

Bible Society of Kenya

Quarterly Newsletter vol. 16

The Bible People



STORIES INSIDE

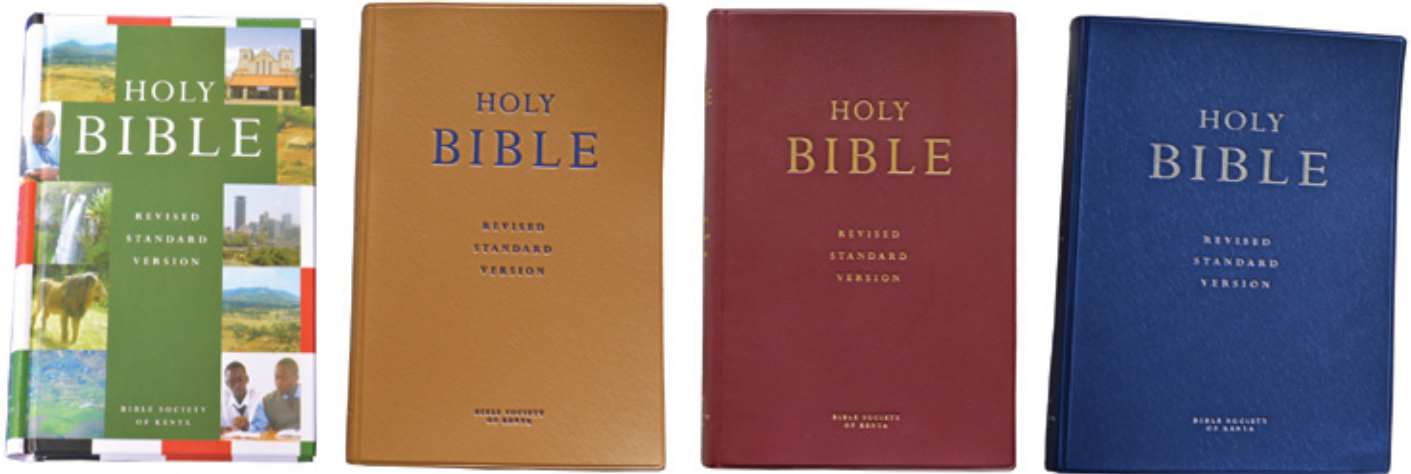
*Empowering Young Leaders
With God's Word*

Faith Comes By Hearing

Trauma Healing

*Playing golf to support
adult literacy*

Revised Standard Version



This version seeks to preserve all that is best in the English Bible as it has been known and used through the years. It is intended for use in public and private worship, not only for reading and instruction. Its features include;

- *Preface and subject index*
- *Attractive and durable covers*
- *Silver and gold edges*
- *Large font, easy to read*
- *Cross reference*

ABOUT US

MANDATE:

To share the good news of Jesus Christ by translating, producing, distributing and encouraging use of the Holy Scriptures.

VISION:

A People transformed by use of Holy Scriptures.

MISSION:

To make available the Holy Scriptures in affordable and innovative formats for holistic transformation of people's lives through translation, production, distribution and advocacy.

CORE VALUES:

- Christ-centeredness
- Stewardship
- Integrity
- Inclusiveness
- Innovation
- Partnerships

BSK PROGRAMMES:

- Translation
- Distribution
- Youth and children outreach
- Outreach to marginalized communities
- Faith Comes by Hearing
- Literacy
- HIV/AIDS-Where is the Good Samaritan Today?
- Trauma healing

From The General Secretary

Dear Members,

As we come to the end of the year, we give thanks to God for His grace, favour as we continue to place the Word of God in many hands.

Our programmes have continued to positively impact lives of thousands of people to the glory of God and for that we are grateful to God. The Trauma healing programme has continued to grow in leaps and bounds. Since the year began we have trained over 200 facilitators and they have begun reaching out to the members of the community through group healing sessions. Nothing makes us happier than seeing people's restoration of hope in life through this Bible-based programme. The programme has been airing in Kass FM, Hope FM and Radio Jambo.

We hosted the African Biblical Leadership Initiative (ABLI) youth Forum with the aim of empowering the youth to become responsible and credible leaders of today. The forum brought together youth from diverse backgrounds to discuss issues affecting the society as well as becoming exemplary godly leaders through leading with the mind, leading with the heart and leading with the hands. A day before the ABLI youth conference, we gathered some youth and staff members to exercise their leadership skills by planting trees at the Ngong Forest Sanctuary.

