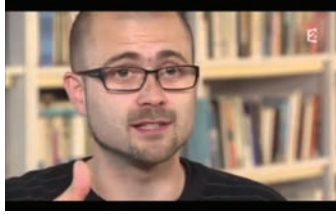


BLF books in the mainstream news

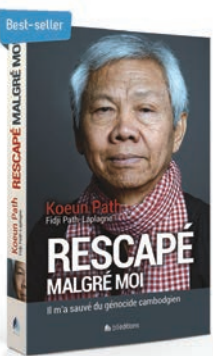
L'Évangile.net on France 2

Over the past 18 months, BLF books have been featured in mainstream French media. BLF Éditions director, Ruben Nussbaumer, was interviewed recently on France 2, a major television network. He contributed to a Sunday morning report on *Présence Protestante* about *L'Évangile.net*, a new interactive Gospel of John (see *Mission Accomplished* below). That interview is available on YouTube (search: *reportage France 2 evangile.net*).



Ruben Nussbaumer on French TV

Rescapé malgré moi generates broad interest



April 2015 marked the 40th anniversary of the fall of Phnom Penh. Fidji Path-Laplagne's timely, riveting story of her father-in-law's escape from the genocide in Cambodia received the attention of *Le Figaro* (France's oldest and second largest circulation daily newspaper), France24, TVMonde5, *L'Alsace* and other news outlets. She was also interviewed on LCI, France's original news channel.

Libre de le dire and a French Socialist politician

In July 2015, the *Libre de le dire* (*Free to Say It*) series got a plug from an unexpected source. Philippe Doucet, "Mr. Secularism" for the Socialist Party in the French General Assembly, was quoted in the Catholic magazine *La Vie* as saying: "The little books edited by the evangelicals inspired me in terms of their pedagogical dimension . . ." Nice job, CNEF.* Nice job, BLF.



(Note: BLF USA recently joined with the CNEF-led effort to get a set of these books to 1,300 French evangelical churches. Thank you for helping make this distribution possible.)

*CNEF stands for Conseil National des Évangéliques de France (the National Council of French Evangelicals), who created the *Free to Say It* series and national campaign.

"Team France" with 30, sets record



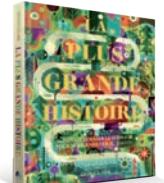
After a long, Olympics-worthy marathon for BLF's Team France, the 2016 Catalog now has 30 new titles, including three beautiful children's books (see below). You can consult the latest catalog online in French at blfeditions.com/catalogue. For a list in English of BLF's translated books, please contact us at info@blfusa.org.



Tout ce que je devrais savoir sur Dieu



La Bible en 400 dessins



La plus grande histoire

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Buying a set of Mangas for the French student in your life? Know someone here who needs a good Christian book or Bible in French? Or a missions team going to a Francophone country?

Save 15% (30% on orders over 150 €) when you pay by credit card and use code **BLFTHANKSYOU** at check out at blfstore.com. One cent (non-rush) shipping is available on all orders mailed outside of Europe, except to overseas destinations considered part of France (such as Martinique, Guadeloupe, Réunion, etc.) If you need help, write us at info@blfusa.org for further instructions. **Note: If you're a French professor, please contact our office for a special offer.**

Mission accomplished!

Released on October 4, this interactive Gospel of John (featuring short commentaries, space for notes, and QR codes that link to engaging online videos) sold out the first print run—5000 copies—in only ten days! **Your generous gifts and prayers helped make this resource possible.**



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Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability

and



“Bonjour, les fidèles!”



by Rory Clark, Executive Director

YEARS AGO, I HAD A WEST AFRICAN professor of French who would always greet our class with an enthusiastic, “Bonjour, les fidèles!” I too would like to say “Bonjour, faithful ones” and “thanks (half) a million” for participating in this vision to bless the French-speaking world through the printed page.

In September 2015, I became executive director of BLF USA. Since then, I’ve spent 110 days on the road, traveling some 75,000 miles in seven countries (France, Belgium, Togo, but also Kenya, Ethiopia, Turkey and ten US states). My dual role with BLF and the former US Center for World Mission (now Frontier Ventures) has taken me a lot of places this year. Are you ready to come with me?

