Bible Stories Alive for All the World

Originally written and told by Kitty Anna Griffiths

December 2025

A Hundred and Four Years of God's Blessing

Gerald and Kitty Anna Griffiths upon her receiving an honourary doctorate from Biola University.

I was born on September 25, 1921, so I'm now 104 years old. I am surprised that I have lived so long, and I am more surprised that God has graciously given me the privilege of still serving Him. Every morning I wake up eager to write another Bible story to tell the children of the world about God.

I became a Christian when I was 14 years old. I knew that Jesus Christ, God's Son, had died for me. I told God that I was sorry for all the bad things I had done. I asked Him to forgive me, and I asked Jesus to live in me. After this, I felt relieved and cleansed. And ever since, I have been sure that God has blotted out my sins and has received me as one of His children.

Though I am so unworthy, God has blessed me with countless blessings. And this is what this letter is about.

Among these blessings, God called me to preach His word. Since I was eleven years old, I had wanted to be a pastor and a preacher of God's word. When I was sixteen years old, I was suddenly asked to preach a sermon in a church service. I was staying with my grandmother for the Easter holidays. On Sunday morning I went to church. The preacher had not turned up, so one of the church leaders preached the sermon. After the service, he said to me, "Your grandmother says that you are going to be a preacher. Will you preach the sermon in this afternoon's service?" And I said, "Yes."

Now I had not written a sermon. But, as I sat in church when I was 14 and 15 years old, I had often written down the outline of my pastor's sermons. So I knew how to write a sermon: introduction, three points, and conclusion. Also, I remembered the sermon my pastor had preached the previous Sunday, and my notes were in my Bible. So I hurried back to my grandmother's house. I read the Bible passage my pastor had preached on and my notes on his sermon. I prayed and meditated, and wrote my sermon. Then I

Continued on next page

preached it in the afternoon service, and the congregation listened attentively. Preaching that sermon had assured me that God was calling me to preach His word.

I told my father this, and he advised me to speak to our pastor. The pastor explained that before I could write the entrance examination of the Baptist College (Seminary) in Cardiff I would have to be commended by my pastor, by my church, and by three others. I passed the entrance exam, and I was accepted to a six-year program, three years at the university and three years at the seminary. (This was three months before the Second World War.)

I studied Hebrew at the university. The lecturer urged me to give up pastoral studies and specialize in Hebrew and other related languages, in order to have a better understanding of the Hebrew words in the Bible. This would be a university job. I declined the invitation and explained that I felt God had called me to preach His word.

I met a new student at the beginning of the next term. Her name was Kitty Anna Coe. She would become God's greatest earthly gift to me.

The teachers who taught the Old Testament in the university did not believe that all Scripture was from God. They taught that there were errors in the Bible. But I still believed that the whole Bible was God's word. The apostle Paul said, "All Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching…." (2 Timothy 3:16). The Lord Jesus regarded the Old Testament as God's word, always accurate and authoritative. He also said that the Old Testament spoke about Him (Luke 24:27).

I met a new student at the beginning of the next term. Her name was Kitty Anna Coe. She would become God's greatest earthly gift to me. Her college in London was bombed by the German Air Force, and the students were moved to our campus in Cardiff in January 1942. I first saw Kitty Anna in a Bible study group I attended. She made an important point at the meeting. She came the next week, and she spoke with confidence about the Bible as God's word. So I wanted to speak to her after the meeting, but she ran out to catch a bus to go back to where she was staying.

Three days later, I met her as she was going to catch her bus. She was in no hurry, so I asked my question: "Have you ever had doubts about the Bible, whether there are mistakes in it?"

She answered, "No. I believe that every word in the Bible is from God. But, at one time, I had a problem: I didn't know how to put the sixty-six books of the Bible together as one book. They seemed to me to be a collection of different stories. I could not see the thread that tied these stories together into one big story. Then I listened to a Bible teacher at my church explaining that the entire Bible was about Jesus Christ as Saviour and Judge of the world. Later I read a book which showed that the Bible from beginning to end was full of references and allusions to Jesus Christ – to His life, death, resurrection, ascension, and finally to His second coming and to a new heaven and a new earth."

