



"for the works of service, so that the body of Christ can be built up"
Ephesians 4:12

January 2021



2021 marks another milestone in the life of Equipping The Saints. Thirty years ago, in March, we were officially recognized as a non-profit organization and began the ministry of ETS. Like all anniversaries it becomes a nostalgic time of looking back at what has happened since that time. Going over old reports and letters has made us aware of what God has been doing through this ministry. We are sharing with you **snippets** from some of the newsletters over the past 30 years and trust they will bless you as they have us.

BETWEEN 1991 AND 1996



**Packing for a trip to Nicaragua
in our basement**

Those beginning years found much of our activity in the basement of our house or in a rented room in Staunton, Virginia. Whether packing for a trip, or preparing shipments for ministries, we experienced cramped quarters. We had to make do with what we had. Nevertheless, we were still able to help visitors, send containers, go on mission trips and generally learn the best way to serve our brethren in ministry.



1996 — “The most incredible event this year was the purchase of the Weyers Cave elementary school for our headquarters. We still stand amazed at the perfect suitability of this building for what we are trying to accomplish. As well, equipment has been sent around the world. What a joy to see shipments off to Tajikistan, Liberia, Chile, China and Brazil. Ministries in Costa Rica, Argentina, Honduras, Nigeria, Kenya, Greece, the Ukraine and other countries as well as in the States have been supplied.”

1997 — “An article in the local paper with the title ‘**Ministry Gives Practical Help To those Who Can’t Help Themselves.**’ This bus will be loaded with food, clothing, and medical and school supplies, bound for Sierra Leone to help orphans of the Liberian civil war.”

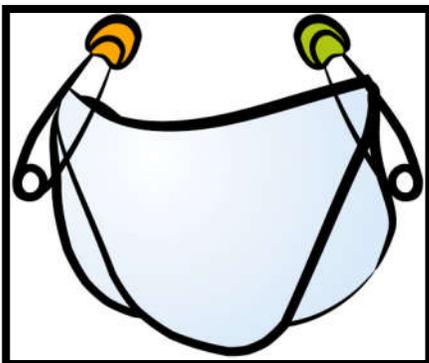
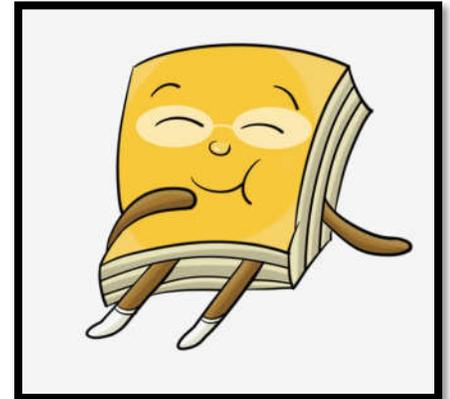


1998 — “Let me share with you about three ministries we have recently assisted: **Elam Ministries** — a school in Britain that trains Iranians to reach their fanatical Muslim homeland with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Those studying at Elam are well aware of what it means to minister in Iran. As they face their homeland, they see the cross. **Back to the Bible Truth Evangelistic Team**, a ministry in Uganda. The vision of BBT is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and plant churches. More than 130 churches have been established since beginning in 1979. **Hosean International** ministries in Pignon, Haiti. They have a camp ministry, a fully functioning orphanage, leadership training and a school of 400 children. They support over 200 children with their schooling and basic needs.”



Container arrives

1999 — **The Saga of an Excited Little Bible** — “I used to be a sad little Bible. I was kept wrapped in paper in a box on a shelf! My master heard a report from a ministry leader in the Sudan. He thought about all the Bibles he had on his shelf and selected some to be given for this ministry. I was one of them! Today I will be on that plane with Andrew Wawa heading for the Sudan! Can you see why I am so excited?” **Another article in the local newspaper** with the title ‘**Sudanese Church Leader Asks for American Prayers For His Country**’ — In November 1997, Equipping the Saints collected and sent a container of clothing to displaced Sudanese. Wawa was involved in the distribution of the clothing. “It helped many people,” he says. Now ETS is collecting another container of goods for the Sudanese — Bibles, New Testaments, recording equipment and cassette players — to be given to the many new churches.”



2002 — “**Diapers!** What were we going to do with 10,000 diapers? We shook our heads. Meanwhile, in Pennsylvania a lady was praying. Genovieva had been expelled from her country, Romania, all because of her Christian activity with a children’s ministry! After coming to the States, she felt led to start orphanages for the children in her homeland. From here she could ship needed supplies. Genovieva received word of a desperate need for cloth diapers at the orphanages. They needed at least 1,000 diapers. Checking all sources, the cost was prohibitive. Her only resource was to go to prayer. The next day she received a call from ETS. They would be bringing a truckload of clothing for her next shipment. You can well imagine “the rest of the story.” Upon returning from her errands, box after box was opened. God provided 5,000 diapers!”



