



BEARING PRECIOUS SEED

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2020/www.bpsmilford.org

BPS is a ministry of First Baptist Church in Milford, OH

Coronavirus—the name signifies sickness and death, just as sin signifies death. James 1:15 states, "...sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." A cure, a remedy, a vaccination and an answer are being sought for the killer, coronavirus. A remedy has already been found for sin, and the answer is in the person of Jesus Christ. He is salvation and is available to all who will call upon Him. However, most people are unaware that sin and death have a remedy. Why is that? It is simply because they do not have the Word of God! They have no knowledge He is available, He is sufficient, and He is the answer to sin's death sentence.

Our world has, is currently and will continue to change rapidly due this virus and its deadly effects. This makes the need for the Word of God greater than ever before, both in languages which are currently in print and also in languages which are not yet available to print. It is our desire to get the Word of God to those without it as soon as possible! We need your help. While we have the printing capacity, we still need the paper, ink, and finances necessary to accomplish this assignment. If there is one thing this crisis has shown all of us, it is that we must work together to succeed.

Just like you, I know the financial difficulties we face as individuals, churches, and ministries due to this crisis. I appreciate those who continue to stay involved, and also those who seek to get involved. I pray God will bless you and your church, and I ask you to pray for us as well. We know God has the answers—both for the lost without the Word of God and also for those who are His and have His Word. Thank you again for your continued prayers and support.

In His work together,

William Duttry, Pastor, *First Baptist Church*





STATISTICS

Statistics are all around us; we see them every day. They are on financial statements from the bank, mail from the electric company, and usage summaries from the phone company showing how much time was spent daily on the phone. Sports analytics is an in-depth study of a player's or team's statistics. As a child, I loved going to the little store in our town and paying a dime to purchase a pack of baseball cards. I always hoped the pack had cards of Cincinnati Reds players in it! I enjoyed studying each player's statistics listed on the back side of the card. It showed the player's birthday, and if he batted or threw right or left handed (or if he was a switch hitter). It then listed all of his yearly hitting or pitching statistics.

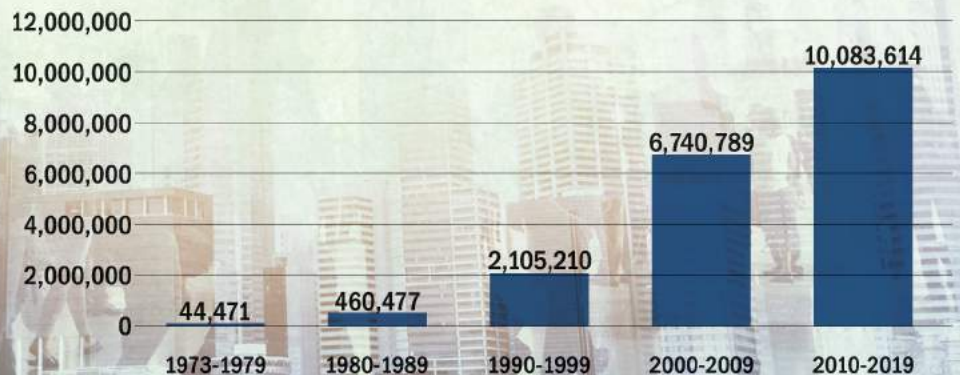
In the past two months we have been bombarded daily with statistics about the Covid-19 virus; many of them concern confirmed cases versus deaths. After a while, I can almost become numb to seeing them every day. Simply going by statistics, when you compare the number of people who have died from Covid-19 to the number of people who died from flu in 2019, Covid-19 doesn't seem as dreadful; however, the unknown with the coronavirus is what causes it to be so feared. I am in no way trying to make light of the virus and all that is going on. I believe the actions that have been and are being taken to combat it are done so in order to help flatten the curve of the virus' impact.