In support of our literacy programme, we successfully held a golf tournament at the Nairobi Golf Club. The tournament was aimed at raising funds for the Maasai adult literacy project. We are glad that the literacy programme is holistically transforming people's lives. The programme improves spiritual, economic and social status of the participants

BSK took part in this year's Nairobi International Book fair. This was a great opportunity for BSK to interact one on one with her customers as well as expound more about her products, programmes and membership.

The Society appreciated her customers by participating in this years customers service week. This is a week set aside globally for organizations to appreciate their internal and external customers and to demonstrate their commitment to raising the profile of customer service in Kenya. We are very grateful to all our customers and donors as they are our greatest support system and through their help we are able to fulfil our mandate.

We continue to spread the message of the Good Samaritan to diverse counties of this country. We held Training of Trainers (TOT) and decentralized workshops in various counties including Bomet, Nyeri, Kajjado and Western. This has been made possible through the generous support of our donors.

Children and young adults have not been left behind as we held Bible Eagles Club fun days in Nyeri, Machakos and Nairobi to bring them together for a day full of fun activities. Reading and engaging in the Word of God in a fun environment.

I am very grateful for your continuous support and prayers towards the course of Bible work. Through your generosity we have availed the Word of God to many people and will continue to do so. May the Almighty God richly bless you.



Mrs. Elizabeth Muriuki

Empowering Young Leaders With God's Word

The Bible Society of Kenya hosted a life changing conference for the youth aimed at empowering them to become leaders of today through the forum of African Biblical Leadership Initiative (ABLI).

ABLI is a dynamic forum for change in the African society. It applies Biblical principles to empower and inspire leaders of all backgrounds to address specific challenges within their communities, as well as providing an opportunity for networking and exchanging ideas on a wide range of issues pertinent to African cultures.

The gathering brought together youth from diverse walks of life including universities, colleges, community leaders from informal settlements and Churches who came to be empowered with knowledge and skills from the dynamic speakers with expertise in various fields from entrepreneurship, corporate leadership, politics and religion. The major topic of the day was leadership from the perspectives of leading with the heart, leading with the mind and leading with the hands. The Speakers included Rev. Gibson Anduvate, Senior Pastor International Christian Centre, Pastor Gerald Gichanga, Ripples International, Ms. Dominicah Gakii, Price Waterhouse Coopers, Ms. Caren Wakoli from Emerging Leaders Foundation and Mr. Anthony Mwangi (Mr. Tee).

Last year, Bible Society of Kenya held a four-day forum themed: Transforming Leadership in Africa, which was officially opened by His Excellency the Deputy President Hon. William Ruto and hosted at the Kenya School of Government. H.E. Hon Ruto applauded efforts by BSK and the African Biblical Leadership Initiative to not only congregate leaders from diverse parts of the continent, but to inspire and promote integrity in contemporary leadership. He added that values of integrity, stewardship and diversity resonate well with our national values.



Mr T one of the speakers addresses participants during the ABLI youth conference

A day before the ABLI youth conference, BSK gathered about 50 youth and staff members to exercise their leadership skills by planting trees at the Ngong Forest Sanctuary. The youth were drawn from various Universities who expressed their joy in planting trees as they felt they were contributing towards being good stewards of the environment. The Universities represented were Kenyatta University, Mount Kenya University, Moi University and Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology. BSK will continue to engage and empower the youth so as to equip them to adequately face life challenges both now and in the future.

Present at the tree planting event was Dr. Mohammed Girma the International Advocacy Officer from the British and Foreign Bible Societies who was pleased to be part of the great movement of impacting young leaders. He noted that youth empowerment is part of ABLI's thematic areas noting that he has a passion to see the youth bring positive transformation in society. The Head of Business Development Mr. Thomas Tharao spoke about Bible work noting that the tree planting activity was a way of giving back to the community as well as replenishing the raw materials from which Bibles are printed.

