local Council of Churches. This forum was organized to promote Biblical leadership principles & practice in Africa.

In February this year, the Ministry of Finance requested the assistance of the Bible Society of Ghana to arrange an interactive session with the leadership of Churches in Ghana with the objective of briefing them on the state of the Ghanaian Economy. This meeting recorded a massive participation of 103 Church leaders amongst whom were five Heads of Churches.

The presence of the Church was even bigger at the Final Thanksgiving Service

in September, 2015, to climax the Anniversary celebrations.

The BSG and the Church are united by a common interest and that is the BIBLE. We believe the Word of God has the power to transform and shape lives.

Church leaders, over the years have encouraged us to play a prominent role in uniting the front of the Church, to bring churches together for the purpose of a common understanding and also speak with one voice.

The Church's expectation is that the Bible Society of Ghana (BSG) will do a bit more. It is reassuring that the BSG is careful not to move away from her core mandate of making the Word of God available and affordable to all and encouraging its use to transform lives.

The Society has come a long way in achieving its mandate, and this has been, in no small way, possible through the immense support of the Church. The BSG cannot be grateful enough. However, in our mutual quest to make the Bible relevant in our time and for generations to come, we pray for an even greater involvement in Bible Engagement and Bible Advocacy Programmes.

"The Lord reward your labour in the vineyard. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

# 2016 BIBLE WEEK

The 2016 Bible Week activities on the theme, "The Bible- Guide to Godly Leadership", has been celebrated nationwide in February this year. The annual event was observed at various Churches from Saturday, 6 February to Sunday, 14 February.

The Bible Week celebrations started in the early 1970's from a small beginning with the National Council, Committee and Staff of the Bible Society of Ghana (BSG) soliciting for funds from individuals and churches to support the Bible work. After a few years, the idea of organizing churches in the same locality into a

council of churches (Local Council of Churches) to celebrate the Bible Week, as we have it today, was conceived and implemented by the leadership of BSG.

Scripture selections were developed appropriate to the theme of each year's event. This also directed the speaker's topic.

Speaking on the theme, at the Sabbath launch this year, Rt. Rev. Samuel Kofi Osabutey noted that, all over the world there is a cry for Godly leadership. He cited Biblical characters like Nehemiah and Ezra as leaders who applied Godly



*BSG Staff and members at the Bible Sabbath in Koforidua*

# 2016 BIBLE WEEK

## IN PICS



*Council, staff and clergy at the Bible Week Celebration*

principles to lead their people and called on all Christians to revert to the Bible for the ethical values it upholds.

The theme for 2016 is very relevant in an election year as the nation contemplates and decides on who leads them for the next four years.

The annual Bible Week celebration offers an opportunity to thank God for the gift of the scriptures; especially, in our local languages.



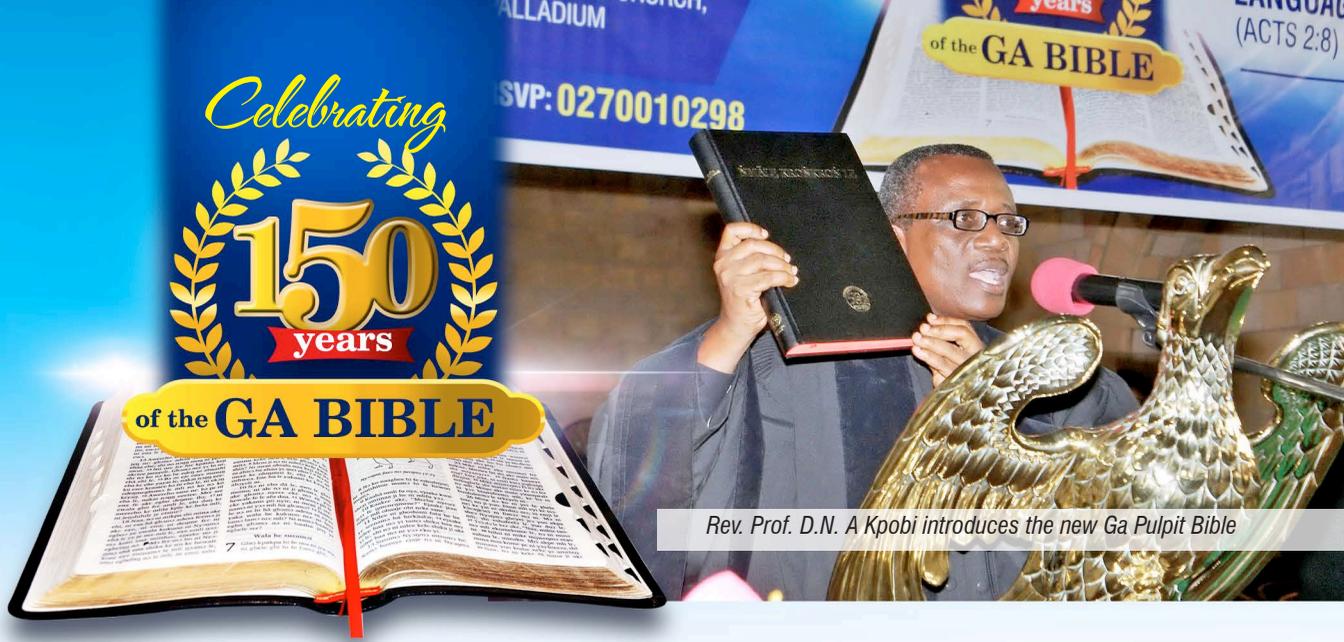
*BSG staff and council members at the Legon Anglican Church*