I do believe the world has become numb to certain statistics. Consider abortion. The number of babies dying from abortion dwarfs anything we have seen from the coronavirus. Think about the following numbers. According to one 2015 report,¹ here are the top ten countries listed by percentage of pregnancies ended in abortion: (10) China, 27.85%; (9) Bulgaria, 30.75%; (8) Hungary, 30.85%; (7) Martinique, 31.2%; (6) Estonia, 32.65%; (5) Romania, 34.5%; (4) Cuba, 38.25%; (3) Guadeloupe, 41.05%; (2) Russia, 42.3%; and (1) Greenland, 50.45%. When you look at statistics in this form, they tend to be simply numbers. However, when you consider China had 17,404,093 births in 2019,² China alone aborted 4,847,040 babies last year. The other nine countries combined to abort 952,657 babies. Worldwide, an estimated 40-50 million babies are aborted each year.³ Sometimes statistics attempt to place the focus on something that's not nearly as important as the raw numbers themselves. Think about 40-50 million babies aborted in one year. Our world needs the Word of God, and they need preachers to go and tell!

I believe the Bible is full of statistics. Think about all the numbers listed in the Bible and how they are used. Statistically feeding 5,000 people with five loaves and two fishes could not have happened, yet God provided. Statistically, it is difficult to see how the Israelites survived forty years in the wilderness, but God had a plan and provided. Statistically, it is hard to see how *Bearing Precious Seed* has been able to produce as many Scriptures as it has through the years, but God has always provided the means to print His Word. Later this year, we will pass 200,000,000 copies of Scripture produced since 1973. What a day that will be when we see what God did through the Scripture produced at BPS. Other printing ministries are accomplishing much also, and we are thankful for each of those ministries. Praise the Lord for all that is being done to get more of His Word around the World.

Al Braley, BPS Director of Operations

Yearly Average of Scriptures Produced Per Decade at BPS/Milford



Memorials have been received in memory of:

Edward C. Birck by Connie Tarter of Goshen, OH
Ben Chambliss by Hope Baptist Church of Savannah, GA
Charles O. Crowder by Shady Grove Baptist Church of Bossier City, LA
Emory Croxton by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Conrad of Manheim, PA
Eleanor Hambly by Victory Baptist Church of Panama City, FL
Guy Harvey by Arlene Harvey of Dillon, MT
Jean Henderson by Leonard and Donnie Wilson of Graniteville, SC
Kathy Jackson by Jeffrey and Phyllis Atkinson of Maineville, OH
Barbara H. Lane by Lionel A. Lane of Fallston, MD
Waner Lewis by Victory Baptist Church of Panama City, FL
Jim Moessner by Tom and Judy Moessner of Minneapolis, MN
Agnes Mosebrook by Jean C. Dawson of Gladys, VA
by Barbara Dillon of Forest, VA
by Gene & Jeanette Foster of Forest, VA

William Edward Odom, Sr. by Victory Baptist Church of Panama City, FL
Allen Pence by Jim & Melissa Roe of Seaman, OH
Ethel Peters by Ezra Daniels of Milford, OH
Joe Scott by Al & Penney Braley of Milford, OH
John Lee Selky by Victory Baptist Church of Panama City, FL
John Smith by Landmark Baptist Church of Louisville, KY
Pastor Charles Sturgill by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Conrad of Manheim, PA
Betty Younger by Liberty Baptist Church of Winston Salem, NC

& in honor of:

Mike Gilbert by Eldon & Laura Fowler



PRAISES:

- ▶ God recently blessed us with a laminator to help with the covers we produce. For years we have outsourced laminating jobs, but this equipment will allow us to laminate in-house and save quite a bit on the expense to produce laminated covers.
- ▶ In February, we printed the Thadou whole Bible for the first time.
- ▶ We praise the Lord for those who faithfully support the ministry. During this time of uncertainty, we continue to produce the Word of God and get it to those who are lost. We believe it is essential that they have the opportunity to accept Christ.
- ▶ God provided enough paper to print 40,000 Bibles and 100,000 New Testaments ahead of the coronavirus crisis.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- ▶ Safety and health of churches across the country.
- ▶ Continued production and efficiency in the shop.
- ▶ Shipments to go on as normal; the need is great!
- ▶ Support and giving to continue and increase as needed; increased number of churches and individuals partnering with us.
- ▶ *BPS El Paso* and the impact the coronavirus has had on the ministry.
- ▶ *National Bible Publishing Month* offerings to be what is needed for paper.



