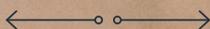

TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING TO TAKE
JESUS CHRIST
TO THE WORLD?



DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



THRU the BIBLE

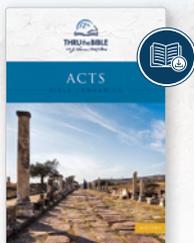


WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD



THE FIFTH GOSPEL

Dr. J. Vernon McGee



This article is an excerpt from the **Acts Bible Companion**.
Download the full digital booklet [here](#).

The book of Acts, sometimes called the fifth Gospel, is a continuation of the four Gospels. Matthew concludes with the Resurrection, Mark with the Ascension, Luke with the promise of the Holy Spirit, and John with the promise of the Second Coming—all of these funnel down into the first chapter of Acts. And as all four do, Acts confirms the great missionary call, "Take this good news to the world!"

Acts builds a bridge between the Gospels and the Epistles. Just imagine, Dr. Luke, the author of Acts, likely got together with Peter and Paul many times and shared many wonderful talks about how God was at work in their separate mission fields. Read Acts and their letters together and you get a picture of early church history, along with the personal relationships and struggles that each of the letters address.

One verse summarizes Acts, a promise from Jesus Himself as He returns to heaven: *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Acts records tremendous growth of the church in those first generations. By the end of the first century alone, millions followed the Lord Jesus Christ. Dr. Luke mentions 110 people by name, in addition to multitudes and crowds.

What was it that got everyone's attention? Jesus' resurrection—the center of all gospel preaching. In the early church the resurrection of Jesus Christ was the heart of the message, and no sermon was preached without it. In the early church, "He is risen!" was proclaimed everywhere; every day was a day to proclaim the Resurrection, not just on Easter.

But the book isn't complete! The narrative of the church is a continuing story. Perhaps Dr. Luke is today in glory writing the next chapters?! Perhaps he is recording what we do for Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Although the Lord left the earth, He only has just moved His headquarters to the right hand of the Father. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit (John 1:33; 7:37-39; 14:16-17; 20:22; and Acts 1:8) to be the great power of this age and He did. Right now His Spirit lives in us, His believers.

*His Spirit lives in us,
His believers.*

DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

Our commission now is to be His witness. We should make Him the center of attraction. This directive is not only to the church as a body but it is also a very personal command to each believer—personally, privately. Our business is to get the Word of God out to the world. The Lord wants people to be saved. This is our part in His great commission.

In order to get this gospel out, we need power. Jesus promises to be with us through His Spirit and move through us personally, and through His church and through every ministry. Our only choice is whether we permit Him to be powerful.

Jesus said we are to take our testimony, our witness of Him, to the end of the earth. This global reach is His idea. What are you doing to take Jesus Christ to the world?

MY TURN

In order to “take the whole Word to the whole world,” the book of Acts teaches us that we need God’s power. God promises to be with us through His Spirit and move through us personally, through His church, and through every ministry. Dr. McGee reminds us “our only choice is whether we permit Him to be powerful.”

- 1 **Would you like to be used by God to take the gospel to the ends of the earth? If yes, ask Him now to fill you with His Spirit and give you the power.**
- 2 **Dr. McGee whimsically suggested that perhaps Luke is writing the continuing story of Acts today in heaven, including what’s happening in our generation. How would you like your story to be written?**



PRAY FOR A NEW PROGRAM FOR HAITI

It's hard to believe it's been 12 years since the world's attention turned to the island nation of Haiti following the devastating 7.0 magnitude temblor that struck on the afternoon of January 12, 2010 and killed over 200,000 people. It was just one more disaster in a country that has suffered from decades of political, economic, and social setbacks and inequalities. Insecurity due to gang fights makes life here impossible.

Haiti needs Jesus.

