



MISSION 865

SPRING 2022
BIANNUAL REPORT

Bridging the Gap



Reaching Everyone, Everywhere

This report provides updates on the Mission 865™ initiative you've funded through Jesus Film Project®. Celebrate what God has done through your generosity!

Jesus Film Project®
A Cru Ministry



What Is Mission 865?

Mission 865™ is a Jesus Film Project® initiative to translate the JESUS film into the heart language of each people group with 50,000 or more speakers, and smaller languages as determined.

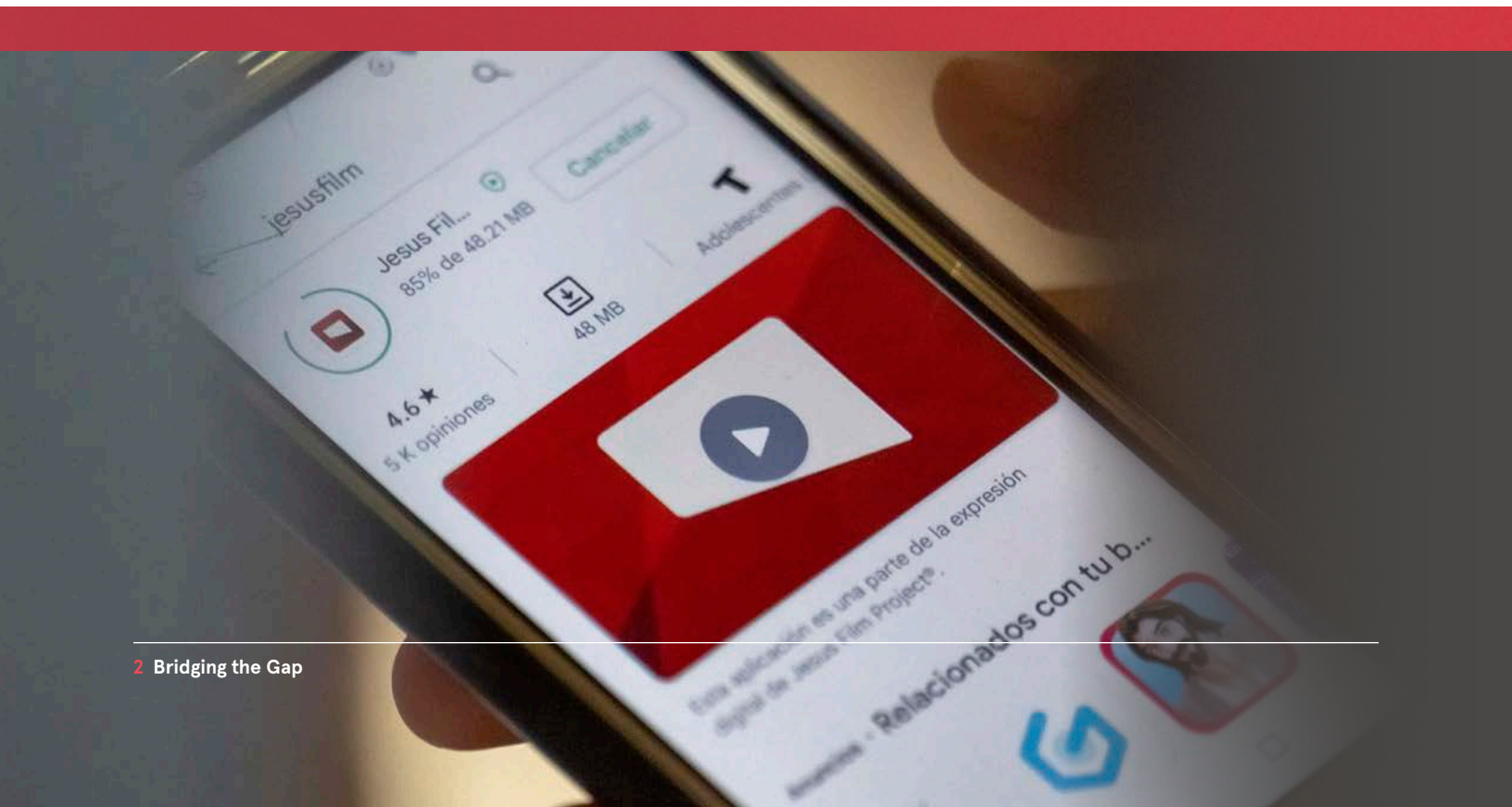
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“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine on us—so that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.”