*Mrs. Felicia Gbesemete and some BSG staff at the Anglican Cathedral Legon*



*Leaders of Local Council of Churches prepare for 2016 Bible Week*



*Rev. Prof. D.N. A Kpobi introduces the new Ga Pulpit Bible*

**T**he celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ga Bible was launched on Sunday, 3 April, 2016 at the Wesley Methodist Cathedral, Accra.

For one hundred and fifty years, the Ga Bible has impacted millions of people, influenced culture, and transcended numerous generations within the Ga people of the Greater Accra Region.

Knowledge of the Bible was transmitted not only through reading and hearing, but also indirectly by its linkage to folklores and proverbs of the people.

Speaking on the theme for the anniversary, “God Speaks all languages: Celebrating 150 years of the Ga Bible”, Rev. Prof. David Nii Anum Kpobi, a Senior Lecturer at the Trinity Theological Seminary, noted that, God created language as a gift to mankind and that was how He communicated with them.

He said, the Ga Bible was a legacy for the Ga speaking communities and people.

The proverbs of the language are found in the Ga Bible making it a good tool for instructing the younger generation. He, thus, called on the Ga people to cherish the Ga Bible as an asset.

Also at the ceremony, the General Secretary of the Bible Society of Ghana, Rev. Erasmus Odonkor, thanked God for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and said God counted the people of Ga worthy to bring His Word to them in their own language.

He, however, bemoaned the fact that after over a century and a half, some Ghanaian languages do not still have the Bible in their mother tongue and even if translation work would begin, it would take another twenty-five years to complete the work. He, however, added that, it was still not too late to begin translation in other languages.

Relishing the good old days of Sunday School, he assured all of the Bible Society of Ghana’s readiness to partner any church and individuals who would avail themselves for the study of the Ga language.



Council & staff of BSG at launch of 150th Anniversary of the Ga Bible

Rev. Odonkor presented a copy of the newly published Ga Pulpit Bible to the Wesley Methodist Cathedral on behalf of the Bible Society of Ghana.

The first edition of the Ga Bible was put together under the leadership of Johannes Zimmerman, a Basel missionary and other indigenes of Ga, between 1853 and 1866. Their years of effort paid off and their deepest wishes were realized when, in 1866, the first full Ga Bible was published by the British and Foreign Bible Society under the title, *“Biblia alo Nmale kronkron*

*le, Kpanmo Momo ke Ehe, ye Ga Wiemo le mli”*.

The Ga Bible has undergone a number of revisions. In 1977, the Ga New Testament with a revised orthography was printed in Cambridge for the Bible Society of Ghana. Again in 1981, a new revision of the Ga Bible was done by the late Rev. Ishmael Sowah, E. J. Kufio and R.F. Mante. After twenty years of use, the Ga Bible was again revised and published in 2006.

A number of issues account for the need to revise Bible editions. Some of these reasons include, ensuring that the language of the Bible continues to communicate and is relevant to the present generation.

Also, revisions of the Bible help upgrade and make the Bible more interactive by adding materials like Bible helps, maps, pictures and illustrations. These additions give the reader more insight than they would have gained from the older versions.



Rev. Odonkor welcomes all to the launch of the anniversary

## Local Language Bibles Now Online

**T**o God be the glory! At last you can now download the revised Asante Twi Bible and the Komba New Testament online and it's for free.

It is common to find several versions of the English Bible online for downloading onto mobile phones, tablets, laptop computers and other digital devices. Technology, today, has given us the opportunity to make our local language Bibles also available online for the reading public.

We can now find BSG Local Bibles online because the Society is finally uploading its local language Bibles onto the United Bible Societies' (UBS) Digital Bible Library (DBL). The first of the local languages to be officially uploaded on the digital Bible Library are the Revised Asante Twi and the Komba New Testament. These have already been made available on YouVersion.

This comes as an answer to the demand for an electronic copy of the local Bibles. One can now download online at no cost.

The Komba New Testament can also be accessed from the website of the Renew World Outreach. This platform gives you free access to over 890 audio Bibles using the Faith Comes by Hearing digital Bible platform.

Pray with us as we work at making the other languages available too.

