

# Manna Publications

Low cost Easy English & European Bible teaching for translating and printing worldwide

Manna Publications in the UK is affiliated to Avail, Leeds, charity No. 1017386

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Please contact us via our secure website: [www.manna-publications.org.uk](http://www.manna-publications.org.uk)

## THIS IS MANNA PUBLICATIONS

### How a world-wide Christian literature ministry meets local needs

*“Late last year I bought the book ‘Beginnings, Genesis 1–11’ by Mr Fred Morris. This book blessed my soul by the deep exposition in it... Our church is young and without a Bible expositor; therefore your help will go a long way in supporting our spiritual growth.”*



This testimony from Kenya is an example of feedback from booklets written by the late missionary Fred Morris published under the imprint of Manna Publications. Fred ceased his ministry with CLC in the Caribbean, Asia and Africa and retired to the USA in 1990. It was then that God called Fred to meet the needs of literature-starved believers in the countries he had visited as a missionary. It was his experience that churches were (and still are) growing faster than trained pastors could provide sound foundational teaching. His vision was to provide low-cost, easy-English, self-teaching Bible commentaries for new converts and for other believers in remote places where there is a shortage of both teachers and teaching materials.

By the year 2000, Fred had completed much of his task of writing separate commentaries on all the books of the Bible. He then asked volunteers in the UK, who had easy-English experience required overseas, to edit his books. These included volunteers from SOON Publications, part of WEC International. Manna Publications (UK) was then set up in October 2000. In the first 24 years of the UK operation, over 700,000 copies in 1000+ separate print runs in 40+ languages (and some in Braille) have been printed at the point of need in 40 of the developing nations. God makes

this possible through prayer partners and volunteers and also through donors who provide the start-up funds in the UK/USA and others with the administration, translating and publishing skills necessary for creating the 40-page Bible-teaching booklets to print and distribute overseas. The languages include easy French, Portuguese and Spanish in addition to easy English, which are first or second languages in many countries overseas. We are currently active in 13 countries through 26 overseas publishers in Armenia, Congo D.R., Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. This requires books in 17 different languages.

The target readership is new Christians in Africa, South & Central America and Asia who need basic foundational teaching in areas without trained teachers and suitable teaching materials. A typical printing is 500 or 1000 copies in stapled A5 format with low-cost covers. In this way, costs are kept down and the booklets can be produced and sold at affordable prices. We insert the overseas organisation and printer details inside the back cover by including the words “Printed by... Distributed by...” The front cover usually includes a map of the country of printing. All this increases local identity and acceptance. No books are printed and sent out from the UK or USA. No money comes back to the UK or USA. By sending the funds to print the books at the point of need, this helps the local economy and encourages ownership. It also develops business and management skills in publishing, marketing, sales and distribution. In this way, new publishing ministries are established in the countries where the books are printed and distributed. We believe this is a unique form of worldwide literature ministry and is part of God’s vision given to Fred.

One important side effect of this ministry is that the use of easy-to-read plain English has made the translation into other languages quick and easy, with a higher level of theological accuracy. Manna volunteers in France and Portugal are helping to grow the ministry in French- and Portuguese-speaking Africa. Spanish translations are also being used in Mexico with hoped-for distribution elsewhere in America. Profits from sales are used to reprint further copies and to help pay travel expenses. In the poorest countries, the booklets are often given away free. Printing costs are also subsidised by churches, missions and individuals in the UK/USA or by churches/missions in the country of origin. Manna Publications (UK) is non-profit making. All workers at home and abroad are unpaid volunteers.

Fred died in September 2018, aged nearly 94. He had seen his former missionary work blessed by God and grow in ways that he could never have imagined. His ministry has been extended into online books and daily Bible devotions through the Manna UK website, which are mobile-friendly.

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**MISSION STATEMENT:** "Distributing the truth of God in countries and regions where literature is scarce or literacy is low or teachers are few."

**HOW?** "Through low-cost Manna Bible teaching commentaries in Easy English and three European languages for translating & printing overseas at the point of need."

**We arrange** publishing partnerships with approved overseas Christians, churches or missions so that Manna Publications can help to meet their growing need for Bible teaching material in the following ways:

1. We supply by email ready-to-print pages (text with pictures) to trusted contacts overseas.
2. We help to pay for the first print runs, at the point of need.
3. We encourage "table top" sales of our books at affordable prices at churches, special events and in markets.
4. We encourage sales money to be put back into printing more copies for sale after deduction of travel expenses.

**To achieve this:**

5. We prepare Bible teaching material free of Western jargon, culture and idioms or theological terms.
6. We use easy-to-read plain English, French, Spanish and Portuguese that is suitable for overseas readers.
7. We make it easy to use European text to translate accurately into local languages and then supply print masters.

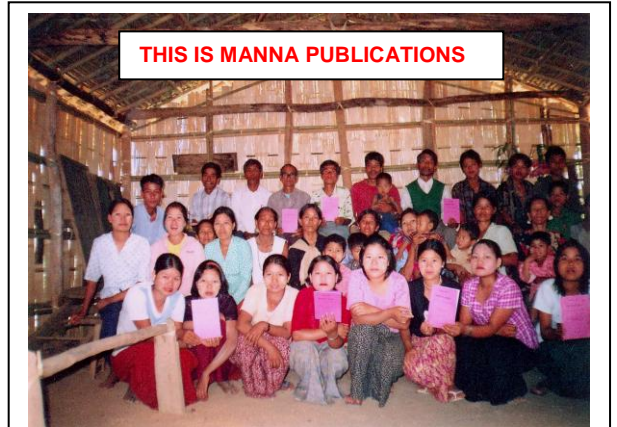
**This ministry provides additional benefits:**

8. The use of easy-to-read European languages also meets the demand of those who wish to improve their education for commercial and career development.
9. We generate employment and income for local printers and provide business experience for our distributors who publish and sell our books and arrange money transfers.
10. We encourage a "tent-making" attitude towards local publishing opportunities that can become self-supporting businesses whilst developing an evangelical literature ministry.
11. Titles are available on the website for self-printing or reading in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese or for translating into local languages for books we can make up for you in the UK to print worldwide at the point of need.



THIS IS MANNA PUBLICATIONS

Checking and printing Manna books at SIL print works, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo



THIS IS MANNA PUBLICATIONS

Young church members in the Chin Hills, NW Myanmar, holding up their Manna books



THIS IS MANNA PUBLICATIONS

Book distribution after meetings in Juxtlahuaca, Mexico

Also available as 2000-word 'Bite-size Manna', and in mobile-friendly large print versions online.

**Front cover of the Manna Publications Bible teaching commentary on Romans chapters 1 to 8 translated into easy French and printed in Bamenda, Cameroon, 2016.**