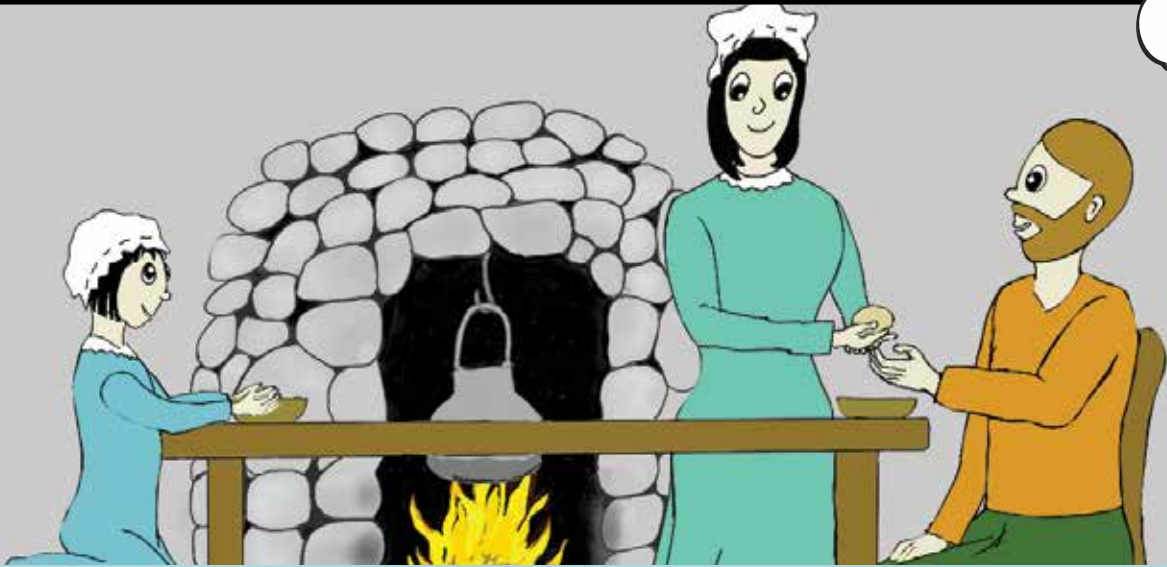


MARY JONES

AND HER BIBLE



Once upon a time, long ago, a little girl called Mary lived in a far away country called Wales with her mom and dad. They did not have a lot of money. There was no school close to where Mary lived and so, she had not learnt to read and write.

