

# Manna Publications (UK)

Bible Teaching commentaries in plain English for translating & printing overseas

Manna Publications in the UK is affiliated to Avail, Leeds, charity No. 1017386  
Parent organisation: Manna Publications (USA) Inc. In association with Publications Manne (France)  
Author: Fred Morris (USA). Secretary: Mrs Angela Russell (Lincoln) Tel. +44 (0)1522 810438  
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 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.”*



Fred Morris, author of  
Manna Bible commentaries

This testimony from Kenya is an example of feedback from booklets written by Australian-born missionary Fred Morris published under the imprint of Manna Publications. When he retired to the USA, 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 teachers and teaching materials.

By the year 2000, Fred had completed his task of writing commentaries on all the books of the Bible and turned to volunteers in the UK who had easy-English experience through working with missions in former colonies. Manna Publications (UK) was set up in October 2000. In the first 19 years of the UK operation, 42 of the developing nations have printed nearly 600,000 copies from nearly 900 separate printings in as many languages (and also Braille). God makes this possible through prayer partners and part-time volunteers in the UK/USA/France plus donors who provide the start-up funds and translation/publishing skills necessary for creating the 40-page Bible-teaching booklets to print overseas. We are currently active in Armenia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo D.R., Ethiopia, Eq. Guinea, India, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar (Burma), Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The target readership is new or rural Christians in Africa and Asia who need basic foundational teaching. A typical printing is 500 or 1000 copies in stapled A5 format with low-cost covers. In this way, costs are kept low and the booklets can be produced and sold at affordable prices. Distributors are encouraged to insert their own publication details inside the back cover including the words “Printed by... Distributed by...” The front cover usually includes a map of the country of printing. All this increases local acceptance. No books are printed and sent out from the UK. No money comes back to the UK. By funding the printing 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.

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 accuracy. Manna workers in France and Portugal are now growing the ministry in French- and Portuguese-speaking Africa. Spanish translations for South America have been pioneered by Manna USA. Profits from sales are used to reprint further copies and to pay travel expenses. In the poorest countries, the booklets are sometimes given away free. Printing costs are then subsidised by churches, missions and individuals in the UK/USA/France or at the point of need. 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.

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**MISSION STATEMENT:** "Publishing 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 plain English for translating and printing overseas at the point of need"

**By arranging** publishing partnerships with overseas Christians, churches or missions, Manna Publications can help to meet the growing need for Bible teaching material in the following ways:

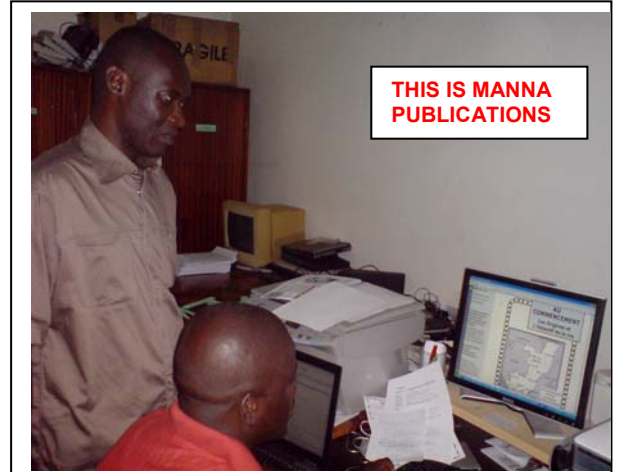
1. We supply by email ready-to-print pages (text with pictures) to trusted contacts overseas.
2. We help to pay for the first print runs locally, at the point of need.
3. We thus enable "table top" sales of our books at affordable prices at meetings and in markets.
4. We encourage profits to be ploughed back into printing more copies for sale.

**To achieve this:**

5. We prepare teaching material free of Western jargon, culture and idioms.
6. We use easy-to-read plain English and French that is suitable for any cultural background.
7. This makes it easy to translate accurately into local languages and dialects.

**This ministry provides additional benefits:**

8. The use of easy English/French meets the demand of those who wish to improve their education for commercial & career development.
9. We generate employment and income for local printers and provide business experience for Manna distributors who publish & sell our books.
10. We encourage a "tent-making" attitude towards local publishing opportunities that can become self-supporting businesses whilst developing an evangelical literature ministry.



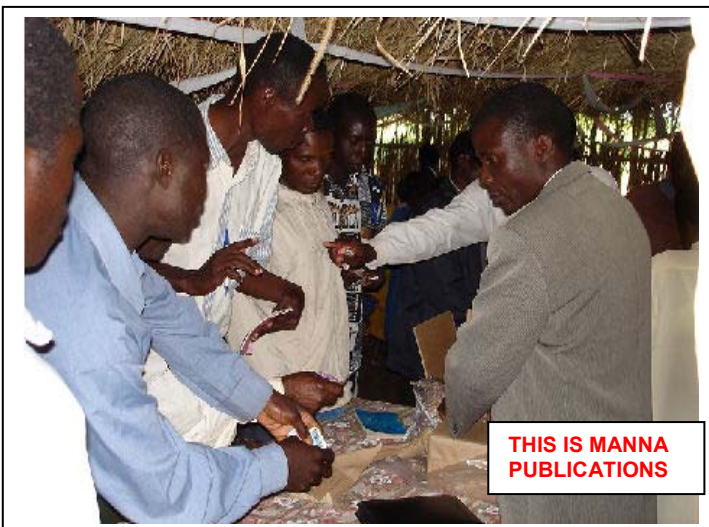
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Checking and printing Manna books at SIL print works, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo



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



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Table top book sale after meetings in Malawi

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.