"The most important objective in bringing Thru the Bible to Haiti is to hold out hope in the midst of despair and abandonment," says Annabel Torrealba, our TWR regional partner. "Thru the Bible's broadcasts on 4VEH are bringing life to the lost and spiritual strength to the believers. Certainly, in the country 40% of the population speaks French, but the heart language of the people is Creole. 99.9% of the inhabitants speak Creole. **During difficult times, hearing hope in the language of your heart is key, it brings comfort and peace.**"



I thank my God

UPON EVERY REMEMBRANCE OF YOU, ALWAYS IN EVERY PRAYER OF MINE MAKING REQUEST FOR YOU ALL WITH JOY,

for your fellowship in the gospel

FROM THE FIRST DAY UNTIL NOW,

being confident of this very thing,

THAT HE WHO HAS BEGUN A GOOD WORK IN YOU WILL

complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6

Please pray for the completion of THRU the BIBLE in Creole. It's been a long and difficult process impacted by setbacks and hurdles. Currently only one translator, Samuel, has been working on the project—translating, recording, and editing new programs while we continue to air those already completed by the longtime "voice of McGee" in Creole, Storly Michel. Pray for Samuel to have the strength, wisdom, and grace to complete his important work.



Haiti needs THRU the BIBLE.

Even though Haiti enjoys the freedom of religion, many still incorporate practices of voodoo and a form of West African witchcraft into their faith practices. Haitians need to be taught the Bible. Since over half the population cannot read, the radio is a primary source of communication across the island nation. Local believers are thrilled by what they currently are studying with THRU the BIBLE and beg for more. Pray with them that God's will be done in the timing and release of the TTB-Creole program.

**In spite of many harsh realities, God is at work across Haiti.
Pray as we play a part in bringing them THRU the BIBLE.**

THE REMEDY FOR A MESSY WORLD

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. —Psalm 19:7-8

We live in a messy world. So, what do we do when we're scared or overwhelmed? A listener in Ethiopia encourages us to dig deep into God's Word. Here's his story:

"I live in the northern part of the country where the situation is unstable. Your program brings me comfort. The Word of God is my hope, my protector, and my provider. Through it I am revived, made wise, and my heart rejoices. When I am afraid, I praise God and worship Him. Please pray God will continue to strengthen me and I will remain faithful in my fear."

That's great advice. Today as we pray for those in Ethiopia to be strengthened and uplifted by God's Word heard on THRU the BIBLE, pray for all those who study the Bible with us. When we are discouraged and afraid, may His timeless truth speak to our hearts, calm our minds, and fill us with the hope He offers us as His beloved.

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we travel the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. Join us in covering the entire earth with prayer every year.

GO TO [TTB.ORG/PRAY](https://ttb.org/pray) TO SIGN UP.

J E S U S I N

Ruth

WITH DR. J. VERNON MCGEE

BECAUSE HE LOVED US

The romance of Ruth and Boaz is one of the most beautiful stories in the Bible.

It's a real romance—complete with an honorable warrior who fights for the hand of a beautiful woman from Moab who has humbled herself to care for her poverty-stricken mother-in-law. **Boaz moves heaven and earth to get the right to marry Ruth—and in their story we see a picture of Jesus' love for us and the provision He makes as our Kinsman-Redeemer.**

That kinsman-redeemer (in Hebrew, *goel*) is a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is our Kinsman-Redeemer who pays a price so that the one who is redeemed may get off scot free. The only biblical example of a kinsman-redeemer is Boaz. **It reveals the love side of redemption.** Boaz doesn't have to act in that capacity; there was another who was actually a nearer relative to Ruth than Boaz, but he didn't care about her. But Boaz loved her. I think he looked like a dying calf in a thunderstorm. That made all the difference.

Now God didn't have to redeem us. We were lost sinners. If He did not redeem us, He could still be a just and holy God. But He loved us. You see, salvation by redemption is a love story. And now we have it told here in simple language illustrated by this little foreign girl from Moab and Boaz in the land of Israel.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Download the [Ruth Bible Companion](#) here.



THRU the BIBLE

A WORD FROM GREGG HARRIS

Being Faithful

We love your letters. We even love your questions.

Recently, Jim, long time on the Bible Bus, asked, “How do you know?” He’s asking how to quantify THRU the BIBLE’s effectiveness. How do you know how many countries, how many listeners, what’s the progress, etc.? What’s the best way to inspire and motivate everyone to pray and to give to this mission?

