

It was 1945 at the end of the devastating Second World War. The young Egyptian high school student needed some encouragement. On his way to school he walked by the downtown Bible Society bookshop and noticed an open Bible in the shop window. As he scanned it, a particular verse caught his attention:

Then Jesus told them: you are going to have the light just a little while
.longer

".Walk while you have the light before darkness overtakes you."

(John 12:35)

He felt immediately that this was a special message from God for him. That morning was a turning point in his life – it was the beginning of a life-long love story with the Bible.

Last Monday, January 30th 2006, Pope Shenouda, the Patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church (and as such the most influential Christian leader in the Middle East) along with leaders of the Protestant and Catholic Churches dedicated our Bible House and new Bookstore. The evening was a gala affair with key Government officials, a sheikh representing the Muslim Community and an unusually impressive mix of key Christian businessmen in the country. The event surpassed our most optimistic expectation and will go down in history as a Bible Society of Egypt milestone!

Undoubtedly the most moving part of the evening was when Pope Shenouda shared about his love and commitment to God's Word and how it all began on that day 61 years ago when, as a high school student, God spoke to him from that verse in the window of the downtown Bible Society bookshop!

Our prayer is that this same living Word will impact many lives that in turn will be used by God to accomplish His will in this needy and lost world.

We feel we are at the beginning of an exciting new era for the Bible Society and covet your prayers for us as we think of more creative and effective ways to communicate God's Word, while we "have the light...".