



Where in the World is Blue Letter Bible being used?

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



WORD OF GOD
Psalm 138:2

FALL | 2015

BLUE LETTER BIBLE

MAGNIFYING GOD'S WORD



Blue Letter Bible Partner Finishes the Race

Our dear friend and partner in ministry, Elisabeth Elliot Gren, was welcomed into Jesus' everlasting arms on June 15, 2015. All of us at Blue Letter Bible will cherish our years of working together with her.

For those who knew and loved Elisabeth, it was not surprising that she chose to be buried in a simple pine box. As was her custom, she sought to follow the Savior's example of selfless servanthood clear to the finish line.

For those unfamiliar with her story, Elisabeth suffered much heartache during her 88 years on earth. She became a widow with a ten-month-old daughter, when her husband Jim Elliot and four other missionary friends were killed in 1956 by the Auca Indian tribe of Ecuador.

"I have one desire now—
to live a life of reckless
abandon for the Lord,
putting all my energy and
strength into it."

— Elisabeth Elliot,
Through Gates of Splendor

Trusting that the sovereignty of God was at work in this tragedy, she continued to minister in the jungles of South America, working among the very tribe who murdered her loved ones. Years later, Elisabeth experienced the loss of her second husband to the ravages of cancer, and her mother to a debilitating disease that Elisabeth would eventually succumb to herself. But through it all, she gave testimony of God's faithfulness in her times of utter helplessness.

"Suffering is not for nothing."
— Elisabeth Elliot,
A Path Through Suffering

This world renowned missionary went on to become a best-selling author, conference speaker, and radio teacher. She was passionate about helping women, and others, come to know and trust in the God of the Bible. So, when BLB was given the opportunity to co-labor in ministry with Elisabeth and her husband, Lars Gren, we counted it a great privilege.

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Elisabeth Elliot
1926-2015

P2 STAFF TIPS:
FAST AND POWERFUL
WORD SEARCHES

P3 NEW COURSE AND
NEW CONTENT ADDED

P4 USER
TESTIMONY

STAFF TIPS | By Andy Guastaferro

Fast and Powerful Word Searches

It was Thanksgiving morning. My wife and I just celebrated the birth of our third child, and we were learning to manage the reality of three little ones. Amidst the chaos, I had only 30 minutes to prepare my Thanksgiving devotional for the family.

*I am always thankful for Blue Letter Bible;
however, this was one of those occasions where
I was especially grateful for BLB's fast and
powerful Word Search tool!*

My goal was to provide a guided devotional on “reasons for giving thanks in the New Testament.” In the search field I added an asterisk (*) after the word “thank” in order to see results for any word that begins with “thank” (e.g., thanks, thankful, etc.). I also refined my search results to include verses from the New Testament only. Then, I copied selected verses onto my devotional document and listed the reason each passage offered for giving thanks. We went through these passages together as a family, reflecting on the study and sharing around the table.

Our family devotional was enriched by seeing God powerfully at work through His Word, which was made possible in a special way through BLB. It is a joy to serve in this ministry knowing that millions of BLB users like you are being similarly blessed. As you dig deeper into God’s Word through BLB, our prayer is that you too will grow and lead others toward a more intimate knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. 



Andy Guastaferro,
Chief Operating Officer

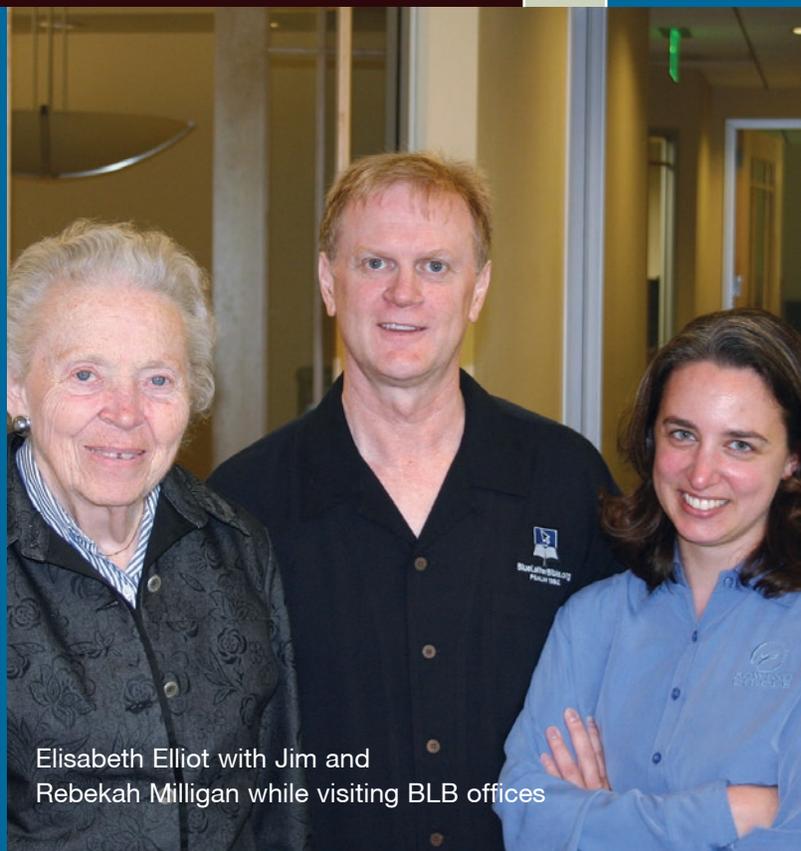
Blue Letter Bible Partner Finishes the Race

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

A thirty-year collection of her teaching cassettes needed to be converted to a digital CD format. In return, we were given permission to share many of her audio messages on our website, available at: BlueLetterBible.org/ElisabethElliot. We know God is always at work behind these types of projects, and He uses your generosity to help make it all happen.