FIRST QUARTER SHIPPING HIGHLIGHTS:



CAPE VERDE Shipped January 7th
7,176 Portuguese whole Bibles



PHILIPPINES Shipped January 9th
19,600 Ilonggo John & Romans
18,900 English John & Romans
18,900 Mandarin/English Gospels of John
2,880 English whole Bibles
1,620 Ilonggo whole Bibles
3,640 mix of Mongolian, Nepalese, Burmese,
Kannada, Thai, & Japanese Scriptures



BOLIVIA Shipped January 13th
162,000 Spanish John & Romans
4,320 Spanish New Testaments



MEXICO Shipped March 6th
4,500 Spanish John & Romans
1,470 Spanish whole Bibles
1,440 Spanish New Testaments



KENYA Shipped March 11th
18,000 English John & Romans
18,000 Swahili John & Romans



HONDURAS Shipped March 16th
1,680 Spanish whole Bibles
1,440 Spanish New Testaments



LIBERIA Shipped March 16th
36,000 English John & Romans
18,000 French John & Romans
7,584 English New Testaments
5,280 English whole Bibles
960 French whole Bibles



BULGARIA Shipped March 24th
318,760 Bulgarian John & Romans
9,900 French John & Romans



MONGOLIA Shipped April 20th
184,500 Mongolian Gospels of Mark



UNITED STATES

These Scriptures were shipped by truckload to multiple other ministries in the US for worldwide distribution

294,000 English John & Romans
242,000 Portuguese John & Romans
198,000 Spanish John & Romans
44,000 Russian John & Romans
29,700 Cebuano John & Romans
18,000 Thai John & Romans
9,000 French Creole John & Romans
3,600 French John & Romans





BEARING PRECIOUS SEED **SEEDLINE**

It's strange right now NOT to be in a truck with a trailer load of Scripture headed somewhere across our country to a local church that is anxiously waiting its arrival. It's strange not being in a church where people are anticipating coming together to assemble the Word of God, where people have cleared their busy

schedules, even taken time off work to be there with their church family. There's no rattling of the staplers; no rustling of Scripture portions; no kids running around taking Scripture from one station to the next, and no chopping sound of the trimmer. There is no chatter of God's people as they fellowship, laboring together to get portions of the Bible to those that desperately need salvation and to read in their own language about a Saviour. It's strange not hearing shouts of joy for a completed amount of Scriptures, knowing that many people will receive a copy. It's strange not seeing the tears of God's people because they know there are still so many lost souls who don't know the Truth.

I have a feeling that we are not alone in this thought process. We are excited to see what God is doing in peoples' hearts through this time of quarantine we are in. I know what He has done in mine. I am definitely more appreciative of the time and opportunities to serve Him and of the opportunities we have to assemble as local churches. In the time we are living in now, the word "essential" is being used a lot. The word essential means "something that is absolutely necessary." Wow! Is there anything more essential than the Word of God, whether we are in a pandemic or not? John 6:68 says, "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."

We look forward to seeing many of you soon who partner with us! I believe the time of fellowship and laboring will be sweeter than it ever has been in the past! If your church has never been involved in a *Seedline* project, would you consider being involved? I believe you would see the fruit of it in your church, especially after times like this when people are strongly desiring fellowship.

If you would like to schedule a *Seedline* project at your church or to get more information about it, please contact me at 513-575-1706 or by email at chad.robinson@bpsmilford.org

Chad Robinson, *Seedline* Director





FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Bearing Precious Seed

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www.bpsmilford.org



Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 65

Milford, OH

PERSONALIZED SCRIPTURES AVAILABLE

We can personalize John & Romans and New Testament covers for your individual church needs. Church or ministry information can be placed in a predesigned cover, or we can custom design a cover to fit your outreach needs.

For more information, contact Vickie Money
at (513) 575-1706 Ext. 710 or vmoney@bpsmilford.org.



SOULWINNING



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