# Local Language Bibles Now online



# Staff and Council Retreat in pictures



*Staff and Council at the Annual Retreat*



*Mrs. Efua Ghartey, Chairman of BSG Council, leads the assembly to reflect on hymns and their meanings*



*President of BSG, Most Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Asante, with Rev. Prof. J. D. Ekem, Translations Consultant, BSG*



*Together we shall pray for our Nation*



*Dr. Mrs. Yvonne Ollennu leads a group to pray for the BSG and its operations*



*Mr. Sam Mensah leads a group to pray for the nation*

*To the glory of God, the Bible Society of Ghana (BSG) has presented over 1300 Bibles to Soldiers of the Ghana Armed Forces going on peacekeeping operations in Congo, Mali and South Sudan, in January 2016.*

# BSG BIBLES FOR PEACEKEEPING SOLDIERS

Every year about one thousand men and women of our military personnel go on peacekeeping duties in the African sub-regions and globally, and BSG makes a valuable contribution to Ghana's peacekeeping efforts by distributing special Bibles to each peacekeeping officer prior to departure.

The project allows BSG to place pocket-sized Bibles in the hands of our military men and women who go on peacekeeping duties. Many of these personnel have testified about the power of the Word and how they have been saved. BSG is interested in the lives of these men and women who lay down their lives for others.

Presenting the Bibles to the Soldiers at a short ceremony at the 5BN, Burma Camp, Accra, the General Secretary of the Bible Society of Ghana, Rev. Erasmus Odonkor reiterated the Society's desire to give every soldier on peacekeeping mission a Bible to read. "We want God to speak to them in their quiet moments away from the war front, to comfort and shield them", he said.

He said the joy Christians experience in reading the Word of God must be experienced by all; this is the reason why the BSG strives

to make God's Word available and affordable and to encourage its use to transform lives.

Rev. Odonkor assured the soldiers of the Society's continued prayers for them and also prayed that God grants them traveling mercies and keeps their families safe back home.

Lt. Col. Henry Badasu, Deputy Director in charge of the Army Peacekeeping, was very appreciative of the gesture. He recounted a great testimony about a colleague soldier who, during the ECOMOG times, escaped death from a bullet shot at his breast pocket because he had put the Bible in that pocket.

"With these Bibles we know we are both armoured in body and in soul", he stated.

The next batch of Bible distribution will be made in September for soldiers on peacekeeping missions to Lebanon.

This Peacekeeping project of the BSG started way back in 1989 when Ghana served on peacekeeping duties in Lebanon. The Project is a key focus program for the Bible Society of Ghana, with donations coming from various fundraising events, the Bible-A-Month (BAM) Club and individuals.

Rev. Erasmus Odonkor-Gen Secretary of BSG presents a Bible to Lt. Col. Henry Badasu, Dep Dir. of Army Peacekeeping



BSG staff with some officials of the Ghana Armed Forces

# BSG Madina Retail Shop

# NOW OPENED



*The Distributions Manager, Mrs. Naana Hagan, cuts the tape to open the Madina Retail Shop.*

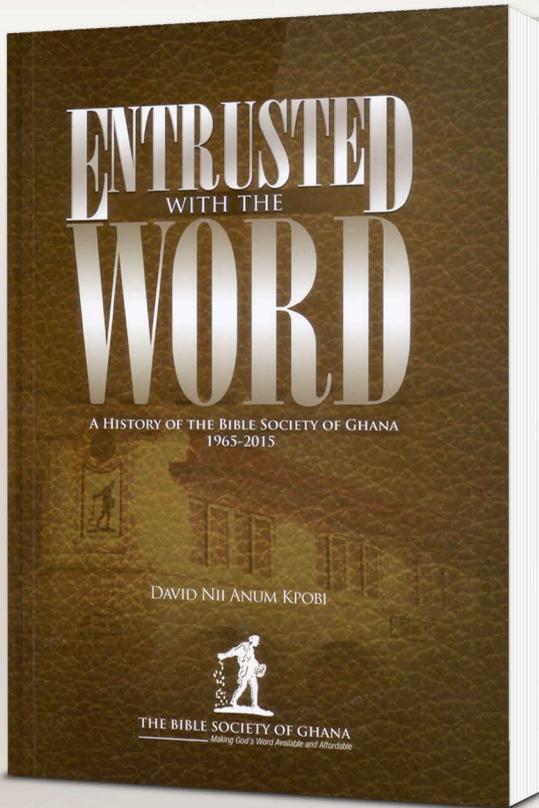


*The General Secretary of BSG, Rev. Erasmus Odonkor, prays to open the shop*



*The General Secretary, (Left) with some members of staff and well wishers of the BSG*

