



## Reaching the Francophone World



**"We are so grateful for eDOT's partnership and help in launching this exciting program for the Francophone world. Their help with setting up Moodle has been invaluable!"**

**Bob Winslow, IBG Online director**

### Connecting in Prayer

- Praise God for the effective computer outreach of the short-term team from Washington, D.C., in Kiev last month. Pray that God would continue to bring fruit from this outreach.
- Pray for Zaporozhye Bible College in Ukraine as they consider expansion of their distance-learning program.
- Trust God with Geneva Bible Institute for a successful run of their online testing this month.

God is building His church through technology. Find out how! Go to [www.GEMeDOT.com](http://www.GEMeDOT.com)

**"So the message about the Lord spread widely and had a powerful effect."  
Acts 19:20 (NLT)**

Imagine what God can do through just one person who is obedient to His calling! A Scot who came to Christ in Geneva, Switzerland, at the turn of the 20th century, H.E. Alexander founded the **Geneva Bible Institute (Institut Biblique de Genève, or IBG)** in 1928 with 25 students. Teaching in the French language, the school has trained over 2,000 people, equipping many as pastors or lay leaders in the French-speaking world.

IBG offers a one-year intensive course of study in Bible with a strong mentoring component, followed by three years of internship in a local church. Most of the students come from France, Switzerland, or Belgium. But what about the many French speakers who desire to study, equipping themselves for ministry, but are unable to come to Geneva due to work or family commitments? Or because they live far from Geneva?

Several years ago IBG initiated discussions with eDOT about starting an online program that would enable those who wanted biblical training, as well as ministry interns, to study without the boundaries of time and distance. After months of collaboration, **IBG Online** is geared to enter the initial testing of the New Testament Survey course this month in preparation for the launch of IBG Online in October 2008. According to Bob Winslow, IBG Online director, Phase I of this program will offer 12 courses, the equivalent of the initial one-year certificate, to French speakers in Europe. Phase II will offer these courses to 100 pastors-in-training in French-speaking Senegal and Rwanda.

The potential for a French online Bible program is enormous! French is spoken, either as a native or second language, by about 350 million people in 54 countries. That's why eDOT has been eager to help IBG Online on all levels - offering Moodle training and support, technology consultation, and globalized course material. French speakers throughout the world will be able to enroll and access the course material hosted on eDOT's server. Final preparations remain - linking Bible references to an online Bible, creating a tutorial video for Moodle using screen-capture software, and making an introductory video from the IBG director.



Anyone who has been involved in the start of a new project realizes the tremendous hurdles that have to be overcome to launch a program this large! In the spiritual realm, our Enemy sees the potential as well as we do and wants to thwart our efforts. **Would you stand in prayer with the IBG Online staff, asking God to give them wisdom in the challenges of this new endeavor and to empower them with His Spirit?** Could H.E. Alexander have ever dreamed that this institute would reach not only an apartment in Belgium but a hut in Rwanda? He was faithful in doing what God called him to do. May we also be faithful in doing our part - whether praying, giving, or supporting in practical ways. "Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God."

