

Jesus

Film
Project®

A Cru Ministry

2020–2021 Ministry
Advance Report

*“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name;
Make known His deeds among the peoples.”*

—1 Chronicles 16:8, NASB

Miracles Happen When People Understand His Word

During 2020, based on documented trends over the previous five years, we project that an estimated 30 million people indicated their decision for Christ in 2020. That’s one person almost every second! The Holy Spirit witnessed to their hearts that the Word of God contained in *JESUS* was true—the visual portrayal of the gospel now available in more than 1,870 different languages. Based on the same data, ministry partners who

use *JESUS* played a crucial role in planting upwards of 293,000 churches. That’s 800 every day! Even during the pandemic, virtual translation workshops aided new script creation, but remotely. Through the Remix Project, scores of older translations of *JESUS* were upgraded with new sound effects and music, resulting in the *JESUS* film coming alive as never before. By giving, many partners began or completed 33 new lip-sync

translations (\$38,000 each). They also helped carry 18 other translations over the finish line, projects that had encountered unexpected expenses (averaging \$6,000 each). Ministry partners like YWAM and Renew World Outreach took on an even a greater role to translate *JESUS* for smaller language groups. In total during 2020, 105 new translation projects were completed. **All the glory goes to Him, and our thanks to you.** ♦

Digital Overcomes the Pandemic

Even when the pandemic went global in early 2020, we already felt the Lord leading us to pivot substantially toward digital methods—satellite television, the Jesus Film® app, on-demand streaming, online evangelism and follow-up, and tiny *NewLifeBox*™ kits that set up local Wi-Fi hot spots to view *JESUS*. With large numbers of people locked down at home, many felt lost and fearful. Tens of millions watched *JESUS* through television alone. Staff and partners

reported a significant increase in response and queries about the gospel. One partner who shows various language versions of *JESUS* around the clock on television reported a 300% increase in response! Digital strategies using smartphones and programs called “Voke” and “Next” drew thousands of young people to watch short films or enter into interactive communication about Jesus. And many film teams became “digital teams,” actively engaging



and following up seekers. During Easter 2020, 111 nations hosted broadcasts of the film, including all of Africa. ♦

“Because we have such a captive audience at home, so many people are tuning in and watching {satellite broadcasts}. What draws them more than anything is the fact that they can watch these programs, the JESUS film, in their ethnic heart language. We get confirmation all the time when we ask, ‘How did you find out about Jesus?’ And they say, ‘We saw Him on TV, and we love it because it’s in our own language.’ Someday we will see people from every nation and tribe and language gathered around the throne, worshipping our Savior and Lord, all because we partnered together and we stood in the gap for such a time as this.”

—Missionary in Southeast Asia, television broadcast coordinator

Many Partners Working as One to Fulfill the Great Commission

The film *JESUS* belongs to the church worldwide, His body. More than 1,800 ministry partners are using *JESUS*, many as their primary tool to shine light into the spiritual darkness. Twenty-nine new partnerships were just forged in Nepal. They will send the workers, trained and equipped by your partnership. Twenty-five Christmas evangelism digital teams are being sent in Asia this month. By equipping just a few teams in the unevangelized mountain nation of Bhutan, churches are reported to be “booming”

just in the last seven years. A new partnership is being formed with Assemblies of God in India.



They too will supply the workers. They are asking for hundreds of Church-Planting Backpack Sets

(\$3,240 each). Staff are holding seminars/conferences (many virtually) to train new workers. The response has been incredible, with more and more ministries and laborers ready to go, asking to be trained and equipped. They are requesting video tablets, backpack sets, *NewLifeBox* kits, microSD cards and DVDs. The Spirit of the Living God is moving. Unreached people are open and searching. For your partnership that helps send and equip ministry partners, thank you! ♦



Excellence in Giving recognizes Transparency when charities share more data than the IRS requires. Jesus Film Project® has submitted 175 data points about operations and performance for donors to review before making an informed giving decision.

2021—Looking Forward to What Our God Will Do!

