

## Taking out the brown M&M's

Have you ever heard the story of the classic rock band Van Halen and their notorious insistence that a bowl of M&M's be provided backstage – with every single brown candy removed?

It turns out this was not a case of arrogant celebrities making insane demands; but rather an ingenious safeguard to ensure every detail was handled correctly by the arena production crews leading up to the show.

If details are important for a rock concert, how much more so for the precious resources God has entrusted to us to bless our families and the ministry organizations close to our hearts!

Jesus said, "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much" (Luke 16:10).

One important way we can be trustworthy – whether we have little or much – is to make sure we have an up-to-date will.

Source: *Igniting a Life of Generosity* by Chris McDaniel

For a FREE copy of "Estate Planning Checklist Inspired by Brown M&M's" write 'M&M's' on the enclosed reply card or contact Back to God Ministries International at 1-800-879-6555 (USA), 1-800-263-4251 (Canada), or [info@BacktoGod.net](mailto:info@BacktoGod.net)



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## Your partnership yields a bountiful harvest

More than 3 billion people speak 1 of the 10 languages on which Back to God Ministries International's media is focused. That's nearly half the population of the entire world!

Your partnership with us means:

- Radio programs will be broadcast farther and on more channels.
- Websites will expand to offer more information and messages from Scripture.
- Seekers who get their information from smart phones will find answers to their questions at the touch of a button.

*"I was referred to your Chinese Today Weibo [something like Twitter in China] by a friend. I really like what I read. These are words of wisdom to me. I cannot say I am a believer yet but I do hope that these writings will help me to know this Savior Jesus you are talking about."*

People want to know more about our Savior. You can give online today at [www.BackToGod.net](http://www.BackToGod.net) to help reach 3 billion people with the Gospel.

Your gift today will help reach more people with the Gospel.

### 3 easy steps to help:



1. Prayerfully decide your gift amount.



2. Write out and sign your check.



3. Return both the response form and your check in the reply envelope provided.

Or give online at [www.BackToGod.net](http://www.BackToGod.net).



# AMBASSADOR

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors . . .  
2 Corinthians 5:20

## Thankful for the harvest

From time to time, we want to write to our close friends and supporters and report back on how your partnership is impacting lives for the Kingdom.

This holiday season, we want to thank God for His blessings on this organization, and you, our friends, for your financial support.

Thank you for acting at God's prompting to support Back to God Ministries International.

Here's how your partnership is changing the world through ministries in 10 of the most commonly spoken languages. ▶

(continued inside)

With your support, Back to God Ministries International is reaching out to more than 3 billion people worldwide through media ministry.



Back to God  
Ministries International

[www.BackToGod.net](http://www.BackToGod.net)

**En English**

With your help, we've launched *Family Fire* and are revamping *Think Christian* — online discipleship resources for believers.

From *Today* mobile users who receive devotionals on their cell phones:

"I have been feeling so down and lost, and this devotion has given me some light."

"I'll be reading this every day as motivation and inspiration. Gives me hope and faith!"

**Ch Chinese**

Last year, more than 145,000 Chinese nationals or immigrants contacted our ministry seeking the Truth of the Gospel. We receive daily calls and letters in addition to requests through our website. But our heart language ministries don't just reach people in their homelands! We often hear from people far from their home countries, too.

A Chinese listener in New York City writes:

"Thank you for continuing to supply us with the *Chinese Today* booklets. Almost everyone in our fellowship throughout the city is using it for daily devotions. Most of us are new immigrants from China and many do not get Sundays off to worship. Your booklet is a very important source of spiritual nourishment for us."

**Sp Spanish**

Social media and the Internet have become powerful means to reach seekers and provide discipleship and evangelism tools. Our main Spanish-language website is gaining popularity every day.

A listener in the Dominican Republic writes: "Hello and God bless. I want you to know that every day at 4 a.m. I listen to *La Hora de la Reforma* (our Spanish-language broadcast) on my radio. The reason I am writing today is to ask for your little devotional booklet, *Cada Dia*, one for me and one for my husband who is in jail."

**Fr French**

This summer, 800 students graduated from our Bible correspondence program in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo). One of our graduates, who is a member of the State Parliament there, testified to the power of the Gospel to change lives.