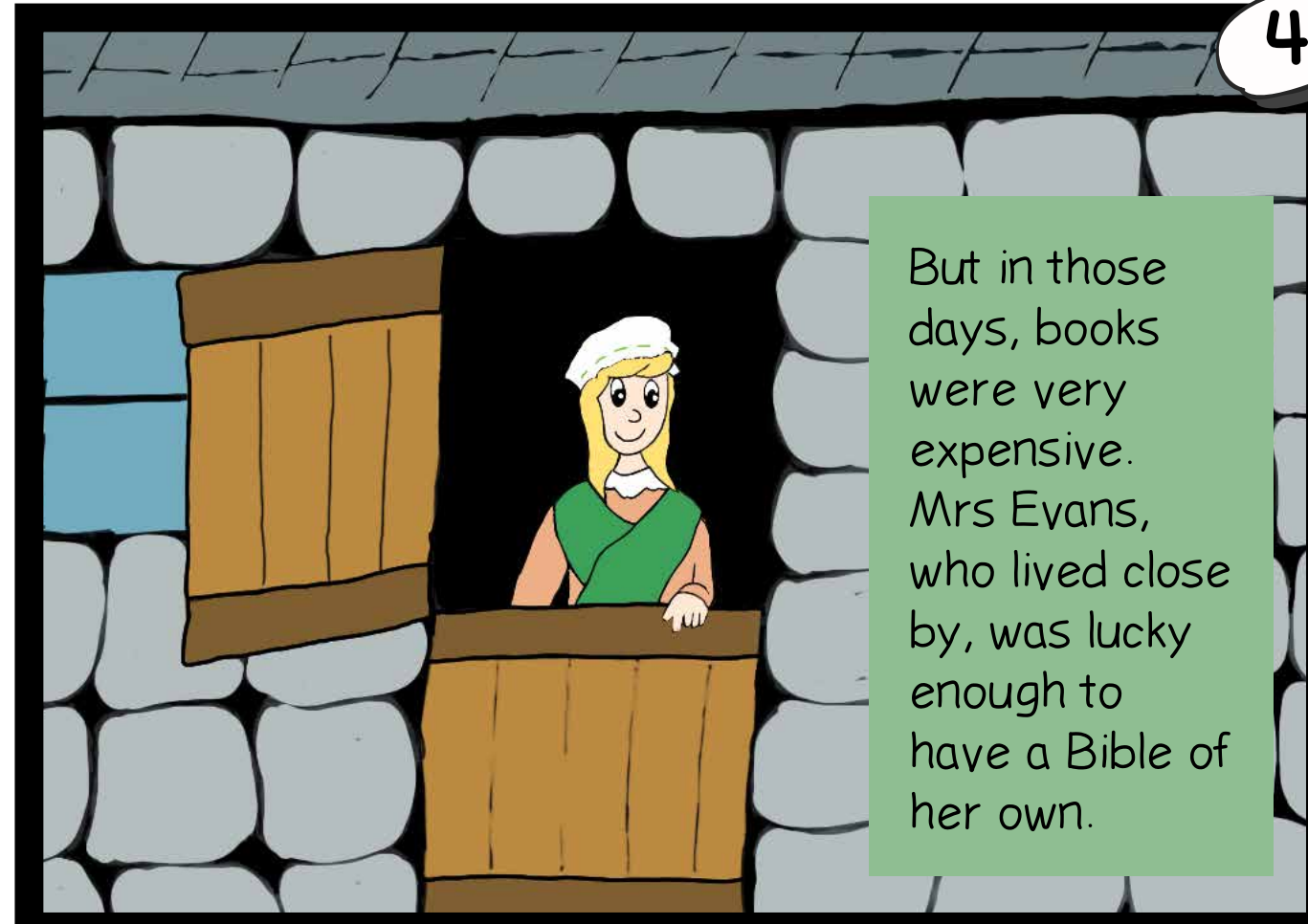


Every Sunday, Mary went to church with her parents. There, she would listen to the minister reading from the big Bible. Mary tried really hard to remember all the stories the minister read in church, but it was too difficult.

A young girl with white hair is sitting at a desk, reading a newspaper. In the background, there is a whiteboard with some text and a silhouette of a person. The letters 'A B C D' are written in large, colorful letters (red, yellow, green, blue) on the wall. The scene is set in a classroom.

One day Mary's dad came home with wonderful news! A school was opening in their village!

"I can finally learn to read and write!" thought Mary. "Now I can read the Bible stories myself!"

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a green dress and a white headscarf, is standing behind a wooden counter. The background is a stone wall with a window. The scene is set in a stone building.

But in those days, books were very expensive. Mrs Evans, who lived close by, was lucky enough to have a Bible of her own.

5

She knew how much Mary loved Bible stories. One day, she invited Mary to her house to come and read from her Bible.



"I wish I had a Bible of my own!"

6



Then and there, she decided to do whatever it took to get a Bible of her own.



Mary worked very hard to save money.



She gathered wood and eggs and sold them at the market. She also mended clothes and did babysitting.



Finally, after six years, she had enough money to buy a Bible. But there were no Bibles in her town that she could buy.

Mary would have to travel far away to a town called Bala to buy a Bible. In those days, there were no cars or busses, Mary would have to walk.