By now we had walked three miles to where Kitty Anna lived. I enjoyed every step of the walk and agreed with everything. Kitty Anna never came again to the Bible Study group, and I didn't see her all that term. Her world and mine were different. I was Welsh, bent on pastoring a church and preaching God's word in some Welsh village or town. Kitty Anna was English with her own plans.

But one night during the Easter holiday, as I was praying at my bedside I suddenly remembered the English student I had met. Then I surprised myself. I prayed that Kitty Anna and I would become friends.

When the summer term began, I invited her to come for a hike. We were friends immediately. Toward the end of the term, Kitty Anna told her parents about our friendship. They invited me to come home with her for a holiday. They welcomed me warmly. I sensed their deep love for God, and I sensed the same love in their church. Kitty Anna had been nurtured in a small, godly community.

I was as thin as a rake. After I went home to Wales, her old Sunday school teacher cautioned her: "He may be a fine young man, but he's not strong. He won't live long. And you should think again."

Kitty Anna replied, "If he doesn't live long, I want to live with him as long as he lives." And we lived together and served the Lord together for seventy-two wonderful years.

I was a pastor for nearly fifty years in different countries, and everywhere God greatly blessed the preaching of the gospel. At Charlotte Chapel in Scotland, the sanctuary which held a thousand people was crowded every Sunday. Sometimes with an overflow in another hall. Sunday after Sunday people, young and older,

believed in the Lord Jesus. I was pastor there for seven-and-a-half years, and 375 people were baptized and 350 members were added to the church.

Then, in the midst of all this blessing, Rosebank Union Church in Johannesburg, South Africa called me to pastor their church. After a month of earnest prayer and consideration, I was convinced that this call was from God. But I accepted the invitation with one condition, that once it was established that the Bible taught what I said, there was to be no further debate. And I asked them to pray that I would always present the truth humbly and graciously. When my dear wife was 16 years old, she had volunteered to become a missionary teacher to children in Africa. So she was now eager to go to Africa to fulfil her promise.

'You have a radio voice, and you must tell a short story every Sunday.'

The gospel had been rejected at Rosebank Union Church for forty years. When I started to preach the gospel there, board members complained that my sermons were boring and that I preached too much about turning away from sin (this is the first thing Jesus did, Matthew 4:17). One woman said to me, "I've attended this church all my life, but I've never heard about Jesus Christ dying for my sin. What do you mean by this?" I explained to her that Jesus had taken the punishment for our sins so that God might forgive our sins if we believed in Jesus. A year later, she became a shining believer, marvelling at the grace of God.

The church did not change overnight. But four years later, after the good news of Jesus Christ had been fully preached, the church was fundamentally changed. People who had been church members all their lives had been transformed. And for the past sixty years, this church has been one of the leading evangelical churches in South Africa.

My last pastorate was at Calvary Church, Toronto, where we continued to see the power of the gospel to transform lives. It was during these years that the Mrs. G ministry began, which God has greatly blessed. But nobody planned it, it just happened through unexpected events.

Soon after I became pastor, Calvary Church started a radio program on a local radio station. The program was called The Good News. It was to be thirty minutes of sermon and song, with a list of our church activities. At the first broadcast the women's coffee hour, which my wife had started, was somehow omitted. She was then invited to make her own announcement on the following Sunday, which she did with a story. After the broadcast, the sponsor of the program congratulated her on her short story and said, "You have a radio voice, and you must tell a short story every Sunday." Eventually he persuaded her to do this. So the church broadcast became thirty minutes of sermon, story, and song.

A few years later an executive of Trans World Radio International happened to hear Kitty Anna's voice on radio and listened to her short story. Immediately he asked for the use of her stories to make a new program. At the same time the radio agents of our church program made the same request. I explained that we had no funds to start a new program. But when the sponsor of our church program heard of these requests, he generously funded the beginning of this new program.

Kitty Anna was stunned to have her own radio program. But she was a well-trained storyteller, so she accepted the challenge. She had taught Bible stories as a Sunday School teacher from the age of 14 until she went to college seven years later. She had also taught Bible stories as a school teacher for two years. She had a class of 7 to 10-year-old children. The children had no church connection and no interest in the Bible. So she used her imagination to make the stories come alive.