– PSALM 67:1-2, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

Some identifying details may have been changed throughout this report for confidentiality.



Making the Gospel Accessible for Everyone

Each person in the world needs the chance to know Jesus, which is why it's so important to complete Mission 865™. But translating the *JESUS* film into each M865 language is only one step toward bridging the missional gap. Next comes implementing strategies that get the story of Jesus in front of the people who need to see it!

This means equipping partner organizations with projector sets and tablets to show evangelistic content, such as the *JESUS* film. One way Jesus Film Project® is accomplishing this is through a new equipment distribution center in Nairobi, Kenya. Now, when missionaries in Africa request projector sets or tablets to show the *JESUS* film, they receive it quickly, and more Christians now have access to equipment to share gospel-centered resources.

These versions of the *JESUS* film belong in cities and villages; slum areas and business districts; mountains and the valleys. Praise God for advancements like the distribution center that help get the story of Jesus where it belongs—before the eyes of every single person on earth. Completing M865 is not the ultimate goal—fulfilling the Great Commission is!

In this report, you'll receive an update on M865's progress, learn about M865 people groups who are being reached through equipment received from the distribution center, and read a story of a life changed. May your heart be encouraged.

The new Jesus Film Project Africa Distribution Center is located on the campus of Life Ministry Kenya—the local Cru® ministry. The two organizations are working together to bridge the missional gap and equip any gospel-centered ministry with the tools to reach others with resources like the JESUS film.



Prayer Point

Praise God for the people groups who are hearing the gospel through the *JESUS* film! Ask God to raise up people within these M865 language groups to share the gospel with their communities. Pray that no version of the *JESUS* film would sit on a shelf, but that anyone who needs to know the story of Jesus will hear someone share it with them in their heart language.

Pressing On Until All Have Heard

 **571** languages completed

 **294** translations remain

All numbers were recorded on March 2022.

2018
66
languages completed

2019
59
languages completed

2020
39
languages completed

2021
54
languages completed

2022
13
languages completed ... so far!

Off the Press ... and Onto the Screen!

When the distribution center began sending equipment sets to partner organizations, several included Mission 865™ versions of the *JESUS* film loaded onto SD cards. Each language version in this first distribution was completed in 2021. Now projector sets and tablets from the distribution center are showing the story of Jesus to M865 language groups across Africa.

Completing a new version of the *JESUS* film looks different for each language. Sometimes the recording team arrives; the voice actors record their lines; and a new version is finished as scheduled. Other times, delays and difficulties accompany the process. Either way, God is faithful to provide a gospel resource to these people groups! Below are brief accounts of the recording processes for four M865 languages that are now used to share the gospel via the new distribution center.