She walked barefoot all day over rocky mountain paths, saving her only pair of shoes for when she arrived. Tired and hungry, Mary arrived in Bala as the sun was disappearing behind the hills.



The next morning, Mary raced off to see Rev Charles who would sell her a Bible.


"I am here to buy a Bible so I can read the Bible whenever I want to."





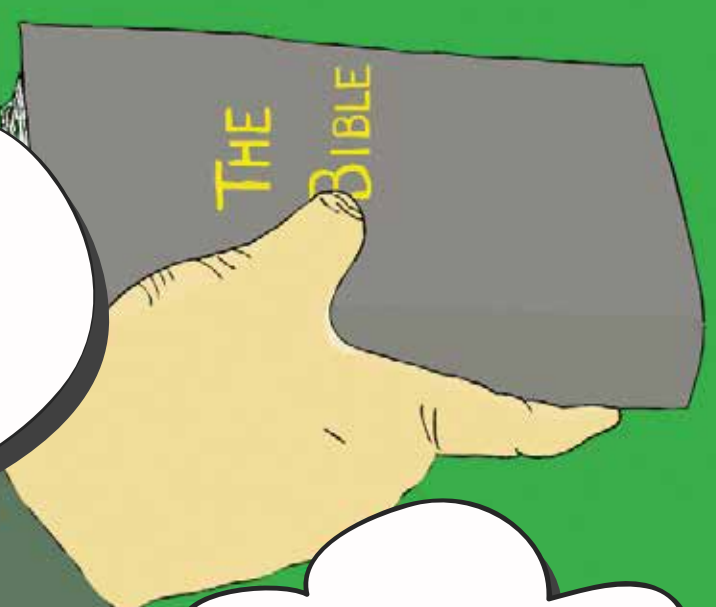
"I am so sorry my dear, but I have no more Bibles to sell."

Mary was heartbroken! She cried and cried.




"But I've come all this way, I've been saving money for six years."

Rev Charles could see how important the Bible was to Mary, and decided to help her.



"Here you go, Mary, you can have one of my very own Bibles."



"Oh thank you Mister Charles, thank you, thank you, thank you!"

A very happy Mary took her Bible home to her parents. Now, she didn't have to wait for Sunday in church, she could read the Bible whenever she wanted.



Rev Charles went to a meeting where ministers from all over the country were gathered; there, he told Mary's story. All the ministers decided to get more Bibles at low prices for the people of Wales.

One of the ministers said:

**"If for Wales,
why not for the
whole world?"**



... and that is how the first Bible Society started.



Today there are more than 140 Bible Societies all over the world who help people like Mary. The Bible Society of South Africa makes Bibles available at low prices in all of our country's 11 languages, so that everybody can afford a Bible of their own.

**We
need your
HELP !!!**

Translating Bibles takes a long time and cost a lot of money. Ask you mom or dad to fill in the attached form, tear it off, and send it to your nearest Bible House.



You can help other children to receive a Bible of their own!

My GIFT

Like Mary Jones,
I appreciate to have my
own Bible in my own
language.



I am enclosing: R_____

in order that children without Bibles may have the
same joy and privilege.

My name: _____

My address: _____

Denomination: _____

Congregation: _____

Central Region

p 12149 Brandhof 9324

t 051 444 5980

e bibbfm@biblesociety.co.za

Eastern Region

p 30801 Mayville 4058

t 031 207 4933/4/5

e bibdbn@biblesociety.co.za

Northern Region

p 2002 Kempton Park 1620

t 011 970 4010

e bibjhg@biblesociety.co.za

South Eastern Region

p 7579 Newton Park 6055

t 041 364 1138

e bibpe@biblesociety.co.za

Western Region

p 4848 Tyger Valley 7536

t 021 910 8777

e bibcpt@biblesociety.co.za

**There is
a Bible House
near you!**



www.biblesociety.co.za
bible society of south africa