Some of the quotes by the keynote speakers

"Prioritize growth over income. Never monetize your gifting"
- Rev. Gibson Anduvate

"Faithfulness in one season opens a door in another season"
- Rev. Gibson Anduvate

"You cannot lead others if you cannot lead yourself"
- Mr. T. Kenya

You have to unlearn what you grew up learning especially if it's a hindrance to your purpose in life."
- Dominicah Gakii

"Authority flows from our relationship with God."
-Pst. Gerald Gichanga

"What is that one thing that you are good at? Pursue it."
- Ms. Caren Wakoli



The team poses for a photo after planting trees



I am happy to conserve trees for Bibles

First Classic Advanced Trauma Healing Training Held

The Bible Society of Kenya held a workshop that saw the first group of 28 facilitators graduate in classic advanced trauma healing. The training took place from 9th - 12th October 2017 at Dimese Sisters, Karen. The facilitators had already undergone the basic initial equipping trauma healing training and were already facilitating trauma healing in various regions of the country. Also present were participants from the Bible Society of South Sudan. The participants were certified depending on their performance on various tests administered; healing group facilitator, training facilitator and master facilitator.

The main facilitator was Mrs. Debbie Wolcott, the Training Manager at American Bible Society. Rev. Repent Abraham from South Sudan Bible Society was certified as a master facilitator. The participants from Kenya came as far as Kuria in Migori county, Baringo Kakamega and Nairobi counties. The participants were excited to be empowered with advanced skills that would enable them to handle trauma cases in their communities. After the classic advanced training, those willing to progress with the course were asked to register for the master facilitator course.

The trauma healing programme was introduced in Kenya by BSK in 2012. It draws its theme from Psalms 147:3 which says, *He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds*. The programme has since grown in reach and impact. Many people have been equipped with knowledge on how to handle trauma related issues as well as reach out to people who have undergone difficulties in marriage, loss of loved ones, rape, domestic abuse, sickness and many more. The programme is unique as it equips people with biblical and mental health resources so that traumatized people can experience the life-changing message of the Bible.



Mrs. Elizabeth Muriuki receives a certificate of participation in the advanced trauma healing training from Mr Isaac Litali of United Bible Societies



Participants in the initial trauma healing training pose for a photo after graduation

The programme has been aired on several radio stations including Hope fm, Radio Jambo and Kass FM which airs in the Kalenjin dialect. Since the start of live airing on radio, the programme gained a lot of mileage in terms of the number of people that have come to know of its existence. Through these media, many people have received renewed hope and are able to cope with life knowing that God is in control of everything that happens.

Since September 2017, 130 participants from government, church workers, children workers, lawyers, soldiers, counselors have undergone the basic trauma healing training and graduated. The training incorporates participatory learning and doesn't involve assumptions as it addresses real practical issues that confront members of the society on a daily basis.

The training not only equips the participants with trauma healing skills but also helps the trainees to get healing on their personal issues before they can go and minister to other wounded hearts. The areas covered in the training include; why people suffer if God loves them, healing the wounds of the heart, grieving, rape, ministering amidst HIV/AIDS, caregiving, forgiveness, living amidst conflict, helping children that have undergone bad things, taking one's pain to the cross and looking ahead. The training is open to everyone that needs their personal healing of heart wounds and to be able to help others. Kindly contact us on info@biblesociety-kenya.org for more details on how to join a class.

'Before I attended the trauma healing class at BSK, I did not know what to do when confronted with problems. I lost my parents about two years ago and this really affected my life. I have never been able to overcome this loss because I was very close to my mother. When I went thought the topic about how to grieve, I have learnt that it is good to grieve in the right way. I have now learnt how to grieve and let go of things that happened in the past. Even though I cannot say that I have completely healed, at least I am able to face life in a new hope that my mother is safe in God's hands'.

Jacinta Njeri, participant

'My husband left me for a younger lady in 2015. This act really hurt my emotions and my relations with God and my neighbors. After the trauma healing training, I have learned to forgive and let go. I am now taking care of my two children but I know that with the help of God I will make it'.

Jerister Muthoni, participant

Playing golf to support adult literacy

BSK held an exciting golf tournament event on September 22nd 2017 at the Royal Nairobi Golf Club to raise funds for the Maasai adult literacy project.

The event was attended by 71 golfers from various golf clubs who came to play as well as support the noble course of helping communities with low literacy levels in Kenya.

This was the second event held by BSK and it was indeed successful. The golfers were very excited to contribute to the lives of communities with low literacy levels so that their lives will be transformed holistically. They also got to learn more about what the Society does to nurture people's spiritual wellbeing.

