

THE ANDROID APP IS...

turn to page 2

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO MAGNIFYING THE "For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."

WORD OF GOD Psalm 138:2

BLUE LETTER BIBLE MAGNIFYING GOD'S WORD

WINTER | 2015



BIBLE



grow your faith while growing your garden



A Love for God's Word and a Zeal for Gardening Brings Forth a Rich Harvest!

Shelley Cramm's extraordinary journey began when she read Jesus' words, "I am the vine, and my Father is the gardener" (John 15:1-10 NIV) and learned about their close connection to tending and keeping grapevines. God providentially sparked a desire within her to begin digging for every biblical theme that related to gardening-cultivating, sowing, pruning, and reaping-as well as the intimate horticulture detail in the mention of Bible plants. She soon discovered how much the Christian walk of faith mirrors the practical life of a gardener. Years of prayer and diligent study using Blue Letter Bible led to the publication of the 52-week devotional. NIV God's Word for Gardeners Bible. available at GardenInDelight.com.

While visiting our office and sharing her testimony, Shelley told us this was a work of grace:



"A nobody like myself could only produce such a work by God's design."

During our visit, Shelley explained that gardening with the right tools makes all the difference. Likewise, the BLB lexicon and the word and verse search tools were essential in correlating the metaphors and allegories for her devotional illustrations. And behind the scenes, God provided dozens of prayer partners who nurtured her work like fresh rain.

Continued on page 2





NEW SERMONS FROM 94-YEAR-OLD PASTOR ELICIT HUGE RESPONSE



INTERNATIONAL PASTORAL TRAINER DISCUSSES THE BENEFITS OF BLB ...HERE!

The long-awaited Blue Letter Bible Android app is now available at the Google Play Store. Developed to facilitate an in-depth study of God's Word, this free app makes it possible for you to easily access BLB's powerful Bible study tools on your Android mobile device. Note-taking and daily reading plans will be added soon.

Please share this exciting news with your friends today!

Choose from Many Bibles:

- Bibles available for download: 12
- Bibles available online: 7

Use Advanced Study Tools:

- Greek & Hebrew tools
 Version comparison
- Cross-references
- Text commentaries
- Bible dictionaries
 Parallel version reading
- Advanced Bible and word search

Personalize Your Study Experience

- Custom collection of favorite verses
- Custom highlight colors and labels
- Personal study history

NOW AVAILABLE: BLB ON ANDROID







A Love for God's Word and a Zeal for Gardening Brings Forth a Rich Harvest!

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

We can only stand in awe at God's divine intervention in the lives of His people. He planted a seed of thought in Shelley's mind, and she was eager to grow in her faith.

"Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." Matthew 13:8 NIV

Shelley hopes to see this devotional Bible on the shelves of every gardening center, nursery, and garden club so that it can awaken a delight for God's Word among gardeners. We are humbled and honored that God allowed Blue Letter Bible to be an essential part of this endeavor. Only He knows how many countless thousands of people will deepen their faith through reading this devotional Bible. May the harvest increase a hundred fold! To God be the glory.





New Content from Pastor Richard A. Bennett

Two books authored by Pastor Richard A. Bennett, entitled *Your Quest for God* and *Food for Faith*, have been added to Blue Letter Bible in our text commentaries. *Your Quest for God*, first published in 1983, has been translated into more than 60 languages. *Food for Faith* continues to be popular as a major resource for discipleship in dozens of countries.

Richard Bennett, a native-born Brit, married his wife Dorothy in 1958 before pastoring at Duke Street Baptist Church (London, England) and later at Calvary Baptist Church (New York City). He holds a Doctor of Divinity degree and, alongside Dorothy, has shared nearly 40 years in radio broadcasting, including Trans World Radio and Far East Broadcasting Company. God has used the Bennetts to reach many countries with the Gospel, and continues to do so today through their world-wide outreach, Cross Currents International Ministries.

Now you can read and share both books for free on Blue Letter Bible. We know you will be blessed by the rich teaching of God's Word throughout these writings. You can find Pastor Bennett's books at **BlueLetterBible.org/commentaries**.





Richard A. Bennett

. . . .



Additional Content from Pastor Bill Acton Just Added

The response to the sermons from Pastor Bill Acton has been tremendous. We've seen more than 90,000 downloads of these messages since they were added last September.

We recently added one more audio file, a compendium of Pastor Bill's favorite witticisms, funny anecdotes, and yarns. Known for his sharp wit nearly as much as his powerful messages, you are sure to enjoy this unique collection. So sit back, grab a cup of coffee, and laugh along with Pastor Bill!

It is available now at BlueLetterBible.org/Acton. col

Blue Letter Bible Named as One of the Five Best Free Bible Study Tools

On his website, FreeDailyBibleStudy.com, Jacob D. Gerber wrote a blog post entitled, "5 of the Best Free Bible Study Tools." Blue Letter Bible was honored to receive this acknowledgment. In Gerber's words,

"I use Blue Letter Bible all the time—every time I prepare to preach a sermon, write something where I need to do some closer exegetical analysis, or just where I'm curious about what's happening 'behind the scenes.'"

Visit **FreeDailyBibleStudy.com/blog** where you can read the entire article by searching for "5 of the Best Free Bible Study Tools," posted on December 16, 2014.



Looking Back and Looking Forward

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND GENEROSITY TO BLUE LETTER BIBLE. LIKE YOU, I EXPERIENCE GREAT JOY WHEN I ENCOUNTER THE STORIES OF LIVES CHANGED BY THE WORD OF GOD.

We are just about to enter the 20th year of operations for Blue Letter Bible. When we first began to work on the website, we never imagined the incredible resource it would become. Truly, God has providentially directed BLB into a powerful tool for the in-depth study of His Word.

We see pastors such as Don Smith taking the BLB mobile app, with all its study tools, to pastors that he teaches in various parts of the world, such as Haiti, Peru, and China. We see authors such as Shelley Cramm using BLB as a significant resource in the preparation of the *NIV God's Word for Gardeners Bible*. We see the tremendous response to 94-year-old Pastor Bill Acton's faithful teaching messages now available around the world.

We see how the mobile revolution is being used to proclaim the Gospel and God's Word. Out of all the times the BLB website is accessed, over 25% are from mobile devices. The BLB App for iOS has been installed on over 1.7 million devices. And with the release of the BLB App for Android, this Bible study tool is now available to millions more worldwide.

We praise God for the growth of this ministry over the past two decades, and we look forward to what the LORD is going to do over the next twenty years. We want to thank you for partnering with us in prayer and in giving. You help us make these Bible study resources—grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith—available for multitudes of people around the world.

May God and His Word be exalted,

JIM MILLIGAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

P.S. To learn more about the history and direction of Blue Letter Bible, please watch the 3-minute video on our home page.



"Blue Letter Bible is an incredible treasure waiting at my fingertips. It is a library rich with inductive Bible tools, commentaries, and sermons. I find it especially helpful when I travel to other countries. I don't have to check this library through customs!"

Pastor Don Smith, Barnabas Brothers (International Pastoral Training)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-FOUNDERS

Frank Rabinovitch Vice Chairman

Jim Milligan Chairman & CEO

-

BlueLetterBible.org

If you are led to give, you can do so easily at our secure website: BlueLetterBible.org/give Or mail your gift to: Blue Letter Bible 22431 Antonio Parkway, Box B160-618 Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688-3932 BLB Blog: BlueLetterBible.org/blog Blue Letter Bible Institute: BLBI.org

♡ twitter.com/BlueLetterBible