

May, 2011

Dear Friend of the Bible,

"This will be a life-changing experience," the doctor said to me.

Just a few days earlier, I was lying on the ground in southwest Ethiopia. I couldn't get up! As I lay there in agonizing pain, I remember thinking, "**What have I done to myself?**" I found out later that I had broken both my heels as a result of a fall I suffered during my recent trip to Ethiopia.

But now, I thought, what did the doctor mean ..."a life-changing experience?" I am already having an ongoing life-changing experience in my life.

Our walk with God is an ongoing life-changing experience. The Bible is God's precious Word that helps build our faith, and hopefully, draws us closer to Him. I am so grateful for the Bible; yet, I cannot stop thinking about all the people I have met over the years that cannot read the Bible.

Recently, I have had a lot of time to think about people like Argeem and other Christians who never get to read the Bible for themselves. **How does their ongoing life-changing experience with God take place without personal Bible study?**

Before I fell and broke both my heels, I saw Argeem in Ethiopia and talked with her. Argeem has been a Christian for over 40 years, but she's never read the Bible. **She cannot read.**

Argeem was one of the first believers and part of a small church at the Godare



mission station. She was a living testimony to her own people that God did exist and He did love them very much.

As a teenager in 1964, she carried the gospel message to her mother's village. With the help of a cassette player and using her personal testimony, she shared Jesus with 13 women who came to know the Lord.



That was many years ago. Argeem no longer wears a grass skirt. She now wears a skirt and blouse. She is the mother of five sons; her oldest son is a student in the University in Addis Ababa. **However, one thing remained the same over the years.** Argeem never learned to read; so, until she received a Talking Bible in her language, she did not have personal access to the words of the Bible.

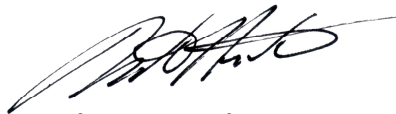
Like so many other Christians who still live in oral cultures where reading is not a part of their daily activity, Argeem had to wait until Sunday to hear the words of the Bible.

Because you cared, Argeem now has a Bible she can use, anytime she wants. All she has to do is turn the Talking Bible on and hear God's Word. By using her Talking Bible, once again Argeem can share God's Word with others as she did when she was a teenager.

Thank you! - on behalf of all who have received their own Talking Bible in their own language.

Your gifts make a difference! For just \$72.00, we can manufacture a Talking Bible, load it with the audio New Testament in the language needed and get it all the way to a someone in Africa or India who will play it for their family and others in the their village.

Sincerely,



Mark S. Hoekstra
President, Talking Bibles International

P.S. Thank you for your generous partnership with this ministry. A \$6.00 gift reaches one person with the Good News of Jesus Christ; a \$12.00 gift reaches two people. Your \$72.00 gift will place one Talking Bible in a home. On an average 12 to 18 people listen to each Talking Bible. *Sometimes as many as 50 people will gather to listen!* Again, thank you!