

Video Script Chapter 14: Checking Resources

Video 14.1

Some people wonder how translators with little training or no formal education can translate God's Word. We believe that God specifically empowers His people with His Spirit to do His work. We have also talked about how mother-tongue translators are uniquely prepared by God when they learn more than one language during their childhood.

We also recognize that teamwork helps people to make better translation decisions by relying on everyone's understanding and Biblical knowledge. This is why the MAST process includes at least 6 translators in reviewing and checking every passage.

Now we want to talk about one of the ways that Wycliffe Associates supports translators in creating accurate translation. We offer checking resources to be used during the MAST checking steps. These resources enhance translators' understanding of the passage in its original language. Checking with reliable resources is essential to affirm the quality of your translation.

Let's discuss and practice using two checking resources.

- Translation Notes—This is a series of specific notes for each verse of the Bible. These notes discuss the verse's context, background, figures of speech, and how others have translated hard-to-understand concepts and abstract terms.
- Translation Words—This is like a dictionary of Biblical terms, providing clear meanings and suggestions for alternate words with the same meaning.

Video 14.2

Let's look at Translation Words a little more. It gives us a list of words that other translators have found difficult to understand and translate. This is NOT a list of the key words or terms. Notice that this list does not include "Pharisees," "Jesus," or "sinning," yet all three of those words would be key words that are necessary to understand this passage.

The definitions in Translation Words can help you pick the right word or phrase to translate the meaning of difficult words or concepts.

Remember, these resources have been designed to help ONLY during the checking steps. Using them in the steps leading up to drafting will make drafting much more difficult and take more time. Your natural wording will likely also be lost, making the translation sound very awkward or foreign.