



Scripture Union International



Stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our network of Scripture Union teams is having an impact on young lives each month.

A life changed through a simple invitation

In Ethiopia, the Scripture Union team is seeing the impact on young people of their expanding schools' ministry.

National Director, Berhanu Solomon said: *"We heard a story from one of our branch office coordinators about a student who had used drugs and had unhealthy connections with others. She was improperly handling her education as a result of this. A group that seeks out young people for nightclub recruitment was in contact with her. She had invited her friends to connect with the group and become a customer of the club. She was leading a life without hope and was also behaving in a way that caused her parents to suffer."*

"One day, one of the SU school ministry members invited the girl to their weekly program, which is run in the church compound. When she came, she was joking and laughing at the program. But she did not stop coming each week. Gradually, her life changed. The friend who had invited her, did not know about her life in detail. One day the girl asked for time to explain her past life, which came as a complete surprise to the SU group."

"She then told them that she wanted to follow Jesus. Her parents came to meet the Scripture Union coordinator and explained their joy to him. This young girl is now an active proclaimer of God's goodness."

SU Ethiopia is linked with almost 140 towns and has contact with about 40,000 students through the School Christian Fellowships. The team lead Bible study groups, conduct values training and life skills as well as running camps for children and young people.



about **Ethiopia**

Ethiopia is located in the north-eastern part of Africa commonly known as the Horn of Africa. Covering an area of 114 million square kilometres, it is as large as France and Spain combined. More than 70 per cent of Africa's mountains are in Ethiopia, which is why it is often called 'the Roof of Africa.' Ethiopia is the oldest independent country in Africa and one of the oldest in the world. What are believed to be the oldest human remains ever found, dated back some five million years, were discovered in Ethiopia. It is a place of ancient culture. Among its important sites are Lalibela with its rock-cut Christian churches from the 12th–13th centuries. It is a land of enormous diversity and as a result Ethiopia has more than 80 languages and over 200 dialects.

Coffee was first discovered by the goat herder Kaldi in the Kaffa region in Ethiopia, which is probably where the word 'coffee' originated. Today Ethiopia is the fifth largest producer of coffee in the world and Africa's top producer.

Out of the 145 million orphans worldwide, more live in Ethiopia than in any other country in the world. About thirteen per cent of Ethiopian children are missing one or both parents. Nearly a quarter of these parents lost their lives in the AIDS epidemic.

Scripture Union started in Ethiopia more than 50 years ago, initially providing leadership and Bible study notes and training for church ministers. Over the last thirty years its main activity has been with young people in schools, running Bibles groups, camps and other activities.



Ambassadors are **“between agers”** bridging the gap



Our SUI young ambassadors have been working hard at raising funds and sharing what they are doing. At the beginning of July the total raised through the [Go Global Leadership Race](#) was \$7,311. The hope is that more donors and fund raisers will come alongside them to reach their target of \$25,000.

One of our 50 young ambassadors, Osamudiamen Pujar, is a youth and schools' worker for [Scripture Union Nigeria](#). He hopes to be a bridge between his local movement and the international community. He said: "A Scripture Union Young Ambassador could be described as a "between ager" who represents Christ through the movement of Scripture Union International to serve as a voice for the next generation, thereby reaching and raising them to become a godly generation."

Some of the ambassadors' fundraising efforts have included a range of events from selling homemade items like snacks or even artwork to joining sponsored walks and sport events. In California a five kilometre walk combined fundraising with praying for the local community and an SU outreach event this summer.

You can support the Young Ambassadors via the donate button below.

[Donate](#)

Discipleship praised in Ghana school mission

One of the speakers at [Scripture Union Ghana's](#) schools mission, has praised their focus on discipleship.

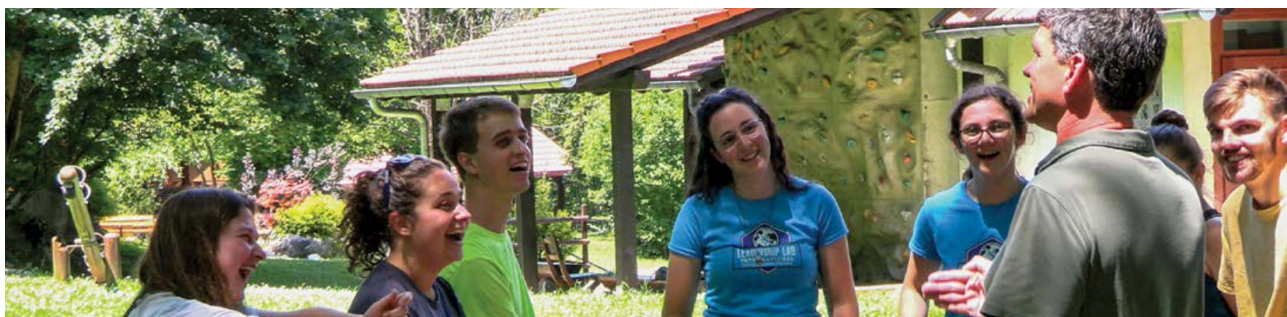
Speaking after an SU mission at Dwamena Akenten Senior High School, evangelist, Raymond Derkey Mensah, said: *"The focus of any evangelistic movement should not be only the numbers but the development (discipleship) of every person who comes to Christ."*

The mission had included teaching for students on 'Assurance of Salvation' and 'Principles of Spiritual Growth.'

Raymond said: *"God bless Scripture Union Ghana and the Ashanti Regional Leadership for their concern for souls in the schools in Ashanti Region."*



Young leaders combine outreach with training in California



Director of [Leadership Lab International](#) (LLI), Steve Meeker, has been excited to see how connections between Scripture Union and the local church are enabling a new form of training and outreach to be born.

LLI, a multicultural training arm of Scripture Union International, trains young Christian leaders from around the world to equip them for ministry. In a new development they have joined their experiential program for young disciple makers called 'Transform' with

the [Scripture Union USA](#)-designed SuperKids® outreach program and linked in a local church, which has English and Spanish speaking congregations in Santa Ana, California.

The young leaders, aged between 20-28, who come from a range of different countries, will combine their training with helping on the church outreach program. Steve said this is the first outreach of this kind by SU on the West coast.

An additional encouragement for the team is that a local volunteer will be translating all the summer training materials and Superkids program into Spanish at no cost. After the translation is complete, students from Calvary Church will use the curriculum for an outreach in Ensenada, Mexico, and Scripture Union Latin America will also be able to use the materials throughout the Spanish speaking world.

Steve said: *"The potential for ministry to expand and multiply abounds, from Transform participants returning to their home churches around the world with a new ministry model, to connections and relationships forged by the local church with their neighbourhood, and a Spanish curriculum that can open doors for ministry in new regions."*

You can partner with us

If you would like to know more about how to partner with us or find out about Scripture Union in a particular country or area, you can discover more **HERE:**



Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives
scriptureunion.global