The General Secretary Mrs. Elizabeth Muriuki noted that BSK runs literacy classes in Maasai, Pokot and Turkana communities. She added that through this programme learners are able to manage their businesses, educate their children, learn literacy and numerical skills as well as read the Bible. She thanked all the golfers for their support towards the noble cause and noted that the funds will go towards assisting the Maasai community learn literacy skills which will translate to transformed lives.

After a long day of play, the golfers were treated to a sumptuous dinner by BSK and the winners received awards in different categories.

BSK was privileged to have the insurance company as the main sponsor of the event.



Golfers playing in support of literacy



Golfers ready to play



General Secretary Mrs. Elizabeth Muriuki appreciates one of the golf winners with a Bible during the event.

We were there! Nairobi International Book Fair

Unity through books was the theme at this year's Nairobi International Book Fair that took place at Sarit Center.

BSK participated in the book fair which is the most popular in Africa, having been in existence for the last 20 years.

The forum brought together writers, authors, publishers, publishing house owners and printers from Africa and beyond. The event is organized by the Kenya Publishers Association, the body that brings together key stakeholders in the publishing industry in Kenya.

The expo was officially opened by the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Centum Investments, Mr. James Mworio. In his remarks, Mr. Mworio noted that publishers need to embrace technology as it makes it easy to access information both for children and adults at large. He added that through technology people are able to access information through various devices including mobile phones, tables, ipads and other devices which help in information sharing. BSK therefore needs to embrace technology so as to ensure that many people access the Word of God.

This was a great opportunity for BSK to interact one on one with her customers as well as expound more about her products, programmes and membership. Scriptures were distributed and enquiries handled from parents, teachers, students, librarians, bookshop owners and other guests.

Books whether creative works or factual texts serve as a reflection of the society from which the writers are drawn. It is therefore our duty to ensure that society is able to access information on issues that confront it and enhance a peaceful coexistence amongst each other.

BSK thanks all the guests who visited our stand and trust that our interaction will be even more enhanced. It is our joy to serve our customers!



If only we had money...



Mr. Charles Korir explains Bible versions to a client during the Nairobi International Book Fair

BSK appreciates her customers

Bible Society of Kenya actively participated in the National Customer Service Week.

This is a week set aside globally for organizations to appreciate their internal and external customers and to demonstrate their commitment to raising the profile of customer service in Kenya. Different activities were held to appreciate internal customers and promote the warmth of the BSK Brand as well as to acknowledge and recognize members and external customers.

Some of the activities included rewarding the most active brand ambassadors on BSK social media platforms, sending out appreciation certificates to bookshops, sending out a Happy Customer Service Week message on social media and the website; and sending out a Happy Customer Service Week message to BSK members. These initiatives were highly appreciated and the BSK fraternity was touched.

On the internal customer front, staff participated in a forum where each staff mentioned the things they appreciate about each other. Additionally nominations were done for the best person in customer service, the most supportive staff and the outstanding BSK brand ambassador. All these initiatives were geared towards enabling staff to appreciate each other's roles and feel the team spirit of each person's contribution towards achieving the BSK mission and vision.



Sharing a cake during customer service week

All the staff shared a sumptuous cake together in appreciation of their commitment and dedication towards making the BSK mission a reality.

The BSK management thanks everyone who made this year's customer service memorable!

Empowering children with God's Word

I learnt that I should love my neighbor as myself, how to control peer pressure and choose friends wisely. I made new friends and enjoyed the fun activities including bouncing castle, games and dancing.

Anne Wanjiku, from Heritage Children's Home Nairobi.

Bible Society of Kenya held a successful Bible Eagles Club Fun Day, a programme for children and youth aged 3-18 years aimed at engaging them with Scripture in a fun environment, develop life skills and instill a desire for transformation through God's word on November 24th 2017 at Madaraka Primary School.

Over 500 children from different schools, churches and children's homes attended the event and took part in various fun filled activities including; bouncing castles, singing, dancing, face painting tailored to instill values and have them engaged with scripture. BSK engages with her associate members through this event as a way of encouraging knowledge and use of Scripture from a young age.

This is part of Bible Society of Kenya's children's programmes aimed at inculcating good morals and positive behavior change among young people. This forum sensitizes young leaders from different backgrounds to appreciate the importance of the Bible in their lives and for the future.