When the head teacher saw that this young teacher held the attention of her class, she moved her own class of 11 to 14-year-olds into Kitty Anna's class. And for two years she taught the Bible to children and teens, 7 to 14 years old. No easy task.

When Kitty Anna was first invited to tell stories on radio, the radio agents wanted her to tell stories with a good moral. But she insisted that she would only tell Bible stories.

Speakers on children's radio programs warned her that children would not be interested in a radio program with only Bible stories, and that it would not last. Now Kitty Anna decided to tell the stories in an imaginative way as she had done as a school teacher with children who had no interest in the Bible. Kitty Anna decided to tell "You Are There" Bible stories, where the children

Continued on next page

could see and hear everything as in a film.

So A Visit with Mrs. G began in September 1973. (You may be surprised to learn that 'G' did not stand for Griffiths, but for General Audience.) It was intended to tell stories to Christian families but it was soon on the missionary radio networks in India, Africa, West Indies, and South America, and other stations.

Her recorded Bible stories are now in their fifty-third year of broadcasting, with listeners in 130 countries. We receive constant testimonies that listeners have trusted in Jesus and have been helped to live as Christians.

Her recorded Bible stories are now in their fifty-third year of broadcasting, with listeners in 130 countries.

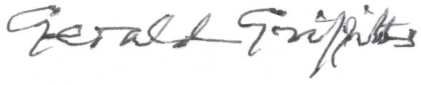
In 2012, Mrs. G declined a request to allow Sunday Schools to use her stories. She did this because she wanted Sunday School children to understand the words that the Bible used without the imagined characters and conversations she had added for the radio program. Before she went to be with the Lord at the age of 95 years old, she committed to me the task of telling the stories as they are told in the Bible, and this is what I have been doing for the past eleven years. This second version of the stories has been translated into various languages and is available in Mandarin, Spanish, Persian, Arabic and Swahili.

This has worked especially well with the stories in Swahili. The Swahili stories are broadcast on various stations across Kenya. Children listen in groups with their teachers, and the programs have been a great success. These are two sample reports from teachers. One teacher reports: "The children have learned the meaning of Jesus' words, 'It is Finished.' They now understand that Jesus had completed His mission for our sakes." The children now know that when Jesus died on the cross, He did everything necessary for their salvation. Another teacher, in charge of another group, reports that the death of Jesus had moved the children deeply, yet they were comforted by the fact that Jesus had risen again. They now believe that death is not the end for those who believe in Jesus and His resurrection. There is another glorious life yet to come. The children were so happy at this thought that they created short Easter songs to express joy in Jesus and His resurrection. These children were doing more than enjoying the stories of Jesus. They were enjoying God's salvation, the forgiveness of sins, and the hope of resurrection.

This is what God is now doing in our Swahili broadcast. And what is happening in Kenya in Swahili can happen in other languages and dialects. Please pray for more donors to make this happen.

At 104 years old, I cannot expect to have the privilege of continuing much longer in this great work. The Lord has already provided a noted Bible scholar to continue this ministry. Dr. Stephen Westerholm worked with Mrs. G for five years before he became a professor of biblical studies. So he is well-acquainted with Mrs. G's writing style for children. Now in his retirement he will continue the work which my dear Kitty and I have been honoured to begin. The Lord has done great things, and we look forward with confidence to what God will do in the future. Thank you for helping us to tell the children of the world the wonderful news of the Lord Jesus Christ.

A blessed Christmas to you.



Gerald Griffiths

Donations:

You may donate by cheque payable to "A Visit with Mrs. G Ministries"
You may donate by e-Transfer to mrsg@biblestoriesalive.org
Please add a note with your full name and mailing address for tax receipt purposes.

Canadian Charity #118797505 RR0001 US Charity #36-3145740

Bible Stories Alive

A Visit with Mrs. G Ministries
P.O. Box 933
Don Mills Postal Stn.
Toronto, Canada M3C 2T9
T. 416-755-5918 • **E-mail:** mrsg@biblestoriesalive.org • **www.biblestoriesalive.org**