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news release

4300 Marsh Ridge Road • Suite 114 • Carrollton, TX 75010
972.267.1111 • 972.267.3535 (fax) • www.alarryross.com

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:

[A. Larry Ross Communications](#)

Melany Ethridge 972.267.1111

melany@alarryross.com

Steve Yount 972.267.1111

steve@alarryross.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Political unrest in Egypt, Middle East, North Africa provide opportunities for Gospel

Bible League International® encourages involvement

CRETE, Ill., Feb. 1, 2011 – Bible League International®, with many volunteers and staff based in regions undergoing political unrest and religious tensions, encourages the Christian community to see this time as pivotal for the growth of Christianity in these areas.

Citing recent developments in Tunisia, Egypt and Sudan, among others, a Bible League representative in the Middle East said the time is ripe to act now to get the Gospel into these countries, which historically have not been pro-Christian nations.

“The changes occurring in the Middle East and North Africa at this time are giving the Christian Church an opportunity that it has not had in some time,” said the representative, whose name must be protected for security reasons. “These developments all point to a historic moment, perhaps a *kairos* (or pivotal) moment, when the believers need to stand up and be counted.”

He listed specific instances which have affected the religious status quo as well as the political throughout the region:

- violent protests in Egypt – particularly in Cairo, Suez, Alexandria and Luxor;
- a revolution in Tunisia which resulted in the president fleeing the country;
- a Cabinet reshuffle in Morocco, which is forcing Christians to live out their faith under threat of anti-proselytization laws and the expulsion of many ex-patriates;
- suppression in Mauritania, including the martyrdom of an American missionary a year ago, and more recently the publication of the names and addresses of Christians in the newspaper and on the Internet;
- changes in the air in Algeria, including two Christian churches' planned broadcasting of their Sunday services on the 18th and 19th of February throughout the country;
- unrest in Yemen;

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- a referendum in Sudan which seeks to make the separation between the north and south permanent;
- the dissolving of the coalition in Lebanon which resulted in the formation of a new government, and ongoing protests in Lebanon and Jordan.

Bible League asks that U.S. Christians pray for believers in these regions, that their faith will remain strong as they have unprecedented opportunities to share the love of Christ with those who are being affected by the political unrest. Bible League continues to work diligently to provide Bibles and training for these Christians during this time of upheaval.

Bible League International is a non-profit evangelical Christian ministry currently working in more than 55 countries, 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.

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Note to Editors: To arrange an interview with Bible League representatives, please contact Melany Ethridge or Steve Yount at 972.267.1111, melany@alarryross.com or steve@alarryross.com.