



# MINUTES WITH MESSIAH

Volume 11, Issue 1

Web Site: <http://www.minuteswithmessiah.com>

November 2009

## SPREAD THE WORD

*The following is an unpaid advertisement. The subject of this advertisement has neither requested nor paid for this publication. In fact, they are unaware of this (although if they are doing proper internet marketing they may become aware soon after publication).*

How many New Testaments can you distribute in a year? Ten? A hundred? On your budget, none? Do you have a high-speed internet connection? You might be surprised at the true number.

Have you ever wanted to teach the gospel in a foreign language or in a foreign country, but you are lousy at languages, even your own? Fear not. You can do it. No miraculous gift or tedious study required. You don't even have to be limited in the number of languages you want to teach in.

Are you worried about the illiteracy rates around the world? How do they affect the teaching of the gospel? What good is giving someone a Bible if they can't read? Worry no more.

Now *you* (yes, you) can go "into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15) You can do it in your spare time, busy time, any time. You don't even have to have the time. You can spread the word of God in the comfort of your living room, while you work, or even when stuck in freeway traffic.

Sound too good to be true? Consider this. Over a 100 day period one person (me) provided downloads of 547 New Testaments in 19 languages to 58 countries. It works. Absolutely free. (Fine print: you must have your own high-speed internet connection, at your own cost.) The software and the Bibles are at no cost to you.

How can I get this marvel of modern ministry, you ask. It is easy. It just takes a few minutes of your time. In your internet browser just go to [www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/ambassador/free-audio-bible-download](http://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/ambassador/free-audio-bible-download) and select a Bible to download. Choose any of over 400 languages, though you might want to download one for your own listening pleasure first. Next register as an Audio Bible Ambassador ([www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/ambassador/register](http://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/ambassador/register)) and download the software to your computer. Add more languages to sponsor. Check your statistics regularly.

Faith Comes By Hearing is a non-profit corporation based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. It is the world's leading provider of audio Bibles. Other than the bias inherent in certain popular translations, no specific denominational doctrine is taught. Recipients get the New Testament in their own "heart language" to listen to it at their convenience. Faith Comes By Hearing has a goal of recording the New Testament in 2,000 languages by the year 2016. (Monetary donations are always accepted and appreciated.)

In addition to the Ambassador program, this organization also provides bibles to the military on self-contained mp3 players, called Bible Sticks. For group use in areas where electrical power is scarce or non-existent, they also provide the "Proclaimer." This is a solar/battery-powered playback device with digital sound quality to reach up to 300 people in one gathering. Other products, and even podcasts, are also available.

A philosophy of the organization is that people should hear the Bible in their "heart language." That is the language they use in everyday life. If the Bible speaks to man, it must speak in his own language. A Bible that cannot be understood in one's heart language will never reach one's heart. Not every language has a written form. Not everyone reads their language in its written form. In many parts of the world, even today, all communication is oral. It is amazing how the oral tradition affects even those in a society inundated with the written word.

*Minutes With Messiah does not normally advertise products or organizations. However, I have found this a simple yet effective way to spread the gospel in its purest form. I am proud to be an Audio Bible Ambassador, and believe that many people can help spread the good news through this means.*

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# MY GRACE IS ENOUGH

**"Where is God?" I shout a-loud. I pray, but he is not near. I've got this thorn deep  
"I'm in pain!" I cry to God. "I'm weak, and I'm full of fear. The thorn is there. It**

**in my side. I need him! And then I hear: My grace is e-nough for you. My  
has not gone. Where are you?" And then I hear:**

**fa-vor meets all your needs. My on-ly son gave his life for you, Suf-fered and bled and**

**died for you. Fol-low him where he leads.**

This song was written for the Riverside church of Christ Men's Devotional, October 2009. The topic for the evening was "Handling Adversity." Words and music © 2009 by Tim O'Hearn.

# ***JOIN THE RESISTANCE***

Physical fitness is more than just a craze these days; for some people it is a way of life. Some people are so religious about their gym memberships that they ignore their church memberships. (But that is not the point of this article.) It is easy to find spinning classes, pool aerobics, weight training, circuit training, and various forms of cardio training. Most of the programs designed to tone and sculpt the muscles rely on some form of resistance training. In order to build muscle, one must cause the muscle to react to increased resistance. This may be provided by weights, elastic bands, or in some other form. If one does not increase the resistance one cannot lose weight or build muscle.

The spiritual life is much like the physical. Without challenge, no growth occurs. And growth is desirable. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." (1 Pet 2:2) And yet, the writer of Hebrews addresses those who have not grown.

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (Heb 5:12-14)

While that nutrition is important, so is resistance training. We should have, as that writer said,

our "senses exercised to discern both good and evil." But how do we do that? There is a seeming paradox. God does not want us to succumb to temptation to sin, but without that temptation we cannot exercise our discernment. That is where the devil actually works God's plan.

Nobody likes a personal trainer, at least while they are doing their job. Some people may even consider their personal trainers for physical things to be the devil. Particularly when that individual adds pounds to the weight bar or runs the speed and angle up on the treadmill, people curse their trainers as the epitome of evil. Nevertheless, they are doing a good work. The same can be said of the devil, himself. Although the temptation itself is not to be viewed as desirable, yet it is valuable, if one uses it properly. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (Jas 4:7) If you succeed in God's resistance training, that is resisting the devil, the result is growth and strength.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. (1 Pet 5:8-10)

The devil, like the Borg, says, "Resistance is futile." God says resistance is fertile.

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