



What's New?



The Rock (NLT)

The Rock Bible is the official Bible for Josh McDowell's "Right from Wrong" campaign. An exciting teen study Bible that contains hundreds of helpful features and notes that will help today's young people know God better and discover the key to making right choices with confidence in their daily living.

Suggested donation:
\$20.00 (sc)

The Jesus Bible (NLT)



Today's teens are looking for answers to tough issues. Nearly 2000 notes, helps and articles work alongside the Bible text to show that the real Jesus, as described throughout Scripture, is alive today and relevant to everyday life.

Suggested donation:
\$20.00 (hc)

Offers subject to availability while supplies last, so call now before we run out.

In Memory

Menno Kroeker of Riverton, Man., has been promoted to be with the Lord forever. Menno and his wife, Aurelia, were founding Board members of LifeLight Ministries. Menno served as the LifeLight chaplain for many years. His encouragement was a vital part of the survival of a fledgling organization that faced many difficulties in the early years, and his vision for LifeLight will be sorely missed.

Donations in memory of Menno Kroeker may be made to LifeLight Ministries.

Sharing Christ with Our Community

John E. Coulombe

In March the ladies ministry included copies of the *How to Find God* New Testaments in gift baskets for our community's First-Step Women's Shelter. These baskets included basic toiletry items for the shelter. The director of the shelter was very pleased with the inviting format of the NT. We are endeavouring to share Christ with our community, and this is just one of the ways to connect with those who, for various reasons, may have need of a safe place for a season.

We also make the NTs available at our various events for anyone interested, and in the past year three people have come to Christ as part of the connection made through this copy of the Word. These folks are continuing to grow in Christ and finding community in our local fellowship. Just recently we hosted a worship concert and encouraged our folks to invite their unchurched friends to the event. At this concert, six *How to Find God* NTs and ten pocket NTs found their way into the hands of visitors. We are continuing to pray for fruit from these outreaches.

Thank you, LifeLight, for your part in our ministry through these copies of the Scriptures. We keep looking for innovative ways to get the Word into people's hands.

John Coulombe is the pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Sioux Lookout, Ontario.

Team Leader Appointed



Brent Gillon has been accepted as the Executive Team Leader of LifeLight Ministries. He will focus on fundraising and donor development.

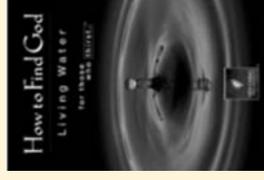
Brent has been involved with Habitat for Humanity in Winnipeg and worked alongside President Jimmy Carter. He also spent three years at Camp Arnes as Executive Director.

Brent and his wife, Monique, have been married for 22 years and have two daughters, Sarah (12) and Elyse (10). They live in East St. Paul and are actively involved in the Eastview Community Church in Winnipeg.

More Church Signs...

SEARCHING FOR A NEW LOOK? HAVE YOUR FAITH LIFTED HERE.

FIGHT TRUTH DECAY. STUDY THE BIBLE DAILY.



How to Find God – the most comprehensive New Testament ever offered for evangelism!

- New Living Translation
- Plan of Salvation
- 40 Topical Bible Studies
- Study Notes
- "Live it Now" topical index
- Over 400 high-quality pages
- Size: 5 1/2" x 8 1/4"

Suggested donation: \$5.00



A Sign For Our Times

Bob Shepansky

It all comes down to people! If you love people...if you really love people...you will make sure that they come to know the only Person who can truly change their lives – Jesus Christ! A clichéd thought for some, but true, nevertheless! How do you get to know this Jesus? Through God's revelation to us – the Bible. How tiresome these truths are for some – "old hat," outdated! Jesus may be "dated" to some, but not to many everyday people who are at their wit's end and ready to give up on life.

Many times the suffering people around us have no one to turn to, nowhere to go, and nothing to give them hope. That's when we need to give them the only real source of hope – the Bible. This pastor's choice for seekers is the *How to Find God* (Living Water for those who thirst), a New Testament distributed by Canadian LifeLight Ministries.

This NT has an amazing array of unique and helpful features. It lays a foundation for the seeker, answering many questions, such as *Who is God? Who is Jesus? Who is the devil?*

It also gives the new Christian a foundation on many teachings of the Christian life:

- How to find peace and joy
- How to persevere in faith
- How to study the Bible
- How to obey God
- How to resist temptation
- How to seek God's will

I have seen lives changed as a result of their exposure to this New Living Translation Scripture, which is put

together so well. Isn't that our hope – to see people move from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Light?

As a church we give out these Bibles free of charge to anyone who will read it. We have given them to seekers, care-group leaders, our leadership team, children, adults, teenagers, agnostics, atheists, mature believers, and others.

