

## Manna Publications (UK)

Mini Bible commentaries in easy English & French for translating & printing overseas

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### Manna Matters

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Author: Fred Morris (USA)

[www.manna-publications.org.uk](http://www.manna-publications.org.uk)

***“ If only I may finish the race and complete the task  
the Lord Jesus has given to me” Acts 20:24***

These words of Paul were spoken as he was leaving Ephesus for Jerusalem. Whatever years were left to him he wanted to complete the task. Later, when writing to Timothy, he said “I have finished the race, I have kept the truth” (2 Timothy 4:7).

Finishing the race and completing the task suggest **perseverance**, persistent effort and the mindset that will not easily quit. Students need it before exams. Workers need it when the days are long. Senior citizens need it when their life’s mission is threatened by health issues before their time. Persecuted believers need it.

Perseverance is also needed in a ministry like Manna Publications. Those of you who pray and those who give have enabled us to publish over 300,000 books in 11 years. Your perseverance has sustained the Ministry. The work of editing, email correspondence with our friends overseas and balancing the accounts – all require perseverance.

This year, at our 11th Annual Meeting on 6th November in Kettering we will announce some changes to our administration team. Gradually over the next six months I will be passing my duties over to others. The work must go on. Meanwhile God has given me another task to complete. I share more about this on the back page.

But It is our helpers overseas who most need our prayer for perseverance in the race as they face all kinds of difficulties which sometimes can be overwhelming. We thank God for men like David Mifang in Cameroon who endured the heat of the day while taking 1000 Manna books 500 miles to the northern border of Cameroon into Chad (see over). These men are not employed by us. They simply get on with the task God has given them to do. We commend our many overseas workers to you for prayer.

May you be given perseverance whatever your task, role or status. May you fulfil the tasks however simple or demanding that God has given you to do.

*Peter Skinner*





### Perseverance for a new start-up in CHAD

Manna publisher in Cameroon, **David Mifang**, has printed 1000 French books in Bamenda and delivered them over the border into Chad 500 miles away. That took perseverance. **Pierre Voundina** writes: "David arrived this morning. I went to meet him at Kousséri, the Cameroon border town. He arrived with fewer problems than expected. We went to a local church in nearby N'Djamena, the capital and largest city in Chad, where several bought the booklets. We are happy and thank you. We have already talked a lot with David and I am pleased about that. David is by me and greets you." Pierre is a new contact through Manna France administrator, Wendy Hourriez who is delighted that donations to Publications Manne (France) have come in to pay for her first overseas publishing project.

### Joy in NIGERIA, as David Mifang's books cross yet another border!

"Your coming here," writes **Ma Grace Nyhbuin**, "was God sent. This day I share with you that the greatest joy came in my life when I received Christ as Lord and Saviour. My husband and I lived here for many years. All the

children I gave birth to died as a result of witchcraft and wicked traditions and customs here. Living this way was full of darkness and pain till the death of my husband when I decided to leave my village and go to another one. I now find fulfilment in life and I know that if I die now I will go and be with the Lord for eternity, my greatest hope. "

### Perseverance in ZIMBABWE

**Celia & John Valentine** have persevered for many years at Ameva farm. They are grateful for Manna books: "We are using them a lot in Chegutu in the group Bible studies & some have been bought for individual studies. I hope to have printed quite a few for our Pastor's conference in April next year. They are a real blessing as the simple English & questions encourages everybody to join in.

### Perseverance in D.R. CONGO

**Umba Kazadi** is persevering in promoting Manna Books. He travelled with brother Kalala to Kongolo city far from the provincial capital of Lubumbashi, where they attended an interdenominational Bible Teaching Conference. "It was a good time of sharing the word of God with many people and an opportunity to sell Manna books. One of our booksellers in Kongolo sold out our last book of one title. However Genesis parts 3 & 4 in Kisongye & French and Acts part 2 in Kiluba & French remained in his stock.

"We were encouraged to see how many people were daring to buy copies. So we have collected money from these sales [to print more books]. Thanks for additional funds sent by Bill Russell for printing Exodus part 1.

"In mid-December we will be in Mulongo for the Christmas Convention

(Bible teachings about Christmas). This journey will be hard because it will be a period of great rain which will destroy roads. Christian love to you all.”

### **Perseverance in ETHIOPIA**

**Bill Potts (Liverpool)**, a new volunteer administrator has been learning from Peter Skinner, how to correspond with our brothers in Ethiopia. First, Genesis part 2, “Abraham” in Amharic was ready for printing. **Zenebe Grebrehana** accepted payment for 500 books from Manna UK and, from his own sales fund, doubled the print run to 1000 books for use in his bookshop in Addis Ababa. We then tried to make contact with a new distributor recommended by Zenebe, **Birihanu Tirsama**, who has his own small book shop and visits schools.

Recently, an email to **Zemen Endale** of Voice of Truth Radio brought about the recovery of a lost Manna manuscript of Acts 1–12 in the Oromo language. This has now been checked by Zemen and Jim Norman (Bedford) is preparing it in book form for printing. Zemen informs us that his translation team has increased and asked whether we would be interested in translating our books into Somali and Tigree (for Ethiopia and Eritrea), both Muslim-dominated language groups. Pray for Birihanu to handle the distribution.