All great questions, Jim. Thanks.

This issue speaks to our core values and bottom line, the measure of success for THRU the BIBLE is our faithfulness and diligence in getting the Word of God out as far and wide as possible. It’s a different way of looking at progress, I know.

We do look carefully at what we hear from the various regions. We care about the stewardship of what God entrusts to us and invest only in what we feel are the best options. But if we only went to the high response areas, we wouldn’t be in the hard parts of the world, or where the Word of God may be more needed.

Often we just need to wait and be faithful to what the Lord has for us. He will open the doors—we’ve never lacked for opportunities. Not all of them are perfect fits. Not all of them are for right now. We listen and we watch and wait and stand ready to act.

That’s a good word for all of us, isn’t it?
Let’s pray for each other in this important issue.

Grateful for your partnership,

Gregg Harris
THRU the BIBLE, President

WHY STUDY RUTH?

Join in the studies on THRU the BIBLE JUNE 28—JULY 6 or anytime online, by podcast, or by mobile app.

The book of Ruth takes place in hard times—as most good love stories do—but the hard times are overshadowed by the kindness of God, who showers favor over those who trust Him.

“Redemption is the love story of a kinsman who did not count the cost nor figure up the profit and loss, but for joy paid an exorbitant price for the one that he loved.” –Dr. J. Vernon McGee

Ruth’s story, told in four scenes, was read annually as part of Pentecost celebrations ... generation after generation. After all, it’s the backstory to King David’s family and explains the beginning of Jesus’ Messianic line.

KEY VERSE

But Ruth said: “Entreat me not to leave you, or to turn back from following after you; for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.” –Ruth 1:16

JESUS’ FAMILY TREE:

RUTH, a Moabite and a descendent from Lot’s family line
BOAZ, son of Rahab the harlot who was used by God to rescue the spies in Jericho

GOD LOVES THE WORLD SO MUCH ...

- He **restores bitter souls** and **redeems broken lives**.
- He **lifts up the humble** and **draws near to the crushed in spirit**.
- His **faithful kindness satisfies us** and **shows us how to make our lives meaningful**.

IN THE BOOK OF RUTH, GET A GLIMPSE OF HIS LOVE FOR YOU:

The book of Ruth pictures God’s romantic heart.
He is a provider in hard times and a redeemer who loves you so much that He can’t take His eyes off you.

ON THE ROAD

Greetings FROM THE BIBLE BUS

Jamal's story came to us via our TTB-Arabic audio ministry streamed on **twr**'s Arabic digital platforms:

“I'm a carpenter and one day while I was repairing furniture in someone's home, I came across a small book titled 'Luke.' I asked the person who had recruited me for the job about it and he answered carelessly that 'some infidels gave it to me while I was traveling back home.'

“Something triggered in my heart, but I didn't give it much thought. A week later while I was sitting and browsing through my phone, **I was strangely reminded of the book that I saw in that house. So I started browsing the internet for the Bible and Christianity.** I then came across a radio stream called 'TWR Arabic' and started listening. A program called 'Thru the Bible' caught my ears, and so I started focusing on it. Because it was mentioning some unique teachings on a religion I knew little about, I noted the time and day in order to listen again. After two months of regular listening, I decided to call the number that is mentioned at the end of the program.



“I called after each episode to ask about the Bible teaching and about Jesus Christ. Of course, at the beginning I mentioned what I had been taught through my inherited religion, that the Bible is corrupt and was misinterpreted. **I asked them to explain why they call it the Word of God.**

“Because of your thorough explanation through the program, your sincere follow up, your patience with my questions and doubts, along with what God is doing in my heart, I feel and believe there is no more room for doubt and ill-faith in Jesus. **I want to declare that Jesus is Lord and I want to ask Him to cleanse me from my bad history full of sins.** And if I ever doubted Jesus in the past, I regret that from the bottom of my heart. **I want to follow Christ and see Him work in my life!**”



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