

16 Scripture Engagement – Walkthrough

(White board; slide deck, CG Appendices E and F – 60 min. with practice)

Intro: In this session we are going to talk about using the newly translated Scripture in the language community. Think about how you currently use your Bible. How often do you read it? What are some ways that you study it? It is possible that some people who do not have Scripture in their heart language have not thought of reading it for themselves or studying it together in groups. They have not had that opportunity.

Ask: How is Scripture being used already in your community? *(This will of course mean Scripture in a second language.)* What are some ways that Scripture was used in the Bible itself?

- Group teaching (Nehemiah 8:1–8)
- Individual teaching (Philemon addressed to one person)
- Singing (Exodus 15, a song of praise, Psalms)
- Training, correction (2 Timothy 3:16,17)

Explain: Share that Wycliffe Associates has prepared some guides to help the community to study the newly translated Scripture. These guides also can be used to provide feedback for further revision, where needed.

Introduce: The Reviewer's Guide for checking the Scripture with the community also has several sections called the Application Guides. If possible, demonstrate on BIEL how they can access the Application Guides. Explain how the Application Guides are designed to be used in a small group with a qualified leader to guide the discussion. *(Note that the Application Guides themselves include instructions.)*

Exercise Session

Use CG Appendix E Application Guide for Doctrines to study with the group. Select a topic from Appendix E, then read the passage and use the questions together as a demonstration. Remember that these studies are designed to be used by people hearing God's Word in their mother tongue for the first time. They should take time to enjoy thinking about God's Word together. When possible, a person in the group should take notes on the answers, especially where there is confusion. This feedback can then be shared with the translation team.

Explain: The Bible makes certain claims for itself and the work that it will accomplish. CG Appendix F Biblical Impact Questionnaire is a tool to measure the impact that the newly translated Scripture is having in the community. Show them Appendix F and discuss how it can be used. If you have time, demonstrate with a few of the questions.

Ask: How might your community use the new translation?

- Would weekly or monthly small group meetings work?

- Will the pastors in your community use the Scripture for teaching?
- What are ways you might use the Scripture with those outside your own church?
- How can you include unbelievers and skeptics?

Confirm: Community Scripture engagement is important for the spread of the gospel and the spiritual growth of the church. The translators understand the necessity of a plan to share their work with their communities.