### **Perseverance in PAKISTAN**

**Naeem and Ruby Johns** tell us: “Last month Ruby and I were speakers at a family life camp and took all the Manna Books with us. Before one of my sessions, I introduced Manna to the participants and we sold more than 150 Manna books. My team have sold more than 1000 copies of UK and USA Manna books in Urdu and Sindhi this year.

Manna distributor **Shahbaz Jalal**

writes “Manna work has always been one of my top priorities because I have seen the impact. I have a separate team who never cease work and wherever I go, I share Manna books [even] during our flood relief campaigns.”

Shahbaz is planning to visit Peter’s church again 1– 8<sup>th</sup> December and will be available to speak at your church. He has a wonderful testimony. Contact Peter for further details.

### **Perseverance in INDIA**

**Satish Babu** has been sick recently but says he is getting better and will be strong within a week.

During the year Satish has published over 8000 UK edited books, mainly in Telugu. Manna UK paid around 50% of printing costs while Satish has ploughed back sales money for the other 50%.



**Satish Babu**

### **Perseverance in BURMA**

Ruth and her friend have recently returned and have a copy of Manna Book Acts for translation. Ann and her husband have flown over flooded areas and are in Kalaymyo and need prayer.

**Rev Elijah** (Kalaymyo) sent us a photo of Falam Chin readers having an examination based on the Manna Mark’s Gospel after seven weeks of study. This is the first time as far as we know that this has been done with a Manna Book. What especially thrilled the Pastor was the way the Holy Spirit worked in two sisters as they studied. Also when Mr Van Thwang read Mark 9:42–50 and the words “Put all sin out of your life” he changed from being a short tempered and often drunken man into a good husband and father.

**SERBIA: Ivica Bozer (Ivan)** and family offered kind hospitality to Peter Skinner at his home in Temerin in early September. He invited him to introduce Manna to Trans World Radio listeners by using his recording studio adjacent to his house. This will be translated and beamed out in Serbian in January 2012. Pray that requests for our Serbian books will result. Ivan is currently working on the translation of the second book. He has approached people to distribute Serbian Manna Books but with no response. Please pray for the right person. Books will be sent to neighbouring Montenegro and Bosnia.

**Personal news:** Prayer partners who have requested Manna Prayer Letters are aware of the plans of Peter Skinner and Kevin Dexter to visit Burma in December. The trip has been postponed. Gin, the main organiser of this ministry visit, apologised and said that he had to give priority to his University studies and could no longer accompany Peter and Kevin at this time. Meanwhile, Peter has written his first Bible Commentary in easy English in similar style to Fred Morris and is setting up a new publishing house under the imprint of **Quail Books** to make these available worldwide. Peter would like to hear from any who wish to express their support for this new venture. A copy of his new 28-page book, useful for local Bible study, will be sent on request.

**PRAISE: In year 11 God has enabled us to print 33,650 books in 19 languages and in 15 countries. That's over 300,000 books in total.**

**PRAYER topics:**

1. Chad: **Pierre Voundina:** newest country; newest ministry
2. Cameroon: **David Mifang** and team reaching into Nigeria
3. Zimbabwe: **Celia & John Valentine:** growing Bible study groups
4. D.R. Congo: **Umba Kazadi:** working in remote villages in 3 languages
5. Burma: **Ruth** in Yangon; **Ann** in Kalaymyo with **Rev. Elijah's** ministry.
6. Pakistan: **Naeem & Ruby John and Shahbaz Jalal:** Urdu/Saraiki languages
7. Ethiopia: **Zenebe, Birihanu, Zemen:** distribution; funding of new languages
8. India: **Satish Babu:** full recovery from sickness; Tamil next language?
9. Serbia: **Ivan Bozer:** translation and need of distributors; radio ministry
10. **Quail Books:** for a good start to Peter's new publishing venture

**Manna Publications (UK). Email: [mannabooks@talktalk.net](mailto:mannabooks@talktalk.net)**

**Affiliated to: International Mission Project, Leeds**

We edit the low-cost mini Bible commentaries of Fred Morris into Easy English and French, then send electronic copies to believers in developing countries to start printing and distributing their own Christian literature. Typically, £1 donated in the UK pays for printing five 40-page books overseas; £50 pays for translation of one title into a local language. **Gifts** should be made payable to Manna Publications and sent to Bill Russell, Stoneycroft, Blacksmith Lane, Boothby Graffoe, Lincoln LN5 0LQ (tel 01522 810438). If you are a **UK income tax payer** and wish us to reclaim the tax on your gift, then please make cheques payable to International Mission Project (Reg. charity 1017386). Manna Publications (founded Oct. 2000) is a non-profit making organisation and is staffed by unpaid volunteers; part of Manna Publications (USA).

**UK Director: Peter Skinner, 4 Sealey Close, Willington, Derby DE65 6EP**

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