# ENTRUSTED WITH THE WORD

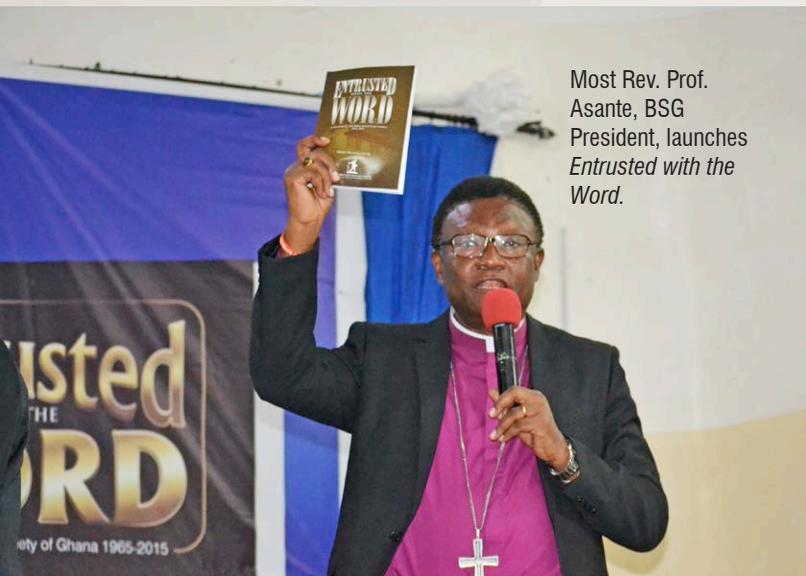


**E**ntrusted with the Word: a history of the Bible Society of Ghana from 1965-2015 has been launched to commemorate the golden jubilee celebrations of the society.

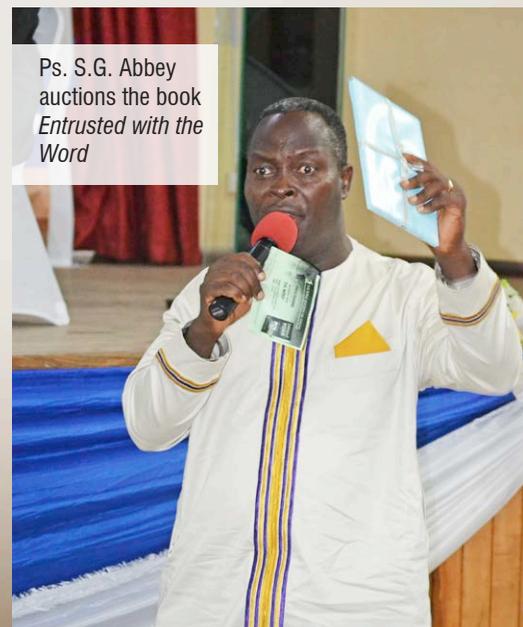
The book, written by Rev. Prof. David Nii Anum Kpobi, a Senior lecturer of the Trinity Theological Seminary, gives the reader an in depth view of the formation and operations of the BSG since its inception in the early 1960s.

The launch of the book was held at two separate events, in Kumasi and Accra, on 9 and 11 February, 2016, respectively. The Kumasi launch came off at the St. George's Interdenominational Church while the event in Accra took place at the Osu Ebenezer Presbyterian Church hall.

The book was reviewed by Rev. Dr. Abamfo Atiemo of the Department for the Study of



Most Rev. Prof. Asante, BSG President, launches *Entrusted with the Word*.



Ps. S.G. Abbey auctions the book *Entrusted with the Word*



Dignitaries & guests at the launch



Rev. Dr. Abamfo Atiemo presents the book review

Religions at the University of Ghana. He stated that the publication of the book makes the history of the Church in Ghana more complete now.

The story about the establishment and growth of the Bible Society of Ghana, as it charts its path in ensuring that the Bible is not just available in every home but exists in formats specific to every need, deserves a place in the history of the Church in Ghana.



Mr. Kofi Agamah and Dr. Joyce R. Aryee at the Accra Book Launch



L-R Rev. Prof. Gilbert Ansre, Rev. Prof. D. N.A. Kpobi (Author) and Rev. Dr. Abamfo Atiemo (Reviewer)

# Youth Impact Project Takes Off

The Bible Society of Ghana has revived the Youth Impact Project (YIP) on a pilot basis in the James Town and Mamprobi localities, in January this year.

The YIP seeks to make the scriptures interactive in the lives of at least 1000 young people between the ages of 12 - 17 years, positively leading them to a firm commitment in Christ. The modus operandi is for pupils to undergo a Bible correspondence course organized by the BSG, then, successful participants are rewarded with a Bible each.

Young people, who have requested for Bibles from the Bible Society and other foreign Bible Societies, are usually those picked for the exercise. They are taken through a three-stage study programme centred on the book of Galatians, Acts, Philippians and 1 John. After the successful completion of the study programme, Bibles are presented to each of the participants.

The first of the pilot project started with the Sempe Primary 1 and 2 schools. Out of 200 questions administered to pupils of class four to six, only 116 participated.

Nadia Quaye, an 11 year old pupil of Sempe 1 Primary School, had the highest score of 79.5 percent followed Joseph Mingle, also 11 years old, with a score of 78 percent.

*“The main objective of this Bible engagement programme with the youth is to give the younger generation an opportunity to interact with the Scriptures and also to make them more interested in Bible work.”*

Daniel Ankrah, a pupil of the Sempe '2', also topped his group with a score of 84 percent. The second place was taken by Rosemary Nartey, with a score of 80 percent.

Presenting the Bibles to the pupils, Rev. Charles Adu Twumasi, Church Relations and Programmes Manager of the BSG, encouraged the pupils to read the Bibles and allow it to positively affect their lives.

The main objective of this Bible engagement programme with the youth is to give the younger generation an opportunity to interact with the Scriptures and also to make them more interested in Bible work.