Elisabeth Elliot Gren trusted in God’s sovereign control and timing over all things. We can be certain that she entered heaven not a minute too early or even one second late! Her confidence to counsel from the Word of God has strengthened and encouraged millions around the world. And we are so very thankful to all of you who are helping us keep these Biblically sound teachings available for future generations.

To view the treasury of Elisabeth’s books and audio messages visit ElisabethElliot.org and BlueLetterBible.org/ElisabethElliot. 



Elisabeth Elliot with Jim and
Rebekah Milligan while visiting BLB offices



Where in the World is Blue Letter Bible being used?

It is wonderful to know that people around the world are actively using Blue Letter Bible to study the Word of God. Our new Live Map feature highlights everywhere BLB is currently being used around the globe. We hope this feature blesses you and reminds you to pray for our brothers and sisters who are seeking to draw nearer to God through the power of His Word. We are extremely grateful the Lord is enabling BLB to reach the nations through the ongoing support of our prayer and financial partners. You can see where people are using BLB, right now, at BlueLetterBible.org/LiveMap. 



New Content Added: George Whitefield Sermons

Blue Letter Bible is pleased to offer 58 sermons from “Great Awakening” preacher, George Whitefield (1714–1770). Whitefield’s zeal for God’s glory—combined with an uncompromising commitment to preach the Gospel message—contributed to the great “Evangelical Awakenings” of England and North America in the 18th Century. For over thirty years, tens of thousands of people gathered to hear Whitefield’s “open-air” preaching throughout England, Scotland, Wales, and North America.

Whether it was in the fields, a small chapel, or a large church, Whitefield found it worthwhile to preach the Gospel and to see lives converted for Christ. One account estimates that Whitefield preached 1000 times a year for 30 years. Despite the large volume of messages delivered, only 100 or so of his sermons currently exist—of which, 58 can now be read on Blue Letter Bible.

Visit George Whitefield’s library of 58 sermons at: BlueLetterBible.org/Whitefield.

If you’ve never read a sermon by Whitefield, we recommend you begin with “The Method of Grace.” 

New Course Added to BLBi: Counseling God’s Way

We are continually adding new courses to the Blue Letter Bible Institute (BLBi) for the purpose of benefitting the Christian body. Our new course is entitled *Counseling God’s Way*, taught by the late Pastor Bob Hoekstra. He emphasizes the need for believers to seek counseling first and foremost from the Scriptures, since the wisdom and instruction of God’s Word has the power to transform lives. Pastor Hoekstra faithfully navigates the Scriptures, showing there is no better counselor than God Himself, Who is our “Wonderful Counselor” (Isaiah 9:6).

Our online institute has 16 theology-based courses covering: Doctrines of the Faith, Exposition of the Scriptures, Christian Living, and Apologetics, in which 90,670 students have enrolled to date. While this number is large, we recognize that it represents only a small percentage of the millions of users who could be taking advantage of this wonderful resource. BLBi offers the personal convenience of enrolling in classes that can be taken at home and at your own pace.

Pastor Bob Hoekstra served on our ministry board. He was also the founder of Living in Christ Ministries, which has graciously provided his resources.

Check out our Course Catalog for a list of these free classes at BLBi.org/Courses. 



GOD'S WORD IS **ALIVE** & **ACTIVE**

We See God's Hand Through Blue Letter Bible as He Reaches Millions of People Around the World



It's hard to believe it's been nearly 20 years since we first launched Blue Letter Bible. It's even harder to believe how much BLB has grown since then.

Today millions of users around the world are accessing our ever-growing library of resources. With our new Live Map feature (page 3), you can see where and how many people around the world are studying God's Word with BLB.

In this issue you'll read about two significant resources we've just added: 58 sermons from George Whitefield (page 3) and Counseling God's Way (page 3), a new course added to the Blue Letter Bible Institute (BLBi) from Pastor Bob Hoekstra. And be sure to check out Andy's Staff Tip for enhancing your word searches.

We were blessed a number of times to have Elisabeth Elliot and her husband, Lars Gren, fellowship here with us at the ministry. We will dearly miss her. Please continue to pray for Lars, and their family and friends during this time.

We continue to praise God for His provision for this ministry. Through the many partners He leads to support BLB, we will continue to expand our free library of in-depth study tools and resources.

It is a joy to serve Him together,

Jim Milligan
Chief Executive Officer

User Testimony: Volumes of Resources Contained in this Wonderful App!

"Blue Letter Bible has made studying the Word such a joy. I vividly remember spreading commentaries, concordances, dictionaries, etc....all over the place (not to mention having to lug them around every time we moved!) just to search one topic. It still amazes me that the volumes that took up several bookshelves, now are all contained in this wonderful app on my iPad. I'm currently enrolled online at the Koinonia Institute and the BLB is my go-to tool for Bible study. I am so thankful for everyone at Blue Letter Bible and your commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ, the WORD of God."
– Bill A.

If you have a word of encouragement or would like to share how the Lord is using Blue Letter Bible in your life, we'd love to hear from you! E-mail us at:

Partner@BlueLetterBible.org



BlueLetterBible.org

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