



Tanzania  
Project Fact Sheet 2022

# Tanzania: Bible Knowledge in High Schools

## Overview

With support from Bible Society, three Anglican Dioceses in Tanzania are running a program to promote and assist with the teaching of the Bible Knowledge subject in secondary schools, and to provide all the teaching materials (free of charge) to schools that are willing to teach the subject.

## The Need

Tanzania is the largest and most populous country in East Africa. It is a poor country, with nearly 70% of the 62 million people living in poverty. Government secondary schools (which are attended by 90% of students) are typically poorly equipped and some lack teachers for all the core subjects. Often up to five students share a textbook, and sit two to a desk meant for one.

The constitution provides for freedom of religion, which has enabled different religious groups to coexist peacefully. While the majority of Tanzanians identify as Christians (61.4%), their knowledge of the Bible is shallow because most households do not have a Bible.

In Tanzania, there is an optional subject in the government curriculum for all secondary schools – on Bible Knowledge. Unfortunately, very few schools actually offer this subject to students; only about 3% of some 5,000 secondary schools. In 2020, less than 4% of over 400,000 students doing their Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations sat the Bible Knowledge final exam. There are approximately 2.5 million secondary school students in Tanzania.



## Project Goals

The program will promote the Bible Knowledge subject among local schools. It will enable interested schools to set up the Bible Knowledge course by giving them text books, reference Bibles, a teaching guide, sample class tests and answers, and general advice on getting started. The program will also support teachers new to the Bible Knowledge subject with regular visits, advice and further resources if needed.

A professional development seminar will be provided mid year to help improve outcomes and encourage isolated teachers to persevere. The program already has a number of schools teaching the Bible Knowledge subject; 22 in Kagera, 4 in Lweru and 19 in Biharmulo. However, there are many more secondary schools to reach. The program aims to expand to 45 new schools during 2022-2023.

## Impact

This program has great potential for reaching thousands of youth within the dioceses. It can give students a deep understanding of the Bible, and students tend to grow in faith in God when they grow in their knowledge of the Bible.

This program will help to grow the Kingdom of God and promote Christian unity. It will also help ensure that more leaders in Tanzania will have a stronger Christian grounding.

## Prayer Needs

- Please pray that more schools would be interested in teaching the Bible Knowledge subject, with the support of the program.
- Pray that students would be eager to learn more about the Bible, to deepen their understanding of God and his love for them, which would in turn impact their lives.