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# news release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Persevering despite persecution

## Christians under attack around the globe find support from Bible League International®

**CRETE, Ill., Jan. 17, 2011** – The New Year has brought news of multiple attacks against Christians around the world – Nigeria, Pakistan, Iran, India – many timed to strike when Christian worshippers were vulnerable because of their gatherings to celebrate Christmas.

One organization, Bible League International®, whose vision is to see lives transformed by the Word of God, has staff, volunteers and Bible training participants in many of these countries and seeks to ensure that those who want to be introduced to the Christian faith may do so, despite whatever threats they may face.

In Nigeria, for example, Bible League has seven local offices, some near the northern regions where religious extremists seem to be targeting Christians. The staff and volunteers in Nigeria stand with the Christians there, providing materials and encouragement to enable them to continue to boldly share their faith, participate in Bible studies and even start new churches.

In China and India, Bible League reports, pastors are imprisoned and churches are burned to the ground. In the Muslim world, Christian worship takes place behind a veil of secrecy and fear.

“Faced with such obstacles, it would be easy for Christians in those nations to lose heart,” said Bible League CEO Robert T. Frank. “Yet their churches are flourishing, in part because we provide them with the Bibles and training needed to capture the hearts of new believers.”

In India, a Bible League volunteer has become a substitute brother to a recent convert whose own family has rejected him because of his newfound faith. KM\* admits he had a miserable life before as a drug addict and school drop-out.

“A Jesus follower came up to me one day and asked if I’d like to study a booklet with him,” KM continues. “I liked what we were reading together. As I studied the Bible, I

learned about sin, and came to realize that I'm a sinner. On May 18, 2010, I professed that I believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. I'm happy He came into my life that day."

However, as a result of his decision to follow Christ, KM said his family now persecutes him for believing in Jesus, rather than appreciating the positive transformation in his life. "Please pray for me," he asks, which Bible League gladly does.

While many Americans understand the persecution Christians face in India, Asia and the Middle East, they are often surprised to learn that it also exists in Europe. In Moldova, threats from family members keep new believers from being baptized. One girl who is handicapped was even beaten by her parents when she accepted Christ.

"Bible League workers in many parts of eastern Europe are seeing this kind of persecution grow as the world becomes increasingly hostile to Christianity," Frank said. "We are more committed than ever to leading Bible studies, training workers, planting churches and sharing the Word of God so that these individuals can know they are loved unconditionally despite the hardships they face here on the earth."

Bible League International is a non-profit evangelical Christian ministry dedicated to making disciples and training Bible study leaders and church planters using the Word of God. Since its founding in 1938, Bible League has placed millions of Bibles in the hands of people in more than 80 countries. Its goals are that every person who wants a Bible can have one, every neighborhood has a vibrant Bible study group and every community has a thriving church grounded in God's Word. More information is available at [www.BibleLeague.org](http://www.BibleLeague.org).

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**Note to Editors: To arrange an interview with Robert T. Frank, please contact Melany Ethridge or Steve Yount at 972.267.1111, [melany@alarryross.com](mailto:melany@alarryross.com) or [steve@alarryross.com](mailto:steve@alarryross.com).**

\* Name shielded to protect his identity.