

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – JANUARY 16, 2008

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***TextAloud* Brings Faith to Life for Listeners**

Text to Speech Brings Comfort and Faith from Printed Page to the Ear

CLEMMONS, NC – The greatest power of Text to Speech lies in its ability to bring written words into sound – to entertain, educate, or, as is the case with many users, even to reconnect the listener with his or her faith. When a printed word becomes a spoken one, reading is no longer confined to a chair, but opened up to the world. Through Text to Speech and programs like *TextAloud* from **NextUp Technologies** (<http://www.Nextup.com>), the Bible, Scriptures or other religious works can now be enjoyed anywhere, bringing comfort and inspiration wherever the listener goes.

“By using *TextAloud* for listening for listening on a PC, laptop, or other portable device, people with failing or poor vision can now listen to their favorite Scripture or other religious passages read by lifelike and enjoyable human voices,” comments **Rick Ellis**, President of NextUp Technologies. “Others find themselves too busy to enjoy their works of faith as often as they would like, so *TextAloud* allows the printed page to become a rich and meaningful listening experience anywhere.” A popular and budget-friendly program, *TextAloud*’s prices start at just \$29.95.

Users of *TextAloud* to enjoy Bible or Scriptural passages include:

Anthony: “At 74 years of age, I have poor eyesight, and discovered *TextAloud* as a very useful program,” he comments. “I now use *TextAloud* to help teach children how to read the Bible. I am also using it to learn Hebrew and Greek in Holy Scripture study.”

William: “I came to *TextAloud* to see if it would work for church members who were having a hard time seeing to read, and to also see if it could read publications to them, as well. The program was priced right, and performed well.”

Eric: “I got *TextAloud* to read the NIV Student Bible faster and better, and also to get a better understanding of what I was reading. The program was excellent, and very easy to learn, and the AT&T Voices are very nice!”

Joseph: “I got *TextAloud* for Bible study and lessons. The program is very good, and affordable, as well.”

Steven W.: “As a Pastor, I purchased *TextAloud* with AT&T Natural Voices and was highly pleased. The program is very good, and I also love the integration with Firefox and Internet Explorer.”

Winnie: “In a lot of Bible study, most information is only available in printed text. Listening via *TextAloud* helps me to learn the answers much faster.”

In Fall of 2007, in addition, South African missionary Pieter Schutte began using *TextAloud* Text to Speech to present the Gospel in sound to those with access to modern technology. These users, and many more, quickly embraced the ability of Text to Speech to bring their faiths to them in new ways. *TextAloud* brings independence and freedom back to the enjoyment of faith-based written works, and to anyone with access to even a basic computer or laptop.

About *TextAloud*

A highly useful program that enables people from all walks of life to maximize their time through Text to Speech, *TextAloud* has been featured in *The New York Times*, *PC Magazine*, *Writer's Digest*, on CNN, and more. *TextAloud* has been hailed by critics and users alike, and is priced at just \$29.95. The program is compatible with systems using Windows® 98, NT, 2000, XP and Vista, and is available for fast, safe and secure purchase via <http://www.NextUp.com>.

About NextUp.com

NextUp.com, a division of NextUp Technologies, LLC, provides award-winning Text to Speech software for consumers, professionals, businesses, educators, and those with visual or vocal impairment, or learning disabilities.

In addition to *TextAloud*, NextUp.com markets other innovative Windows software designed to save time and deliver vital information. *NewsAloud*[™] is a talking personal “news agent” that finds the stories users want, and then reads them aloud or to portable audio files. *WeatherAloud*[™] is a weather application that lets users select and listen to personalized weather forecasts, while *StocksAloud*[™] reads stock updates and related news headlines aloud for specific companies of interest. NextUp *Talker* is an easy and affordable program that allows people who have lost their voices to use the latest in high-quality computer voices to communicate with others. Most recently, NextUp introduced a new text reader, *AbleReader*, available with the AT&T Natural Voices[™] for use on Mac computers. Information on *AbleReader* is available at <http://www.AbleReader.com>.

NextUp.com also offers *TextAloud* with optional premium voices from **AT&T Natural Voices[™]**, **NeoSpeech®**, **Nuance®**, **Acapela®** and **Cepstral®** for the most natural-sounding computer speech anywhere. Available languages include U.S. English, U.K. English, Indian Accent English, Scottish Accent English, French, Canadian French, Latin American Spanish, Castilian (European) Spanish, Mexican Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, European Portuguese, Russian, Mandarin Chinese, Cantonese Chinese, Korean, Japanese, German, Italian, Dutch, Belgian Dutch, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Polish, and Arabic.

Evaluation copies of *TextAloud* are available upon request. For more information on NextUp.com or *TextAloud*, or for other case studies involving users ranging from writers, firefighters, doctors and lawyers, to truck drivers, musicians, and more, please contact publicist Angela Mitchell at **(904) 982-8043** or via Admitchell@Nextup.com.

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