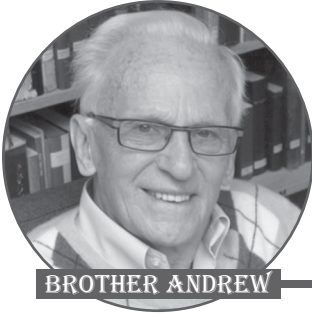


WEEK 1

LEGACY IN SERVICE



BROTHER ANDREW

- Born 1928
- First trip to Poland
- Open Doors founded
- Wrote God's Smuggler which has now sold over 10 million copies
- Berlin wall fell leading to the fall of communism in Europe.
- Received the World Evangelical Fellowship Religious Liberty Award
- Died 2022

A young man visited a Baptist church in Warsaw, Poland. The year was 1955, and Poland was part of the Communist Soviet bloc. The young man was invited to speak, and when he was finished, people in the little Baptist church thanked him for coming and said, "Even if you had not said a word, just seeing you would have meant so much. We feel at times as if we are all alone in our struggles."

That young Dutch man was Andrew van der Bijl, and he became known as Brother Andrew. That trip changed the world.

The iron curtain of communism sealed off dependence and communication with the free world of Europe and the West—and that included Christianity. But Brother Andrew believed that Christians behind the iron curtain needed Bibles and encouragement, even if it was illegal. He wanted to serve them and reach others with the gospel of Christ, so he was willing to risk his life, crossing the borders many times in his little blue Volkswagen Beetle. He became a smuggler of God's word.

LORD, IN MY LUGGAGE I HAVE SCRIPTURE I WANT TO TAKE TO YOUR CHILDREN. WHEN YOU WERE ON EARTH, YOU MADE BLIND EYES SEE. NOW, I PRAY, MAKE SEEING EYES BLIND. DO NOT LET THE GUARDS SEE THOSE THINGS YOU DO NOT WANT THEM TO SEE.

The work grew and Open Doors was founded. Even when the door seems closed, Christians who are sold out to Christ can find an open door to go proclaim Christ and serve those who are in need. At first the need was Bibles, but later it was seminary training, and now it also economic relief and rebuilding in over 70 countries.