

17d Sharing Bible translation with Others– Walkthrough

(White board– 30 min.)

Intro: We have spent a lot of time talking about Bible translation—how to train mother-tongue speakers to translate the Bible into their own language, how to plan for accessibility and acceptability, and many other things. All of this is part of what Wycliffe Associates calls “Church-Owned Bible Translation,” or COBT, and COBT doesn’t stop when the Bible has been translated into a new language.

Ask: How is Bible translation part of the Great Commission? (Matthew 28:19,20)

Ask: Do you remember the 4 Beliefs and 6 Behaviors? (review these with the group)

Explain: Behavior #5 is, “The local church shares the concept and methodology of church-owned Bible translation with others.”

Ask: Do you know other language groups who need a Bible in their mother-tongue? How could you contact other groups? Do you know other pastors who might know people in need? Does the government have a list of language groups that you could access?

Explain: Now that you know about COBT, you have the opportunity and responsibility to share it with others. Share a story with them of when others have passed on the vision for COBT. (use one of your own or the example below)

- George Banda heard from a pastor friend about the MAST translation process. He traveled to our checking workshop, not knowing what he was coming to, but hoping to learn more about Bible translation. Banda is a pastor of a church with 9 languages represented. When his car broke down on the journey, he left it and found public transportation. He told us he could not go home until he had an answer for the people of his church.
- **Ask:** If George Banda showed up at your workshop, what would you tell him about Bible translation?
- George Banda did get the answer he needed and helped his language group start their own translation, which they completed in 2022.

Explain: Remember that all the resources we have been using are free for you to use and share. They are created under the CC-by-SA license we talked about, so they may be used, translated, distributed, and shared freely. *(In many workshops flash drives with current materials are distributed at the end. The RDD may have another way to share the materials; coordinate with them.)*

Ask: Who could plan a translation event and invite others? Could you?

Explain: Many people do not feel qualified when they are first invited to participate? Those who have tried the process and found good success are uniquely qualified to

share COBT and MAST with others, because they have personal experience with the methodology. They know the struggles and successes that come from translating God's word.

Ask: Now that you have participated in this event, are you excited to share COBT and MAST with people you know? Why?

Confirm: The participants have understood the spiritual value of telling other communities about COBT and know that they will be equipped with the practical resources needed to help others begin translation projects. They are prepared to share what they have learned.