The theme of this event is drawn from the book of Isaiah 40:31 which states that "they will rise on wings like eagles."



Children having fun at the bouncing castle



Tag of war just got better!



We had lots of fun dancing

The BSK General Secretary Mrs. Elizabeth Muriuki noted that BSK endeavors to train young children in the knowledge of God's word as this will guide them in the future. She adds that when young ones are trained in the word of God at a young age they will not depart from it.

Another successful event was held in Machakos on November 23rd 2017. This event brought together over 450 children from different church denominations and schools. These forums are held annually in different counties and are open to youth from 3-18 years to enjoy fun activities and fellowship as they engage with Scripture.



We are enjoying the class session...

Positive feedback has been received in the areas where these events have been held. Below are some testimonies from the children;

*It is my first time to attend this event and I have really enjoyed it. I have learnt that I should avoid bad company and choose friends wisely. I have also learnt that I should obey my parents as God commands me to do so. Next year I will bring my friends so that they too can learn and have fun. **Elizabeth Mutindi, Heritage Children's Home, Nairobi***

*I am attending this event for the fourth time. I have learnt how to read the Bible and pray every day. I have enjoyed the singing and dancing sessions. I have also learnt how to live responsibly and become a leader. I thank Bible Society of Kenya for holding this event and giving us good t-shirts. I will encourage my friends to join bible eagles club so that they too may learn God's Word. **Latifa Njeri, Machakos***

*This is the third time I am attending this event. I have learnt that I should love everyone around me so that we all may live peacefully. I have also learnt how to manage peer pressure and to be a good steward of my body because it is the Lord's temple. Next year I will bring my friends so that they too will read the Bible and have fun. **Boniface Wambua, AIC Manza Project, Machakos***

BSK welcomes you to bring your children to this great event next year. You are also welcome to sponsor a child at a cost of Ksh 400. For more information kindly contact us on info@biblesociety-kenya.org

Spreading the Good Samaritan Message to Counties

Through the generous support of her donors, BSK has reached several Counties with the Good Samaritan Programme. The message in this programme is about empowering communities with knowledge on how to help the infected and affected to live positively and to help the Church to stand up and fight HIV.

BSK held a Training of Trainers (TOT) and decentralized workshops in Bomet and Nyeri Counties respectively. The TOT workshop was held at Full Gospel Church in Bomet County where 25 couples were trained on marriage and family issues.

The Kalenjin community has been known for various cultural factors that have positively and negatively contributed towards the growth of the society. One of the factors is that women are not allowed to make decisions in the family or undertake some professions like accountancy which are known to be for men. It's for this reason that women remain subjects to their husbands therefore to those that have improved their status quo either financially or socially, conflicts in families are experienced.



*Group work of participants brainstorming on African Traditions
Favour men than Women video*

Pastor Anthony Gatonye from BSK challenged the couples on the need for conflict resolution so as to have healthy relationships in the family. He added that communication is a key element in problem solving as it creates a room for openness and understanding amongst couples.

Pastor Nicholas Kipkomai Mutai said, “the program is very important especially after having watched the movie on African Traditions Favor Men than Women, where the widow was left with nothing and she cannot make any decisions on her husband’s property of her husband. This is a culture we have adapted and I think it’s unfair to the society. I have learnt that people should learn to co-exist in harmony for the growth of their families.”

In Nyeri County, two decentralized workshops were held in two PEFA Churches where 87 children participated in the workshops. The children were happy to learn about life being a journey, challenges people face as they grow in life e.g. diseases, poverty, lack of school fees, death of family members among many others. They also appreciated the fact that the Bible has solutions to all life challenges and that they can always turn to God when faced by hardships.

“I am very delighted to learn about the Good Samaritan it’s a story I am happy to see being dramatized. I would like my friends to know about it so that they may be good Samaritans in their communities.”
Salome Wanjiru, 7 years old.

Another Training of Trainers (TOT) children workshop took place in partnership with New Life Church Ministries where 61 participants were trained on how to use the Good Samaritan Program in reaching out to children. The teachers appreciated the training and promised to use the manuals to teach Sunday school children to enhance their knowledge on basic life skills by use of Scriptures. The teachers received handbooks, children workbooks, resource manuals and flip charts were distributed.