2004 — “A fellow missionary and friend from many years called the other day. He serves with World Home Bible League and had just returned from a trip to Central Asia. “Your fame precedes you,” he said. “Everywhere I went in Tajikistan I saw evidence of Equipping the Saints. From the large office building where I saw computers, desks, file cabinets and other office supplies to warehouses of clothes, homes of missionaries, and vehicles, there was ETS’ provision for that work. You have been God’s blessing to that ministry!”

2005 — Another shipment to Tajikistan. “What was on the container? Packages sent by loved ones and churches for the missionaries arrived at our door weeks in advance of the shipping date. Top priority was given to 600 computer systems and printers used in training programs, schools, and medical clinics throughout the region. Office equipment, food, sound systems, sports equipment and many other items. Especially critical were tape players and headphones needed for developing a language lab in Afghanistan. These will be trucked overland from Tajikistan to Kabul.”

2006 — “**The Institution Universe orphanage and medical clinic in Haiti** — The orphanage needs: 400 student desks, 30 teacher desks, 62 filing cabinets, 1,000 folding chairs, 30 chalkboards, 6 bulletin boards, a pallet of copy paper, and more. They want the shipment by the end of May.”



Desks ready for shipping

RECENT YEARS — The ultimate joy for us Has been an increase in the demand for Bibles. God has given us the privilege of meeting these needs.



Bibles arrived in Senegal

2017 — 40,000 Bibles sent to **Senegal** and 25,000 Bibles sent to **Guinea Bissau** (a neighboring country).

2018 — Over 125,000 Bibles hand delivered into the **Sudan** by a missionary friend.

2019 — 15,360 Bibles for students graduating from the Bible classes taught in the countries of **Ghana** and **Togo**. Over 60,000 students are reached through Torch Ministry each year.

2020 — 1,000 French Thompson Study Bibles to various African ministries. Now pastors have a key tool for ministry.

India Bibles — “Our biggest challenge yet! **A mission with 23 national workers leading 4000 church groups in India has requested 175,000 Bibles in 5 major Indian languages.** The church is growing rapidly. The need for Bibles is urgent. The Bibles will be printed in India.” The first section of printing is nearly ready to go.



Bible for India

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR:

Yes, it's hard to believe. ETS will turn 30 this year.

I want to thank you for your encouragement, prayers and gifts toward the many projects we have undertaken over the years. Today I read through Christmas cards and letters we received from friends, donors and ministry partners. It caused me to reflect on the faithful generosity of so many. Some have stood with us for all 30 years!

While many things have changed, especially during 2020, the focus of Equipping The Saints remains the same. Our goal is to provide strategic appropriate help to ministries worldwide, encouraging and enabling to better do what the Lord has designed for them to do.



I cannot thank you enough for the confidence you have shown by entrusting us with your financial gifts. Often donations are made to the "Where Most Needed" account. This has enabled us to respond quickly to recent special needs, such as:



Van for Cuba

\$6,000 to purchase a 2010 Mercedes MB-100 diesel **VAN** for a ministry in Cuba. This 12 passenger van is ideal for the church's ministry needs.

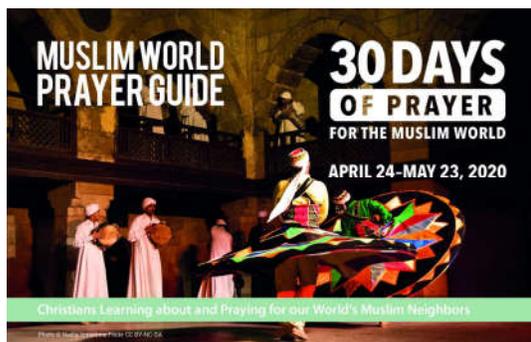
\$300 to ship **VITAMINS** and **IBUPROFEN**, worth \$24,222.60 to a ministry in Texas. The vitamins were short dated and could not be shipped out of the USA. The donor would have needed to pay to destroy the vitamins they had purchased for ministry use!



Vitamins to send

\$383 to ship 7,000+ copies of "30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World" to a literature recycling ministry. These **PRAYER GUIDES** will be distributed to Christians who will pray for God to work in the Muslim world.

1,137 Spanish Bibles donated by a vendor for distribution to various ministries in Mexico.

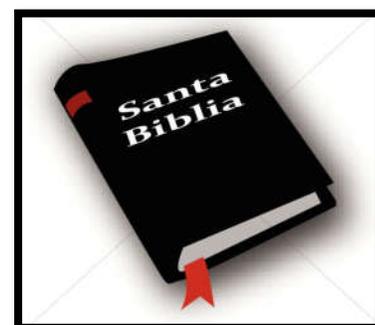


Prayer Guides

Long ago, the prophet Jeremiah wrote:

"The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." Lam. 3:22-23

You have been a part of the Lord's lovingkindness to ETS. Our anniversary celebration is one of rejoicing. God bless you each one. Together we will see what He does in the years to come.



Spanish Bible

ETS Staff