What I’ve learned on the road

Lomé, Togo: Last November, I joined evangelist (and BLF Éditions board president) Alain Stamp for the Forum for Francophone Evangelists. There I met Ghislain from Benin. Ghislain had already received some BLF books at a similar forum in Mali. He beamed as he shared specific examples of how these books had impacted his life and ministry. One gave him new ideas that have made his church’s evangelism more effective. Another inspired him to set aside 2-3 hours per week to mentor young people in his home. Yet another has helped him pay attention to his emotional health—much to his wife’s delight! Thanks to your generosity, Alain and I distributed BLF books to nearly 300 evangelists just like Ghislain.

St. Louis, MO: In December, BLF Éditions director Ruben Nussbaumer and I joined 16,000 students at Urbana 2015. One afternoon, we talked with some 50 French speakers about BLF resources, including John Piper’s *Let the Nations Be Glad* and a project I am directing (keep reading). A workshop speaker from Martinique told us he would be taking a group of students through *Libre de le dire à l’université* (Free

..... Continued next page

DID YOU KNOW?

Your generosity has allowed us to distribute BLF books in Burkina Faso, Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Mali, Martinique, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo and more.

“delightfully dangerous” book

I was in a transition where I was asking, ‘Am I going to continue to be in ministry? The life of ministry is really heavy in [my] context. How will I survive?’

That was really a problem in my life.



Then I got this little book (John Piper’s *Au risque d’être heureux* [*The Dangerous Duty of Delight*]), which helped me [understand] that it’s the joy of God that satisfies our lives.... This book talks about money,

about marriage, about missions, and how we really have to have the joy of God which surpasses anything else. We are more satisfied when God is really in us. It’s not when we have things, or money, or a big job or a big standard of life. That helped me make the decision to go into full-time ministry.

What I read in that book is the reality because I am enjoying this life of being into the great purposes of God. Even if I’m not earning much, even if I’m not getting what my peers will get, I am having the joy that I think many people are not having. So I would say, “Thank you, BLF, for translating this book in French.” **BLF**

Last December, Rory met Pacifique at a Perspectives consultation in Kenya. Excerpted and condensed from a longer interview.



“That was really a problem in my life. Then I got this little book.”

to *Say It at the University*). The goal? To help them understand how French law protects their freedom of religious expression.

While at Urbana, *Operation World* researcher Molly Wall asked if BLF would consider translating *Pray for the World* (see **Fuel informed prayer**, facing page). Finally, we enjoyed meeting Urbana plenary speakers (and BLF authors) David Platt and Francis Chan, and giving them copies of their books in French.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: In March, I attended an Africa-wide unreached peoples consultation, which was held at the African Union building. I spoke with dozens of French speakers from 16 different countries and gave away some 60 books. Interest was extremely high. The Congolese pastor of the international Francophone church in Addis invited me to visit his diverse congregation, drawn primarily from the diplomatic community. In his office, I saw BLF's Sunday school curriculum. The pastor said he appreciated its solid biblical content and had taken all of the children through it. He also plans to start a lending library. There is much more I could tell, but the conclusion is the same—**your investment in BLF has not been in vain!**

“As I was mulling over these questions, a name from the past flashed into my mind.”



Walter Zurfluh

Thanks (half) a million?

What God is doing through BLF goes beyond its impact on individuals and ministries overseas. I should know. I came to BLF out of a need. A big need. A 500,000 word need!

Leaders in Africa and other French-speaking countries had been asking for the Perspectives course in French to help strengthen their mission mobilization efforts. But where would I find good translators for a half-million word project? And what about production? Printing? Distribution?

One day a missions professor from France suggested that Perspectives work with a French-language publishing house. Great idea, I thought, but which one? Obviously, we would want a like-minded, evangelical publishing house with a solid reputation, exceptionally high standards of quality, and a proven interest in mission books. Where would we find one like that?

Back to the future

As I was mulling over these questions one day, a name from the past flashed into my mind: Walter Zurfluh.

(A few years earlier, Walter had come by my office at the US Center for World Mission, where I worked closely with founder Ralph Winter for nine years. The soft-spoken rep introduced me to BLF and each year would faithfully pay me a visit.)

So I wrote to Walter. He connected me with Russ and Mary Ann Miller, who connected me with Ruben and the great people working with BLF Éditions (pictured below) and BLF USA. Ruben's reply made it clear to me that I'd found the publisher we'd been looking for. Too many strange "coincidences" for this to be just another contact. Of course, God had even more surprises in store for me.

I'm grateful for the partnership between BLF and Perspectives. As director of the translation project, I have the pleasure of working closely with Frédéric "Fred" Mondin. Fred lives in La Paz with his Bolivian wife, Leny. Through God's providential timing, they were able to take the Perspectives course in Spanish at just the perfect time. And what an impact it had (see below)!