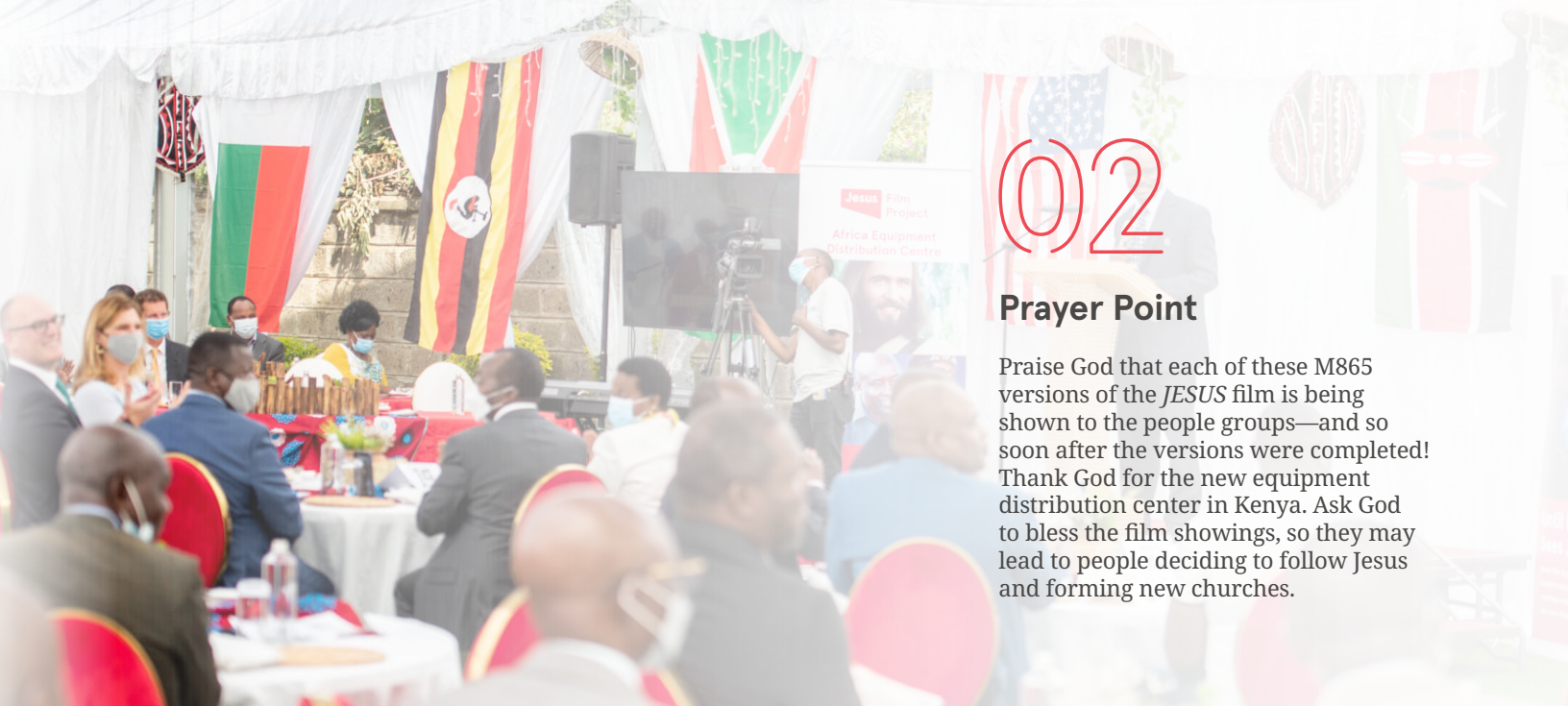
LANGUAGE	Ma'Di Okollo
LOCATION	Uganda
WORLD SPEAKERS	97,000
FILM COMPLETED	March 30, 2021

The recording team had almost finished, but one voice actor never showed up to record his lines on the final day of recording. With the end so close, this must have been disappointing to the recording team and the voice actors! But one of the translators thought of someone who could help. As the end of day drew near, he drove over 40 kilometers (24.8 miles) to pick up a man called Mr. Musema. Mr. Musema proved to be an excellent voice actor; he spoke with a clear voice backed by strong emotion, making a needed contribution to the completion of the *JESUS* film in Ma'Di Okollo.



LANGUAGE	Kumam
LOCATION	Uganda
WORLD SPEAKERS	349,000
FILM COMPLETED	April 22, 2021

Years before the recording team arrived to record the *JESUS* film in Kumam, some of the voice actors helped create an audio translation of the New Testament. Daniel—one of these voice actors—had voiced Jesus in the audio version of the New Testament, so he was the natural choice to serve as the voice of Christ in the *JESUS* film. After completing the recording, a recording team member overheard Daniel telling some of his colleagues that he wants both the New Testament and the *JESUS* film played during his funeral, whenever that day may come. Daniel is committed to preaching the good news in life and in death! May many Kumam speakers come to know Christ through Daniel's voice.



02

Prayer Point

Praise God that each of these M865 versions of the *JESUS* film is being shown to the people groups—and so soon after the versions were completed! Thank God for the new equipment distribution center in Kenya. Ask God to bless the film showings, so they may lead to people deciding to follow Jesus and forming new churches.

LANGUAGE	Kenyan Teso
LOCATION	Uganda, Kenya
WORLD SPEAKERS	418,000
FILM COMPLETED	October 20, 2021

The recording was done and ready for the review showing.

Palpable energy radiated throughout the room. Before the film played, the people sang a worship song to prepare for the movie viewing together. The high energy level persisted throughout the showing. When Joseph—who played Caiaphas—heard his lines, he clapped his hands and laughed with joy. Another one of the voice actors could not stop talking about how much he liked the film. He wanted to show it to his whole family!