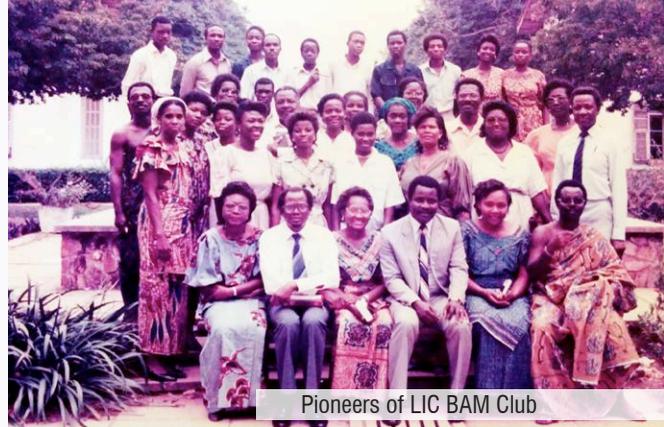
# LIC BAM APPEALS FOR SIBLINGS

The Legon Interdenominational Church Bible-A-Month Club (LIC BAM Club) has made a fervent appeal for more BAM Clubs to be formed in sister-churches. Having been in existence for almost 27 years, it is a lonely experience not to have been replicated anywhere else.

The call for the formation of new BAM Clubs was made at the last Annual General Meeting of the LIC BAM Club. The meeting, to which the Bible Society of Ghana was invited, was held at their church on the University of Ghana campus, on Sunday, 13 March, 2016.

Speaking passionately on the issue, members of the club, with one voice, expressed a strong desire to have the Bible Society BAM Club replicated in other churches in Ghana.

The LIC BAM Club was formed at the instance of some members of the Legon Interdenominational Church in 1989. Championed by Rev. Prof Joshua Kudadjie, Dr. Kwaku Twum Baah and Mr. Immanuel Kofi Agamah, the Club's main purpose was to raise funds for the distribution of Bibles by the BSG; a cause they have carried out excellently and



Pioneers of LIC BAM Club

for which they were duly recognized at the 2015 BSG Annual General Meeting.

Last year alone, the LIC BAM Club was able to provide revenue for almost 4,000 Bibles. Most of these went into free Bibles for the Soldiers of the Ghana Armed Forces going on Peacekeeping Mission and the Youth Impact Project.

The BSG also distributes free Bibles to prisoners, juvenile delinquents and Junior High School students involved in the Youth Impact Project.

Currently, a couple of churches, in response to the LIC BAM Club appeal, are considering the petition to launch a BAM Club within their local assemblies. More churches and groups are also being encouraged to consider forming a BAM Club in aid of Bible distribution and Bible work in general. This move, when pushed through, would greatly boost the free distribution of Bibles, thereby, promoting BSG's vision of "Bibles for all".

LIC BAM Club members



# UPDATES: FROM THE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY DEPARTMENT

## Preparation of Diglots

The Bible Society of Ghana is embarking on the preparation of Diglots. The Asante Twi Bible is being made ready for typesetting with the English Standard Version (ESV) and will be published before the close of 2016. This will be followed closely by preparation of the English with Ga and Ewe Bible texts. Pray for the success of these ventures.

## Progress of work on the Gurune Bible Translation

Thank God with us that after one year of translating the Bible into Gurune the Gospel of Mark is being published for test reading by the language group. The New Testament is expected to be completed and published

within four years. We covet your prayers for the translators, reviewers, Translations Consultant, Computer Assisted Publishing Officer, donors and all those involved with the Project.

## Literacy

### • Ga Literacy

Plans to start literacy in Ga-speaking churches this year as part of the celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ga Bible are on-going. Members of the James Town Local Council of Churches have already been informed. The venue and time of training of teachers will soon be communicated to the churches.

## BSG CORNER

### Dr. & Dr. Mrs Sepenu with beautiful baby Nikita Zoe Neyram Sepenu



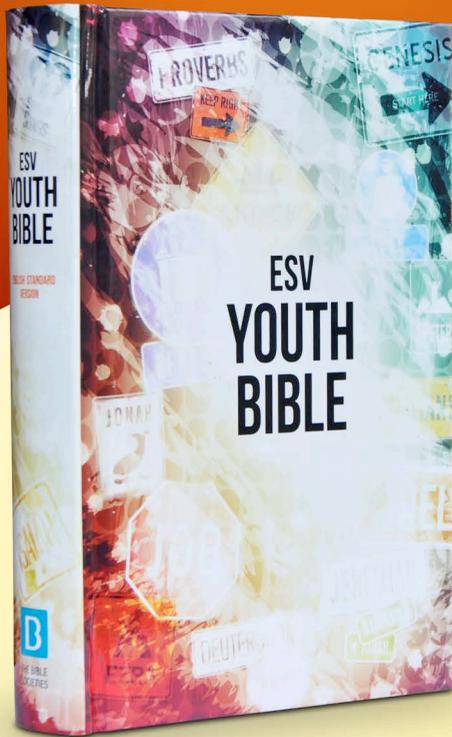
To God be the glory! Dr. Perez Sepenu and his lovely wife Dr. Mrs. Naa Akushia Sepenu were blessed with a beautiful baby girl on 22 December, 2015.