When Greg Armstrong first introduced me to the *How to Find God* Bible, I was excited immediately about the potential of using it, and that enthusiasm has not abated. At Ness Avenue Baptist Church we have seen God work in the lives of our friends and families through this edition. We are trying to be faithful in distributing them, looking for opportunities to share God's Word with those who need to hear.

We have a sign in front of our church building. The message on the sign changes from week to week, with communications for hope, humour and thought-provoking challenges to the thousands of people passing by each day.

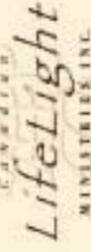
One day one of our deacons, Ray Guenther, came up with an idea that expresses perfectly how we view the Word of God and its ability to help people live in our world. The message on one side of the sign was "The Bible can change your life," and on the other side it read "Pick up a free Bible here." We believe this, and the offer still stands to anyone who takes us up on it! And the Bible you'll get is *How to Find God* – living water for those who thirst. A sign for our times!

Bob Shepansky is the pastor of the Ness Ave. Baptist Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba



LifeLight Ministries, Box 4904, Steinbach, Manitoba R5G 1R5

God's Word for this Generation



Box 4904, Steinbach, Manitoba R5G 1R5

Focus on the Church

North and South Meet

Ramsy Unruh

In October, Community Fellowship Church (CFC) in Newton and Community Centre Fellowship in Snow Lake continued a relationship which began more than twenty years ago. Each fall a group from CFC, a small, southern Manitoba country church, visits the church in Snow Lake, a northern mining town, to work together on the Snow Lake Fall Community Supper. The program, presented by CFC, is a gift to the community and, through music, testimonies, drama, dance and pictures, the listeners are encouraged to consider what place God has in their lives.

This fall we took along twenty-five copies of the *How to Find God* NT. At the end of the evening, everyone was invited to take a copy as they left the building. Most of them were taken, and the remaining copies were given to the Snow Lake church. We are confident that those who accepted this gift were prompted by God to do so and that God is using His Word in their lives to guide them along their spiritual journey.

Thank you, LifeLight, for providing us with these Bibles. God's Word is alive and active in Snow Lake!

A Bridge to Life

Rob Laidlaw



LifeBridge is an exciting ministry in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, that has just gotten off the ground, and we are on the edge of our seats as we watch what God is doing. Sixty-eight people showed up for our first service on Easter Sunday, March 27. Two people indicated that they made commitments to trust God with their lives, several others made commitments, and numerous people have expressed interest in ongoing attendance at the church. (CBC Radio even showed up, interviewed us, and put us on the 5:00 p.m. news!)

Sunday morning services, called *The Connection*, are specifically geared toward the non-churched. The Connection incorporates contemporary music, drama, testimony, video and relevant messages – all tied together around a spiritual theme for each week. Our time for more intimate worship, prayer, study and accountability as Christians is held on Thursday evenings. We are dedicated to connecting people to God, helping them discover and live out His purpose for their lives.

We give a copy of *How to Find God* as a gift to those who attend our church and are not sure where to begin their search for God. We also include it in a package that we give to those who pray to commit their lives to Christ, to help them on their journey. We have found that once people start reading it, it whets their thirst, and they want to read the entire Bible. It's a great stepping stone in their journey of faith.

LifeBridge Community Church meets at Auburn Drive High School in Dartmouth. Rob Laidlaw is the pastor.

It is always dangerous to go to church, for there is always a chance that God's Word will break through the protective wall we have built up.



The Park Meadows Baptist Church in Lethbridge, Alberta, started an AWANA program in September for children from kindergarten to Grade 5. Our goal is to provide a program for the children of our church, as well as reach out to those in the community. Since the start of the program, we have given *The LifeLight* New Testament to twenty-seven children, the majority of whom come from non-church families.

We also give Bibles to our baptism candidates. When adults take the step of obedience in baptism, we present them with a *New Believer's Bible*. This New Living Translation, along with the added devotionals, makes this Bible extremely helpful for new believers, as well as those who may already be more "established" in the faith. In 2004 and 2005, we have had the privilege of baptizing twelve adults and thirteen of our youth.

In addition, we always have Bibles available for members to pick up and give to their friends. This past Sunday a woman asked if she could have a Bible to give to her friend. Her friend had borrowed hers and hadn't given it back yet because she was still reading it! What a great problem to have!

U-Turns Allowed

Sam Alescio



The Bibles from LifeLight are a great help and tool in our youth work. Thank you for making them available to us. Since we received them, we have had two *U-Turns* (evangelistic youth services) where seven teenagers gave their hearts to Christ. We gave Bibles to them, and for some of them it was probably the first Bible they had ever read.