Millions of people in Africa speak French, and their homelands are in turmoil: Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ivory Coast. French is also commonly spoken in Haiti, but friends like you have helped expand our broadcasts into Creole, the heart language of many Haitians.

**Ru Russian**

Our Russian website already is one of the most popular biblical sites in the Russian language. Last year our discipleship staff in St. Petersburg responded to more than 32,000 people requesting literature or spiritual encouragement! We reach out to seekers and disciple new believers in the Christian faith — people like Nikolai, whose father was a committed communist. Nikolai discovered our Russian program while scanning the radio stations. "As I listened to your broadcasts, little by little I learned the truth," he wrote on our website. Through correspondence with our follow-up team, Nikolai committed his life to Christ and continues to visit our website for discipleship material.

**Po Portuguese**

Our television ministry in Brazil has become very popular. In fact, more than two million people watch our Saturday morning program, *Truth and Life*.

We also hope to distribute 800,000 copies of a special Christmas *Cada Dia* (the Portuguese version of the *Today* devotional). Hundreds of churches in Brazil are offering these to their members to use as Christmas cards for their unsaved friends and neighbors.

**"Now He . . . will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion and through us . . ."**

**Ar Arabic**

2011 has been a pivotal year for many Arabic countries. Egypt, whose revolution sparked the freedom fires in neighboring countries, is crying out for the Truth of God's Word. Our ministry partners are working in communities with home Bible study groups. Your partnership helps to provide training events, Arabic Bibles, Sunday School curriculum, Gospel broadcasts and Internet ministries.

**Hi Hindi**

Radio is very popular in India. We now partner with *Words of Hope* and *Good Books* ministries to broadcast the Gospel message in 5 common dialects.

A listener in Bihar, India writes:

"I was so depressed that once I thought of committing suicide. I happened to listen to one of your programs which gave me great consolation. I contacted you on mobile phone. Your advice with the references of the Bible brought me peace. I am grateful to God for your messages on radio, which have supported me in every situation of my life. The words of the Bible give me peace of mind."

**In Indonesian**

The island nation of Indonesia has one of the largest populations of Muslims in the world. Christians are often ostracized and persecuted for their faith. Our children's ministries help parents, churches and Christian schools train up their children in the Christian faith.

A third-grader in West Java writes:

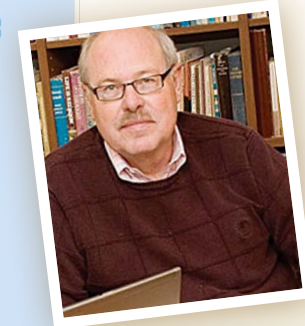
"A few months ago, I had to stay at the hospital for 9 days. My mother and father were so sad when I was sick. It was Easter and I was sad because I couldn't go to church. Every day I read *Kiddy* [our Indonesian children's devotional] and I know that God is the Great Healer. Thank you, Lord, because I can go to the school and church again."

**Ja Japanese**

Friends like you came alongside the Church in Japan after the devastating earthquake and tsunami. We've been broadcasting our program *Words of Hope* in Japanese into the hardest hit areas of Fukushima and Sendai.

A listener from Fukushima writes:

"I listened to the program for the first time today and I felt like my heart was washed. I would like to keep studying."

**Remembering Bob Heerspink**

Bob Heerspink, the Director of Back to God Ministries International, went home to heaven on

October 1, 2011 after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer.

His passion and influence will be felt for many years to come by our staff around the world.

Bob was a progressive leader, always looking for opportunities to expand the reach of the Gospel: from coming alongside the work of the churches in Indonesia, to launching a new ministry outreach in India, to expanding our radio, television and literature publications around the world.

He was a minister at heart and an effective communicator of God's Word. He was a kind and patient listener, yet pushed us to think beyond our comfort levels. And he reminded us often that Back to God Ministries was much more than himself.

We will carry his passion forward as we extend his legacy to the far corners of the globe. Thank you, Lord, for giving us the opportunity to serve under this great man of God.

From all of the staff at Back to God Ministries International

**"Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his saints." Psalm 116:15**

**... YOUR GENEROSITY WILL RESULT IN THANKSGIVING TO GOD."**

(2 Corinthians 9:10-11)