Christening of the baby took place at the Central Assembly, Church of Pentecost (Peniel/Rhema), at East Legon, on 28 February, 2016.

Baby Nikita Zoe Neyram Sepenu's name means victorious life of God; God blesses what belongs to Him. What a good way to help a child as they manifest positive characteristics of their name as they grow.

The BSG Council congratulates Dr. & Dr. Mrs Sepenu on the birth of their first child.

# Choosing a Bible



## ESV YOUTH BIBLE

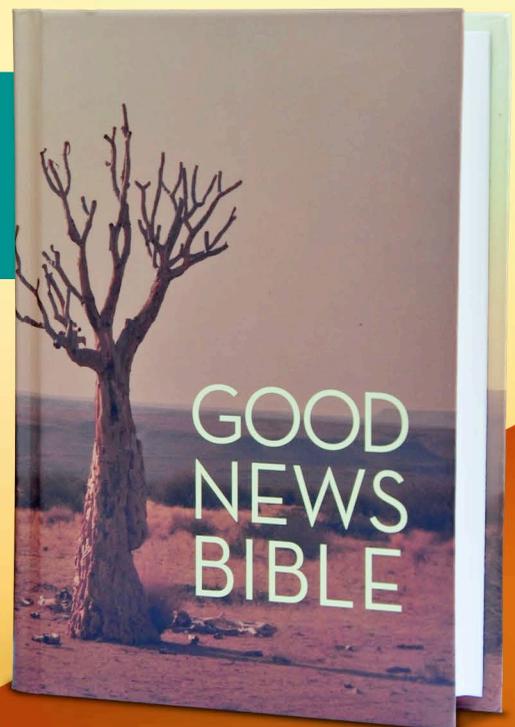
The **ESV YOUTH BIBLE** helps open up God's word to you in today's English. Small enough to fit into almost any schoolbag, it's ideal for students in the junior and secondary school.

When thinking of getting a Bible for a young person desiring a relationship with God, the **ESV YOUTH BIBLE** is a perfect gift. It comes with a Bible reading plan to make reading easy, a clear storyline of the Bible as well as additional sections on topics such as forgiveness, justice and freedom.

## GOOD NEWS BIBLE

This fashionable compact edition of **GOODNEWS** is perfect for adventurous young people seeking a relationship with God and those who have English as a second language. This Bible seeks to give today's readers the best possible understanding of the context of the original text.

Travelling with God's word has never been so effortless; its unique size makes this Bible portable enough to fit into any purse, suitcase and schoolbag. For those who are constantly on the go but want to maintain a connection with God, it's the best Bible to grab with you.



# KITASE BIBLE VILLAGE

## Retreat Centre Project



The Bible Society of Ghana, in its quest for sustainability in doing Bible Work, has decided to invest in a project that would provide a state of the art retreat centre for the Christian community.

The Retreat Centre forms part of a Bible Village Project which, when completed, would house the headquarters of the BSG, a modern hostel type accommodation, executive chalets, a multipurpose facility suitable for conferences and summits, as well as convenient space for hosting receptions and other similar social gatherings.

Aptly positioned on the peak of the Akuapem Range, close to the Peduase Lodge, the Centre would be set within an ultra-modern, yet, serene natural green environment; an Eden experience where

one could encounter the presence of the Creator alone or in a group.

The BSG's primary drive for the Retreat Centre is to meet the growing demand for quality Christian hospitality service. However, proceeds from the operation would also go a long way to augment resources from donations to help meet rising operational costs as the BSG continues to grow, while offsetting the onset of donor fatigue.

The first building for the project is now well advanced, with the structure roofed and walls plastered.

However, there is still need for more hands to come on deck in order for work to continue steadily. The completion of the project would enable the Society to quickly position itself strategically for a more progressive Bible work.



# Bible Society of Ghana | Dunkwa Presidential Fundraising Dinner

## Kumasi Area Office

The maiden Presidential Fundraising Dinner at Dunkwa took place on Saturday, 23 April, 2016, as scheduled, under the umbrella of the Northern Sector Committee of the Bible Society of Ghana. .

The event, which was held at the Royal Amonoo Inn Hotel in Dunkwa, was on the theme, "Bible Translation: God's Word for all". The Guest Speaker for the event was Rev. J. O. Amaniampong, Dunkwa Area Head of the Church of Pentecost, with Mr. Moses Quayson, C.E.O. of Mosquay Co. Ltd as the Chairman. Others at the dinner included, Rt. Rev. Edmund Dawson Amoah (Anglican Bishop of Dunkwa Diocese), Nana Obeng Nuako III (Chief of Dunkwa) and a representative from the Upper Denkyira East Municipal.

Rev. Amaniampong reiterated the importance of Bible translation and the need to support such a worthy cause. He stressed on the fact that whenever the Bible was translated into a particular language, Jesus becomes endemic in the culture of the people.

Touched by the Speaker's delivery, the invited guests did not hesitate to donate to support the cause of the Bible.

The directions and support of the Dunkwa Ministers Fellowship, led by Rev. John-Charway, needs a special mention. We pray that the Lord would reward their labour in the vineyard.