LANGUAGE	Igiha
LOCATION	Tanzania
WORLD SPEAKERS	1,971,000
FILM COMPLETED	December 2, 2021

The recording team set up their makeshift studio inside a school compound. The earnest voice actors recorded their lines, taking direction from Moses and David, the dialogue instructors. Outside the studio's walls, children laughed and played outside. Despite having to use a generator to counteract a power outage, the recording process largely went as planned. God was faithful in each moment. When the review committee watched the film, the story of Jesus captured its full attention. The Igiha gained a powerful tool for sharing the story of Jesus with people of all ages!



Growing Churches, Transforming Lives

LANGUAGE	Nandi
LOCATION	Kenya
WORLD SPEAKERS	949,000
FILM COMPLETED	May 30, 2019

“Our prayer is to use the JESUS film tool to accelerate the formation of the missional communities and at least to have a church, a faith community, for every 1,000 people.”

— SIMON, LIFE MINISTRY KENYA STAFF MEMBER

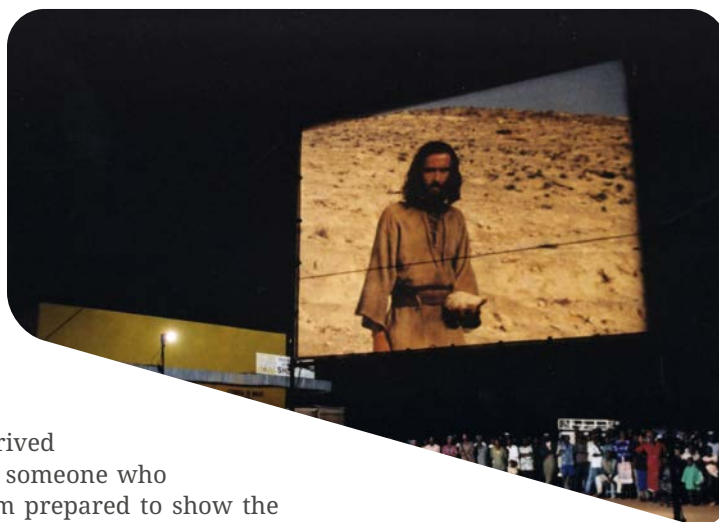
Man’s Heart Transformed by Jesus

In 2019, Jesus Film Project® translated the *JESUS* film in Nandi—the language of a people group in Kenya. Leaders with Life Ministry Kenya—as Cru® is known there—had a plan in place to share the gospel with the Nandi via the *JESUS* film in their heart language. Sadly, as is the case with so many plans to bridge ministry gaps around the world, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted this.

Still, one leader persevered despite the pandemic. He and his team showed *JESUS* in Nandi villages and churches during the Easter and Christmas seasons. At one of these showings, Felix arrived early. Felix had a reputation as a heavy drinker and someone who created chaos in the town’s marketplace. As the team prepared to show the *JESUS* film, Felix lived up to his reputation, hurling insults at the team.

Felix appeared intoxicated, so when he made a decision to follow Jesus after the film concluded, the team was skeptical. But as the team was having follow-up conversations the next day with the people at the film showing, Felix showed up! As time passed, Felix’s faith proved genuine.

Now Felix is active in his local church. He serves as an usher, and through God’s power and grace, Felix overcame his addiction to alcohol! Because someone showed the film in Felix’s heart language, Felix entered God’s family and is now serving his brothers and sisters in Christ!





03

Prayer Point

Life Ministry Kenya staff member Simon is working to share the gospel and plant churches in Nandi villages. His ministry needs prayer. Will you pray for God's favor to be with Simon as he preaches the gospel, and for him and his team to receive funding for their ministry? Thank you for helping a brother in Christ in this way!

Abundant Growth

Even though the JESUS film in Nandi is just a couple of years old, God has worked through it to grow one small church! When it started, the church only had five members, but then the church members started using JESUS in Nandi and another Jesus Film Project resource called Walking With Jesus. In just a few months, the church had grown to 20 members!

Thank You



Each new translation of a Mission 865™ version of the JESUS film means at least 50,000 people who have an effective gospel resource in their heart language. Thanks to the new distribution center in Kenya, the gap between the completion of an M865 version of the JESUS film and the people who speak the language is narrowed. Thank you for partnering with us and playing an essential role in this extraordinary work. When the storms of life dampen your hope, may reports like this be an encouraging reminder that God is at work. Because of your generosity, people are encountering the love of Christ.



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