

10 Checking Resources – Walkthrough

(Internet access needed for the parts of this module that use bibleineverylanguage.org – if internet access is not available, you will need to have a downloaded version of the interleaved PDF of the Translation Notes for Matthew – 60 min.)

Intro: Some people wonder how translators with little training or no formal education can translate God's Word. We have already talked about our belief 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. Now we want to talk about one of the ways that Wycliffe Associates supports translators to create accurate translation by offering checking resources.

Explain: [►] **We will discuss and practice using two checking resources.**

- [►] Translation Notes—This is a series of specific notes for each verse of the Bible about 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.

[►] **Review** the concept of the four drafting steps and the four checking steps.

- **Ask: In which set of steps would you use the helps and resources?** *(Wait for answer, then [►].)* Make sure they understand that the resources are designed for the checking steps. All the drafting steps are to be done with only the source text and no other helps.
- [►] List the checking steps.
- **Ask: Think about each of these checking steps for a minute. [►] What kind of resource—besides the original source text—might you use during each one?** They may suggest commentaries, other versions of Scripture in the Gateway Language, Greek lexicons, or the resources we just described. Encourage them that they may use any of those that are available to them.
- [►] The Translation Notes and Translation Words checking resources are available on bibleineverylanguage.org, and leaders can download and [►] print out PDFs for each book of the Bible from that website. *(If possible, take them to bibleineverylanguage.org and demonstrate where to find the resources. If that is not possible, show them your downloaded version of the PDF.)* [►] Explain that these resources are also available in BTT Writer and VMAST, because they are built in. *(You may use the following slides to demonstrate use of these resources instead of doing so on BIEL, if you prefer.)*

- [►] Have someone read Matthew 12:9–14.
- [►] **Ask:** What do you think “Behold” means? [►] What is a “withered hand”? [►] Why did the Pharisees ask Jesus a question? [►]

Explain: Next, we will look at Translation Words. [►] Here is 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.

- If you are on bibleineverylanguage.org, have them pick one of these words for which they would want to look at the definition in Translation Words. (If you are using the slides, the definition of “accuse” is given. [►]) Discuss how the definitions can help them pick the right word or phrase to translate the meaning of difficult words or concepts.

Explain: Clearly express that the resources have been designed to help only during the checking steps. [►] Explain that using them for the steps leading up to drafting will make drafting much more difficult, take more time, and likely cause the translation to be very awkward instead of natural.

Ask: Now that we have practiced using Translation Notes and Translation Words, [►] how would you use these resources with each of the checking steps?

Confirm: The resources are an essential part of affirming quality. Using them may take a little practice, but translators will gain proficiency and see the value in the resources’ content as they use them.