One girl heard about our youth group from a friend at school who had heard about it from his friend and, without having any previous youth group experience, she decided to attend one of our *U-Turn* events. That night she gave her heart to Jesus and was given her first Bible. Later that evening we noticed her sitting in a corner by herself, reading her Bible. She is now a regular attendee and is learning about the hope and freedom we find in Jesus Christ. We sometimes think that not many youth are interested in reading the Bible, but this girl certainly was.

Sam Alescio is the Assistant Youth Worker at Northside Foursquare Church in Coquitlam, BC.

Church Sign: IF YOU'RE HEADED IN THE WRONG DIRECTION, GOD ALLOWS U-TURNS.

Easter at Eastview

Trish Koslowsky

This spring the Eastview Community Church intentionally designed their Easter worship service around the theme of discovering hope. We handed out invitations for Eastviewers to use with friends, family and co-workers. We mailed out invitations throughout our community and advertised our service in the local paper and on our website. Throughout this planning time, we surrounded the weekend with prayer.

As musicians practiced, actors rehearsed and Pastor Lorne prepared the challenge to discover hope through discovering Jesus Christ, another group was putting together discipleship packages to be given to those who would respond to the invitation. The *Abundant Life* New Testaments from LifeLight Ministries were chosen to accompany this gift. In addition, Bibles were also placed in the pews to be taken morning. We continue to follow up, encourage

Sixty people came forward to accept Christ for the first time, to recommit their lives to him, or to ask for prayer. People prayed with them and offered them fellowship, follow-up and Bibles. More than 150 Bibles were distributed that morning. We continue to follow up, encourage

Not Just for Cowboys

Kevin Corbin

Cowboy church isn't just for working cowboys. It's for armchair enthusiasts, farm folks, those "stuck in the city," rodeo fans, city slickers and anyone who is "country" at heart. If you've ever tapped your toes to a country tune, watched a western, know the theme song from "Bonanza," read a Zane Gray (or Louis L'Amour) novel, done a line dance or square dance, or own a pair of jeans, you're a "cowboy."



This is part of the "blurb" we have been using in our advertising. Our first meeting was May 2004, and we now have two meetings a month. The fourth Friday of each month is our outreach service, with a band, a time of testimony and prayer, and a special musical guest. There is a message after the guest, and we close with a couple of songs. The atmosphere is very informal.

We have been averaging fifty people out to this event. Most of them are either non-churched or people who have some church background but haven't been in a church for many years. Some are working cowboys, but many of them are people with an affinity for the music and lifestyle. Our atmosphere and music are different, but the message of God's love remains the same. We're committed to solid evangelical Christian beliefs.

The Way for Cowboys NT from LifeLight has proven popular; we've given away about half of the fifty we received. Plenty of seeds are being planted. (*"The Cowboy Church" meets at the Harvest Life Community Church in Sherwood Park, Alberta.*)

Reply Form

Enclosed is my donation:

Scripture Fund \$ _____ Staff support for _____ \$ _____
In Memory _____ \$ _____

Please send the following Scriptures/DVDs _____
Donation enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____
PC _____ Phone _____

Credit card donations may be made at www.donatebibles.net

and disciple those who came forward. Pray for us as we embrace this challenge.

Thank you, LifeLight, for your ministry of providing Scriptures in contemporary languages. It is a source of great joy to know that God's Word now resides in the homes and hearts of new believers and that His Holy Spirit can teach and guide them as they grow in their faith.



The Eastview Community Church is located at 3500 De Vries in Winnipeg (East St. Paul).

The Bible – His Story

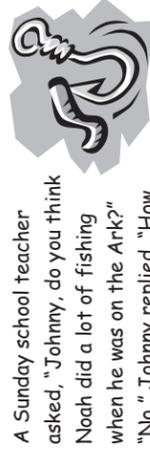
Conrad Dueck

I am the pastor of Children's Ministries at Gospel Mennonite Church in Winnipeg. We have gotten two cases of Bibles from LifeLight Ministries, which we have on hand in our Children's Ministries section. We seek to highlight the importance of the Bible in the lives of the kids who come to our programs. We teach that the Bible is God's Word and that it tells His story – His plan to save the world.

The kids who don't have a Bible can come to us and we give them one. When parents tell us that their child doesn't have a Bible, we give them one as well, much to the delight of the children, as well as the parents. However, we don't just hand it to them; we write a blessing on the inside cover to personalize it and to give them a memory to look back on every time they read it. It is our prayer that the truth about who God is will be made real to the kids.

It is great to be able to hand out Bibles to those who need one and not to worry about draining our budget in the process! Thank you, LifeLight Ministries, for providing us with these Bibles. God's grace and peace to you as you serve Him!