Group photo of children after the training in Nyeri at PCEA St. Cuthbert

Similar successful trainings took place in Kitengela, Western and Nyanza regions.

If you would like your church to participate in the marriage seminars programme, please write to us on 0722205843 / 0733410020 or email; info@biblesociety-kenya.org

Availing God's Word in Audio Format

Through the generous support of our donors Bible Society of Kenya has managed to avail the audio Bible to different communities and make disciples for Christ.

Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH) programme is offered free for committed groups and churches. The audio Bible is available in English, Kiswahili, Ololuyia, Lukakamega Luterichi, Maasai, Luo, Gikuyu, Kiambu, Kimeru, Kikamba, Borana and Somali languages.

Through this programme, BSK has reached many people in Churches, learning Institutions, Prisons, Hospitals, Offices, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other Institutions. Listening to the Bible in audio format has also helped spread the gospel to those who cannot read the hard copy Bible.

We visited Pastor Amos Obadiah of Victory Celebration Center in Ikungu Machakos County. He could not hide his joy of how he has personally grown through listening to the audio Bible in Kikamba language. He notes that because the Bible is in kikamba, it is easy to listen, understand and expound to his congregants. He says that this Bible has helped the members of his church to grow spiritually as they listen and discuss the Word of God every Sunday morning before the Church service begins.



Pastor Amos Obadiah of Victory Celebration Centre (VCC) Church leads the group in discussions after listening to a portion of Scripture

Paul Muasya a congregant says, "I really like this talking Bible because it helps me to understand the Word better. The group discussions we hold every Sunday have helped me to understand portions of Scripture that were challenging to me. I am now able to teach my children God's word which has helped us to bond as a family. I have also managed to avoid bad company because my bible study group holds me accountable."

Dorcas Mwende a congregant says, I like the talking Bible because it's portable and easy to listen to wherever I am. My Bible study group has helped me to understand the Word of God better as we discuss the different chapters. I am grateful to BSK for bringing the Word closer to us as we have continued to grow spiritually. I have also learnt my local language, kikamba better and will teach my family the same.

In response to BSK mission to make available the Holy Scriptures in affordable and innovative formats for holistic transformation of people's lives, BSK will continue to avail the FCBH programme in different parts of the country so as to avail God's Word to all.

If you would like your church or organization to have the FCBH programme, please call us 0722205843 / 0733410020 or email; info@biblesociety-kenya.org



**A group in Machakos Victory Celebration Centre (VCC)
Church listening to the Kikamba talking Bible**

NEW PRODUCTS



Starter Bible
Kshs. 638



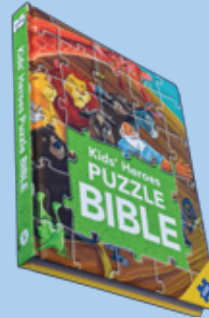
My Jesus Bible
Kshs. 662



My Mini Bible
Kshs. 580



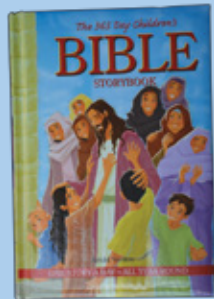
Kids Jesus Puzzle Bible
Kshs. 986



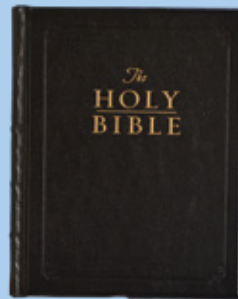
Kid's Heroes Puzzle Bible
Kshs. 986



Gikuyu old 052 Kshs. 1,392
(Wedding Bible)



The 365 Day Children's Bible
Kshs. 1,740



ESV Pulpit Bible
Kshs. 8,700



Old Gikuyu Bible
Kshs. 870



*Old Gikuyu Bible -
Wedding gift* Kshs. 1,392

Order your Bible on info@biblesociety-kenya.org or tel 0722205843/0733410020



Bible Society *of* Kenya

P.O. Box 72983 - 00200, Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: 6002827 / 6002425

Cellphone: 0722 205843 / 0733 410020

Email: info@biblesociety-kenya.org

Website: www.biblesociety-kenya.org



fb@biblesociety-kenya.org



[biblesocietyken](https://twitter.com/biblesocietyken)



[biblesocietyken](https://www.instagram.com/biblesocietyken)