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news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Regional Thrift Centers Provide Discounted Christmas Shopping for a Good Cause

Bibles for Missions Thrift Centers benefit those needing Bibles

CRETE, Ill., Nov. 28, 2011 – [Bibles for Missions Thrift Centers](#), a gem of a thrift center with locations throughout the Midwest, provide a way for consumers to give back to others in need while making great purchases on some excellent Christmas gifts.

Although the thrift centers are a separate entity from Chicago-based [Bible League International](#)® (BLI), its funds support BLI, which provides Bibles, discipleship training and church planting world-wide. After each thrift center pays its expenses – staff members are all volunteers – all proceeds are donated to Bible League, with each center designating those funds for a specific country it has “adopted.”

With 13 locations – including one in the metro-Chicago area – Bibles for Missions Thrift Centers serve Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana and Tennessee. Specific locations can be found online at www.biblesformissions.org.

In addition to physical locations, one Bibles for Missions Thrift Center has begun selling one-of-a-kind items and books online. This has proved very successful and more centers hope to offer online sales after the new year.

“Our thrift centers are gearing up for our busiest season,” said Connie Reitsma, BLI’s liaison with the centers. “With the economy continuing to struggle, we know there are lots of families looking for ways to stretch their Christmas budgets.

“Many also want to be able to give to others during the holidays, and this provides a great way for them to do that while shopping for their own families” Reitsma continued. “Customers know they are also giving the greatest gift, God’s Word, through their thrift center purchases.”

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Bibles for Missions Thrift Centers are lauded for being unique among thrift stores, in both customer service and quality of merchandise. Their level of service is attributed to committed and dedicated volunteers who make sure the centers are well-organized, friendly environments. Those who donate to the centers are often just as dedicated as the volunteer staff to fulfilling the mission of Bible League: “To provide Scriptures and training worldwide, so that people prepared by the Holy Spirit will be brought into fellowship with Christ and His Church.”

Some of the recent customer comments about the centers include:

- “I found the best place in town to shop right here in my own community.”
- “I enjoy looking for that unique or unusual item.”
- “There’s always a variety of good used items and the prices are just right for any family’s budget.”
- “We’ve made the Bibles for Missions Thrift Center a regular stop in our weekly schedule. The inventory is always changing and the store is organized so well. Thanks for the service and for providing a valuable benefit to our community during our current economic challenges.”

Each Bibles for Missions Thrift Center focuses on raising funds to send Bibles and discipleship materials to individuals in need in specific countries. People in most of these nations have little access to Bibles and could not afford one even if they could find it. These places include Mexico, Columbia, Ecuador, Haiti, Kenya, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine, China and the Philippines.

Bible League International is a non-profit evangelical Christian ministry that provides Scriptures, Scripture-related materials and training so that people will be brought into relationship with Christ and the Christian Church. Since its founding in 1938, Bible League has placed millions of Bibles in the hands of people in more than 80 countries. Through its ministry, World Bible Translation Center, Bible League plans to translate Bibles and Bible study materials into 100 of the world’s most commonly-spoken languages. Working with local churches and Christian organizations, the ministry desires that people everywhere have the opportunity to engage with Scriptures they can read and understand – especially in regions affected by poverty and religious persecution. More information is available online at www.alrcnewskitchen.com/bli.

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Note to Editors: To arrange an interview with a Bibles for Missions spokesperson, please contact Melany Ethridge or Steve Yount at 972.267.1111, melany@alarryross.com or steve@alarryross.com.