“In countries with low literacy, people can’t read the Bible even if it’s been translated into their language; but all of them can understand the JESUS film, which is Scripture on a screen, God made visible ... {It} is arguably the single greatest evangelistic tool in history apart from the Word of God itself.”

—Best Selling Author Randy Alcorn
Director, Eternal Perspective Ministries

Under the guidance of the Spirit of God, we are praying that someday soon every person on earth will be able to understand the film *JESUS*, based on the Word of God, and in the language of their heart. Thus far, 495 Mission 865 languages (the largest people groups needing a translation) have been completed. When that major translation program is complete, the next 500 smaller language groups will follow. Most of these projects will be completed by trained



and equipped ministry partners. In many cases, they will supply their own film teams to utilize the completed translations. To speed their work, a new, portable trans-

lation tool is being developed that will operate on smartphones, making recording and editing possible virtually anywhere. You can fund a complete translation for a gift of \$38,000. Several language projects have encountered added costs, and await further funding. You can help complete a paused translation project for \$6,000. You can also sponsor a script translation project (the first step) for \$7,500. For however the Lord enables and leads, thank you! ♦



Join the Digital Revolution ... To Every Person, Everywhere

God has inspired a great goal: By the year 2025, reach 1 billion people in their heart language through satellite television, radio broadcasts, on-demand streaming, the Jesus Film® app, and online digital evangelism and follow-up. Even when the pandemic subsides, people will still have the internet and satellite TV. As more and more language versions of *JESUS* are completed, they will be released to the digital world. People in closed, hostile nations

are searching. Millions are done with their beliefs, some rejecting their religious leaders. Jesus has appeared to many in dreams and visions calling on them to seek Him. Behind closed doors, in the security of their homes, they will watch *JESUS*, respond and interact with online evangelists. These are indeed digital times, exciting times! You can help broadcast *JESUS* in 2021 to up to 160,200 people for a gift of \$520. Your gift of \$1,300 will broadcast the film to up

to 400,500 people. A gift of \$5,200 will support broadcasts of *JESUS*, especially at Easter or Christmas, for up to 1.6 million people. Or, you can let up to 58,000 people experience Jesus online with your gift of \$1,682. And to encourage you, a partner who believes in the power of live online streaming has issued a \$100,000 Challenge Grant, inviting you to join them and help more unreached people understand *JESUS*. Thank you. ♦

“There is a Christian bookstore in an African nation, located in a neighborhood dominated by an aggressive religion. Students reportedly come to buy Bibles at the store. But they refuse any receipt for fear their parents will find out. Knowing the concerns of the students, the bookstore owners put a NewLifeBox to work. They turn on the pocket-sized, battery-powered device just about every day. Within a few months—in this neighborhood, unseen by others—the device recorded 400 instances of people downloading JESUS, audio Bibles, and Bible apps!”

—from a field staff report

Increase Efficiency, Lower Cost, Faster Mobilization

Retailers like Amazon and Walmart discovered long ago that regional distribution centers save on costs and speed up delivery. With advances in technology and emerging electronic industries in many nations, setting up local manufacturing and regional distribution centers in strategic locations is possible. Working with local technical engineers and companies, we’ve found that compact showing equipment and

tablets can be produced, assembled and delivered locally with greater speed and in much greater numbers. Two new distribution centers will be established in 2021, one in Asia and the other in Africa. The director of this new effort said: “We anticipate that 90% of the equipment will go to partner teams, eventually thousands of sets. They are quite excited by the prospects. The distribution centers will also serve as

training sites. It’s a new day!” You can help supply a partner film team with their own backpack set for a gift of \$3,240, a video tablet set with solar panels and Bluetooth® speakers for a gift of \$570, or a powerful *NewLifeBox*™ kit (local Wi-Fi hotspot) for a gift of \$220. See below for an available Challenge Grant. Whatever you can do, thank you! ♦

To be eligible for a 2020 tax deduction, your gift must be postmarked or transferred by December 31, 2020. Transfers of property, stock and other securities or retirement (IRA) assets or an advised fund must be completed by then as well. Three Challenge Grants have been issued, \$200,000 for teams and equipment, \$60,000 for new script translations, and \$100,000 for live online streaming. Thank you!