Did Noah Fish?



A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," Johnny replied. "How could he, with just two worms?"

Bible Translation Reading Levels

Sometimes it helps to know what the approximate reading level is for a given translation. Here's a quick and easy guide for the most popular translations:

Translation	Grade Level
KJV	12
RSV	12
NASB	11
NRSV	11
ESV	10
HCSB	9-10
NIV	7-8
NKJV	7
NLT	6
Message	4-5
NCV	3
NIRV	3

It's All Greek to Me

Greg Armstrong

Seventy-five percent of unchurched adults own a Bible. Thirty-nine percent of them believe the Bible is the literal, inspired, inerrant Word of God, that it contains no errors and that it means exactly what it says. Yet only three percent read it daily.

George Barna of the Barna Research Group reports that the fundamental reason so many unchurched people ignore the Bible has to do with the version they have. His intent is not to denigrate the value of a particular translation, but from extensive research on Bible readership, it was found that certain versions are easier to read than others, and therefore are more likely to be read and understood.

The Barna Group found that three-quarters of the unchurched own a King James Version Bible, and only half own a more readable version. Low readership levels of God's Good News may be related to the fact that six out of ten unchurched people own a Bible that is

not easy to read rather than a more modern reader-friendly version. When asked if they could name another version, one-tenth of the unchurched could not name a more reader-friendly version. In conclusion, Barna reports that this is changing as the avalanche of modern translations becomes better known and more widely trusted and accessible.

Canadian LifeLight Ministries is committed to placing God's Word into the hands of this generation – well and often – making today's most modern and accurate easy-to-understand versions available, so that people of all ages and walks of life, church or unchurched, will not ignore the Bible in their pursuit of faith because the version they have is too difficult. Your donations will help us generously present *The LifeLight*, God's Word, to those who need it.

P.S. Barna reports: Only 17 percent of church people say that they read the Bible daily.

A Bird's Eye View

Greg Armstrong

Irv Koop, Bram Ryan, Peter Loewen and I left on April 10 in Irv's big thirsty Ford for a wonderful three days of friendship and fellowship, meeting new people and making new friends, and sowing His Word in the darkness surrounding us.

Our first stop was in Moosehorn for breakfast, encouragement and prayer with Curt Bork and a few others. Wouldn't you know it, Irv ran into an old friend over breakfast! Small world!



We continued on to Easterville, where we were welcomed with open arms as we placed The LifeLight NTs into the outstretched hands of the children.

In Grand Rapids we distributed Scriptures to the grade 3 and 4 students. We stopped at Ponton Corner for coffee and more fire drink for the Ford. (Bram has a sweet tooth, so we had no shortage of treats! He called it bulking up!)

The next morning we had breakfast with Pastor Chris Dokkie in Gillam and gave him the "Intelligent Design" DVDs, for use in the church and, hopefully, in the school as well,

where Chris is a substitute teacher. Seventy LifeLight NTs were handed out in the school – an answer to prayer! Two years ago they did not allow us to give Scriptures to the kids.

Bird is a tiny village north of Gillam, where a beautiful new school is being constructed. Irv, who is also a contractor, knew some of the men who were installing the flooring. We left NTs for each student and for each home in the community. The teacher said she would give one to everyone in town. She was tearfully grateful!

In Split Lake we placed 200 LifeLight NTs in the school of 650 students. The principal is one of six pastors in the community. We presented him with a set of DVDs for the school and church. Here we also enjoyed a time of fellowship, singing, tears and a Bible study in one of the homes.

We left for home the next morning and, thanks to Mr. Koop and his big thirsty Ford, we got home safely, full of God's glory stories! Pray that the seeds sown will bring forth fruit and a bountiful harvest.

The Bible is a gift meant to be shared with others.

Thank You

The April Sunday school offering at the EMMC Church in Morden, Manitoba, was designated for LifeLight Ministries. They sent Greg Armstrong, who recently spoke at the church, this letter:

Thank you so much for the update you sent us on your Scripture distribution trip to northern Manitoba. We plan to give the congregation a brief update this coming Sunday.

The total offering for the month of April was \$649.93, which will be sent to the LifeLight office. This amount was well above our normal offering. Praise the Lord! We pray that God will bless this offering and that many souls will be saved as a result.

We really enjoyed getting to know you and your wife, Janet, when you came to speak in our church. We can see that God is using both of you in His service, and we pray that He will bless you richly. Vic & Sandra (for the Sunday School Department)

Reminder

Will you require Bibles for your summer ministries? Be sure to get your orders in well ahead of time to avoid disappointment.

Church Sign:
TRY OUR SUNDAYS.
THEY'RE BETTER THAN
DAIRY QUEEN'S.