<mark>09   Software Tools and Options – Walkthrough</mark>

(White board; internet access for showing where to download tools in bibleineverylanguage.org – 30 min.) **(Note:** *It may be good to have the oral or written conversation [see module 05] before introducing tools, so that this walkthrough can focus on the tools that fit the team's desired end-product.)*

<u>Intro</u>: In this session we want to show you some of the software that Wycliffe Associates offers to help teams translate and preserve their work. Many software options exist, but Wycliffe Associates is committed to providing free software with free resources for translators to use in checking their translation. Another important aspect of using Wycliffe Associates software is that all data can be freely uploaded to Wycliffe Associates Content Servers (WACS) for storage and use.

<u>Explain</u>: Several software options exist and are available for download at bibleineverylanguage.org. (If you have internet access, go to bibleineverylanguage.org and show where to download these. Be sure to familiarize yourself with these programs on BIEL ahead of time so that this goes smoothly.)

<u>Remember</u> that it is the Local Church who decides which translation format to use— a written translation that people can read using an accepted writing system for their language community, or an oral translation that people can listen to using an MP3 player or smart phone. Remember that each language group knows best what is right for their own community. We want to show you what we offer for free, but leaders for each language group are the best ones to decide what to use, because they know their own people.

<u>Ask</u>: Have you talked about whether you will have an oral or a written translation? *(Encourage them to tell you what they are thinking, and what decisions they have made.)* How many people in your community read and write? How will those who do not read or write be able to hear the Scriptures in your language, once your translation is complete?

If a written translation is best for the community, there are three options we offer. Each provides a different set of advantages.
- o BTT Writer is good if a tablet or computer is available for translators to use. Not every translator has to have a computer for this option: translators can do all their work with pen and paper and then have a typist who will be responsible for entering their text into BTTWriter.
    - – A benefit of BTTWriter is that translation resources for use during the MAST checking steps are embedded in the program, so no internet access is necessary to use those resources.
- o Autographa is a simple and intuitive program for teams who have low computer literacy. However, none of the checking resources are available within the program.

- o V-MAST allows translators to continue working together virtually. It requires a computer and a good internet connection for each translator, though, because they must work in V-MAST online. This program provides direct access to online checking resources.

Review: Think about these three options and about whether one of them would work well for your community. Do you have any questions? *(Pause to let them discuss options and ask questions.)*

Explain: If an oral translation is best for the community, or if there is a need to record a translation that is already written, we offer two options.
- o BTT Recorder is a recording software that allows people with no literacy or low levels of literacy to create an oral translation of the Bible. This program is designed to serve people with little or no computer skills.
- o Orature is designed to allow for audio recordings of current written translations. It was also developed to serve as a platform for creating oral translations. Orature includes audio source files.

Review: Think about these two options and about whether one of them would work well for your community. *(Pause to let them discuss options and ask questions.)*

Ask: When you think about your language community, which of these tools might best serve your needs? Things to consider include:
- – Are there laptop computers or tablets available?
- – Is there access to good internet connections?
- – Are people in your community used to using computers?

Ask: Now that you have considered these things about your language community, do you have a good idea about which program to choose?
- – What benefits do you see for using that specific program?
- – What challenges might you face using that program?

Share: Psalm 102:18 says, "Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord." Your Bible translation is not just for today; it is for future generations to know and praise the Lord. We want to help everyone to use the right tools to be able not only to serve their own local church, but to preserve the Scriptures for future generations. These software tools are designed with that purpose in mind.

Confirm: Choosing the right translation tool for your team is essential for two primary reasons: (1) The right tool will support the format you have chosen for your translation. (2) Using the correct tool leads to preservation of the translation for future publishing. Wycliffe Associates offers several specific tools with unique advantages to serve our partners well.

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