

The Gift of Bibles

One evening, I (Kevin) went to wait at the N'djili airport for someone coming into Kinshasa. During that time, I had an opportunity to tour the Air Traffic Control tower. I was able to see how the tower operated and was able to meet the people he spoke to when flying. The people were eager to answer questions and in turn were quite eager to ask all about MAF. They were very pleased to learn that not only was I a follower of Christ, but so were all the other MAF staff. And they were thrilled to find out that was the purpose of MAF's existence. One controller asked me if I happened to have a Bible handy, as he had never owned one. Then another asked... and another... and so on.



When the average worker makes about \$5 daily, and the cost of living in Kinshasa is so high (an avocado is about \$1), a \$10 book is essentially unattainable. Upon hearing so many in need of Bibles, I asked how many worked in the control tower all together - 70 was the response. So after setting a goal of providing 70 Bibles for the control tower, I eagerly contacted the church in which I grew up, *Highland View Church of Christ*, who immediately pulled through with \$1,200 just for this purpose! This is almost double the need, but in talking with the resident MAF IT guy here, we learned of some really cool Bible literature programs that can be put on SD cards. So we used the remainder to purchase 150 of those!

When my parents came to visit, they brought the funds with them. MAF then organized the purchase of the Bibles and arranged for a trip to the airport for my dad, Mark, and me. In each Bible, Mark added a stamp with the MAF logo and a sticker with John 3:16 explaining the Bibles were purchased with funds from *Highland View Church*.



My father and I were able to deliver 25 Bibles during the first trip (the tower has three teams of roughly 25 people each, so not all 70 are there at one time). The controllers were very excited and repeatedly thanked everyone involved in bringing the Bibles to them.