Section of guests exchanging greetings



Rev. J. O. Amaniampong delivering keynote address



A section of guests present at the dinner

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Recent statistics from the Ghana Statistical Services puts the population of Ghana at 27.9 million. Out of this estimate, official record places a whopping 75 percent as Christians. Mathematically, this translates to over twenty million Christians within the Ghanaian population.

The Bible Society of Ghana is a voluntary non-denominational not-for-profit organization. Its activities are mainly funded through support from the churches, para church organizations and its voluntary members.

However, the activities of the society is of immense benefit to the entire Christian Community. This is not surprising since the formation of the Society was led by a consultative council of heads of churches in Ghana, in 1964, for the sole purpose of serving the interest of the Church.

## Translation work

Most of the Bibles in our local languages were translated by the BSG, from the source

language. You will find the BSG logo in all of such Bibles.

## Distribution

The BSG ensures that Bibles are available at subsidized prices for affordability. The Society also distributes some Bibles for free through some projects.

Scriptures in Braille for the visually impaired and also in audio forms for those who cannot read for one reason or the other are also produced by the society.

## Projects

The Society embarks on projects targeted at the marginalized and the needy.

The Bibles for Prisons Project focuses on free distribution of Bibles to inmates in the prisons and correctional centers so they can experience the life transforming power of God's Word.

There is also the Good Samaritan Project which is basically about giving Hope for

*“The One way to help the BSG do more of this good work is to help in recruiting more members to expand its membership base. Encourage your family and friends to support the BSG by becoming members.”*

persons infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. The society provides training and materials to partner churches and schools so as to empower them for service to people affected by the pandemic.

The Trauma Healing for Orphans and Trafficked Children from Fishing Communities Project seeks to reach out to children in traumatic situations. The Society does this by offering training to care givers and volunteers to effectively manage traumatic situations. Most children in orphanages and those trafficked in fishing communities have undergone abusive experiences both physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually so they need much care and attention.

The society also engages and rescues vulnerable minors and teens involved in child prostitution by providing scriptural

materials and counseling, under its Rescue Mission for Vulnerable Teenage Girls Project.

Sadly, less than half of 1 percent of the 20 million Christians who benefit one way or the other from the activities of the society do actually support its operations. More new members for the BSG means less stress on the Life Members we have now, and more resources to reach out to more people.

### Action

One way to help the BSG do more of this good work is to help in recruiting more members to expand its membership base. Encourage your family and friends to support the BSG by becoming members.

The new Membership registration fee is only GHC10.00. Thereafter, all you need to do is to donate freely at least once every year.



**THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF GHANA**  
*Making God's Word Available and Affordable*

presents  
**TRANSLATION SEMINAR '16**

**THEME:**  
**Significance of Scripture Versions and Bible Helps**

**Sub Topics:**

- Why different/newer versions of the scriptures
- How to use helps provided in the translated Scriptures

**Speakers:**  
**REV. MARTIN OBENG**  
*Lecturer, Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon* | **REV. ISSIFU DOKURUGU**  
*CAP Officer, The Bible Society of Ghana*

**Date:** 14th June '16 | **Time:** 8:30am | **Venue:** Accra Ridge Church

**Rate: GHC 40**

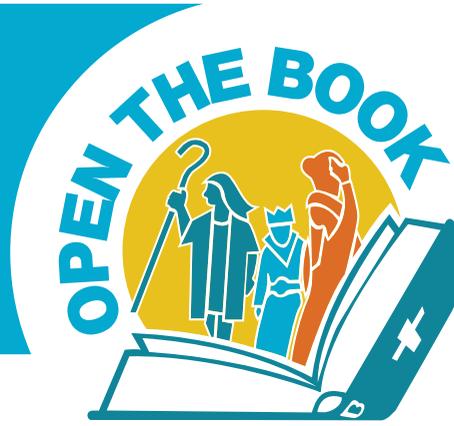
**Kumasi - 10th June | Obuasi - 11th June | Sunyani - 21st June | Ho - 4th June**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 4th August**  
**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF GA BIBLE THANKSGIVING SERVICE - 7th August**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

# OPEN THE BOOK PROJECT

## Boosts School Worship in Cape Coast



The interesting and exciting way of presenting the Word of God through storytelling and drama has ignited a lot of interest in the Bible. This is what the “Open the Book” Project has brought to Wednesday morning worship in some primary schools within the Cape Coast Metropolis.

The Open the Book project is a dramatized storytelling of Bible stories at selected schools to engage school children with the Bible. Teams of volunteers use drama by school children and teachers to present the Bible stories in lively and informative ways. The Project was introduced by the Bible Society of Ghana, as a means of helping the youth engage with the Bible in a way that would be interesting and fun.

This new approach to worship has won the heart of many pupils and they would now do everything not to miss Wednesday Worship. Previously, Wednesday worship, in some of these schools, was just a long sermon which most of these young pupils found very boring and only had to attend reluctantly.

Pupils now report to school early on Wednesday to catch a front row seat in order to participate fully in the stories and role plays and possibly be selected by the volunteers to play a role. The interesting and exciting way of presenting the Word of God through storytelling and drama has ignited a lot of interest in the Bible.