Thanks a whole million!

I stand on the shoulders of faithful men and women who saw the strategic value of a ministry like BLF



Team BLF in France and Bolivia: "Bonjour, les fidèles!"

before I was even born. *Les fidèles*, thanks a (whole) million for your part in making the vision a reality. From what I've seen so far, it's bearing lasting fruit. And we've only just begun. **BLF**



"Perspectives has radically changed how I think about mission by placing God at the center of it all: he himself is the basis and motivation for mission outreach. God is a global God with a global purpose; it's his mission. He wants to bless us to be a blessing to all the families of the earth for the eternal and joyful celebration of his glory. Mission shouldn't be thought of as a duty, but a privilege—a gift from God!"

Fred Mondin, Editor, BLF Éditions



▶ BLF USA Update



Congratulations to **Nathan and Annie Phillips** on the arrival of their first child! **Benjamin Thomas Phillips** was born on July 29, 2016. *Please pray for the new partners needed to meet their revised budget.* Praise God for the volunteers who have been

helping the staff at BLF Éditions in France during Annie's maternity leave.

We are thrilled that **Janet Peluso** joined our US office staff this past spring. She formerly served at Scripture Press Ministries.



Walter Zurfluh (see photo opposite page) celebrated his 90th birthday in August! We thank God for this faithful servant and BLF prayer warrior.

Praise God for **Russ & Mary Ann Miller's** 20 years of service with BLF in Belgium, France and the US! Mary Ann was instrumental in creating and producing the Sunday school curriculum described earlier. They continue to lead construction teams to France. *For information on the next team opportunity, please contact the Millers directly at millerrma@blfusa.org.*



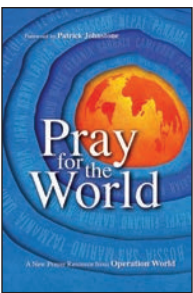
Ray Sanford, vice president for organizational development for One Challenge, recently joined the BLF USA board. Ray, his wife Diane, and their four children (now adults) served for twelve years in France. Ray brings a wealth of experience.

Rory and Marjorie Clark both studied and ministered in France. Rory has an MA in French. Marjorie grew up in Congo (DRC). They have three grown children.

▶ Special Projects

BLF USA seeks to facilitate the creation and distribution of Christian literature for evangelism and discipleship in the French-speaking world. The featured opportunities below look forward to the day when Jesus will be loved, followed and obeyed by a people of blessing in the midst of every people on earth. Note that we continue both to reprint and distribute the Sunday school curriculum and to encourage new French-speaking authors.

Fuel informed prayer



If you're familiar with *Operation World*, you can imagine the impact a shorter *OW*-style prayer guide—one written in simpler English with non-native speakers and translation in mind—could have on the growing church around the world.

BLF Éditions is ready to translate, publish and distribute *Pray for the World* to help fuel informed prayer across the Francophone world. But it will take \$20,000 to get this strategic prayer resource translated, published and the first 1,500 printed. Your gift will impact not only the French-speaking world but prayed-for countries and peoples around the globe.

Encourage key leaders

We believe BLF books are best distributed in the context of catalytic events held by trusted ministries (such as forums, workshops, seminars, conferences and consultations). The distribution in Togo mentioned earlier is one example. As I write, Alain Stamp is in the Central African Republic for an evangelists forum, which was preceded by a time of reconciliation and healing (so many believers have experienced

trauma because of the war there). Having seen the Lord use Alain in a powerful way in Togo, I (Rory) know the books distributed in the CAR will find receptive and hungry hearts. Thank you for making that possible.

Another event we hope to bless is the Regional Consultation for Francophone Africa (CRAF in French). CRAF seeks to encourage the French-speaking church in Africa in mission among unreached peoples. Mary Ann Miller and Rory Clark have participated in previous consultations and see CRAF's strategic value. BLF has recently published several titles of special interest to this audience; we would like to make some of these books available to the expected 300 African mission and church leaders coming to Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (April 18-22, 2017). Your generosity will help us put resources into the hands of African leaders. *Please pray for CRAF and the brothers and sisters participating from across Francophone Africa.*

Help us reach more "Fred's"

We fully expect Fred Mondin's testimony (opposite page) to be multiplied thousands of times over in places like Africa, which is home to 90% of Francophone evangelicals. Your gift toward the translation of *Perspectives* into French can pay big dividends among the unreached.