

BIBLES *and* HOPE ACROSS BORDERS



SOUTH AMERICA

By Russell and Marina Stendal

The Power of the Word: Reaching Venezuela and Beyond

When we distribute Bibles and Christian materials into the eager hands of underprivileged people in Latin America, it is a powerful ministry of hope. Ultimately, our goal is to help build and strengthen personal relationships with God.

Every believer loves to have their very own beautiful large-print Bible to cherish and study. We also use New Testaments in various tribal languages. **The ongoing fruit from vast numbers of changed lives is truly amazing. Christians are multiplying rapidly all over Venezuela.**

Radios, Print Bibles, and Internet Resources

Most major urban areas have internet service, and people have

at least some cheap cell phones—although many times, the internet is downgraded or extinguished by governments for political purposes.

Even so, our Bible materials and audio messages are being

downloaded off our servers at an ever-increasing rate. In many areas, there is little or no internet, and we rely on printed materials and on fixed-tuned, solar-powered radios.

Twenty-Five Years of Impact

It is difficult to know exactly how many Bibles we have distributed. For instance, in the first year that our Spanish audio *Jubilee Bible* was placed on servers worldwide for free download, there were more than 2 million downloads. This was back in the year 2000.

It has been similar with the online Bible study modules that have been available for free download on all the major Bible platforms. Over the past twenty-five years, the *Spanish Jubilee Bible* has become a very prominent Bible.



Delivering Bibles to Indigenous Pastors in Venezuela



Audio Bibles in War Zones

Between 2007 and 2016 (when the Colombian peace treaty was signed, which helped end a lot of persecution) we received about 100,000 Bibles and New Testaments each year for distribution into the Colombian war zones. And some of these materials were placed on the border and into Venezuela.

During this time, a single donor (who is now with the Lord) provided 120,000 Galcom solar radios, and many of them had audio Bibles in one or two languages included in the radio on the memory chip.

We have continued placing radios into Venezuela but at a much slower pace. All of our radio and internet programs are Bible-centered, and it is a great help to the many listeners when they have a printed *Jubilee Bible* so they can follow along.

Since 2016, in partnership with SOM International, we have distributed another 500,000 Bibles in multiple formats all over Venezuela and its treacherous border areas, where revival continues to surge.

Ministry Updates

So far this year, since donations for Bibles have been slow, we have been taking time for other ministry tasks:

- Making sure all the previous materials have been properly distributed all the way to the recipients
- Checking and revising our materials
- Beefing up radio transmitter sites programmed with a healthy diet of Bible reading, children's Bible stories, and Bible preaching.

Thank you so much for your help and prayers.