*Some OTB volunteers lead the pupils at worship*



*The school children listening attentively at worship*

# 2016 UBS Day of Prayer

The Bible Society of Ghana joined Bible Societies worldwide to hold a prayer meeting to thank God for the Bible Societies the world over, on 9 May, 2016, at the Apostolic Church, Charles Lane.

The United Bible Societies (UBS) Day of Prayer commemorates the day in 1946 when the idea of forming a global fellowship of Bible Societies was approved by 13 Bible Societies. The annual event is a time of thanksgiving and prayers for Bible work and staff of Bible Societies.

In Accra, church leaders and their members convened together with staff of the Bible Society of Ghana to pray to thank God and intercede for the Society, the nation Ghana and the world at large.

**"...The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." James 5:16**



BSG staff and church leaders at the 2016 UBS Day of Prayer



Chairman of the BSG Youth Committee, Dr. Perez Sepenu leads a prayer session at the UBS 2016 Day of Prayer

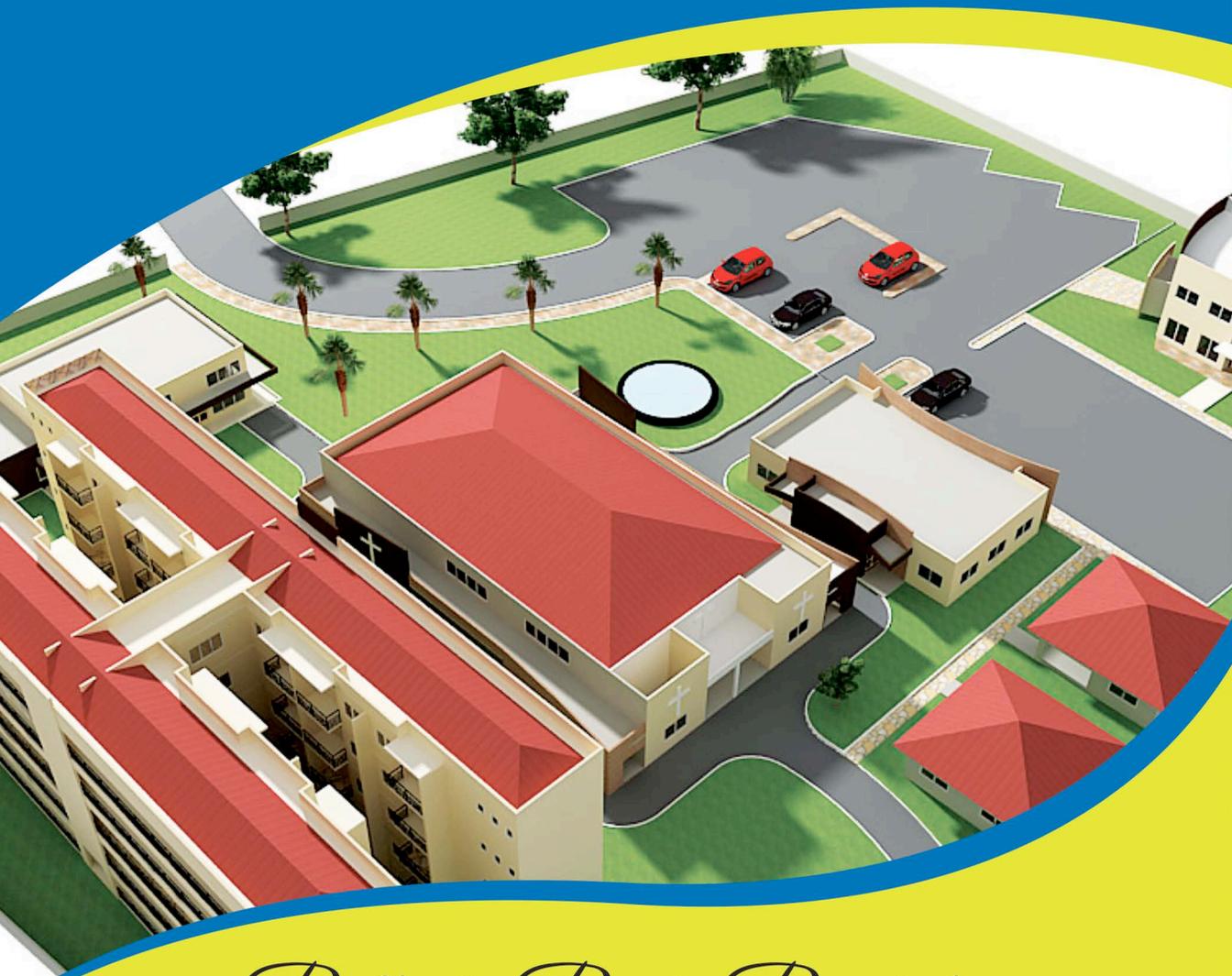


BSG staff and church leaders at the 2016 UBS Day of Prayer



# THE BIBLE VILLAGE

(Retreat Centre, Kitase)



*Reflect. Rest. Revitalize.*