Chapter 15: Refinement and Revision

<u>Objective</u>: Participants will understand how to use the <u>Reviewers'</u> <u>Guide</u> and other resources to include a wider audience in refining the quality of the translation.

Core Concepts:

- After the 8 steps of MAST, translators should invite all believers in the heart language community should use and give feedback on the translation.
- Refinement is the process of making the translation even better before it is officially published.
- Revision involves periodic updates on the translation to reflect changes in the language.
- Wycliffe Associates has created a series of <u>Reviewers' Guides</u> to assist with these processes.

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a just man, and he will increase in learning (Prov. 9:9).

<u>Time</u>: 45 min. Materials:

- ✓ Slide Deck:
 T3.Slides_15
 _Refinement.and.
 Revision
- ✓ Bible with place markers
- ✓ Internet access and bibleinevery language.org

If internet access is not available:

- ✓ PDF download or printout of the <u>Reviewers' Guide</u> for Luke (17:11-19 is on pp. 221-23).
- ✓ Slide Deck: T3.
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 Accessing.
 Reviewers.Guide

<u>Intro:</u>

After translators have completed the eight steps of MAST, they have a working translation that is ready to be used, *AND* they should look for feedback on that translation from other Christians in their heart language community.

Let's talk about some ways to invite the community to ensure the quality of the

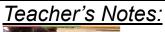
Scriptures. Their role is to use the translation, provide feedback, and make suggestions for refinement.

Refinement is the process of making something that is already good even better. Once the translation team has carefully followed the checking steps, they can be confident that they have a good translation; refinement is the next step—making what is good even better.

Discuss:

Let's read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, and consider how it relates to teamwork.

- Why would be helpful to include others?
 - New eyes might see things others have missed.
 - It provides an opportunity for others to affirm the work of the translation team, which helps lead to broader acceptance in the community.
 - It may help cross denominational boundaries.
 - It may help spread the word about the new translation.
- How could you include the community in refinement?





After the 8 Steps of MAST



Ecclesiasistes 4:9-12
Two are better than one,
Because they have a good reward for their labor,
"For if their have a good reward for their labor,
"For if the son one to help him up,
"Again, if two lie down together, they will keep
warm,"
But how can one be warmdone?
"Though one may be overpowered by another, to



Possible answer:
Community revision
may identify ways to
increase
understanding for all
ages and education
levels in the
community.



Remember that the <u>Quality Assessment</u> <u>Guide</u> is a useful tool in refinement. The QAG guides the community in what to look for as they review the translation. Wycliffe Associates has also developed other resources to help include the greater community in the process of refinement.

One of those resources is called the <u>Reviewers' Guide</u>. This guide is available on bibleineverylanguage.org. It asks questions of readers in the community to confirm understanding.

The <u>Reviewers' Guide</u> is a collection of documents to help local churches evaluate naturalness and comprehension. It can be used online, downloaded to flash drives, or printed.

It is not comprehensive, but it does cover passages in every book, including some of the most difficult ones to understand, and important doctrines that appear in many books. This will give translators and their community members assurance that the hardest parts are clear and complete.

Reviewers should read the Users' Manual before proceeding to any of the other

Let's practice together.

Here are a few simple steps for using the Reviewers' Guide.

Notes:



Demonstrate on bibleineverylanguage .org how to access the <u>Reviewers' Guide</u> (RG), OR use T3. Slides_15_Accessing .Reviewers.Guide.

If training in an area with little or no WIFI, take downloads or printed copies of the RG to show your participants.

Show online or hand out copies of the RG section for Luke 17:11-19. Work through the passage together as a group.

guides.

- A translator or other Christian leader should guide the review.
- The leader should remind those who are participating that the questions are not to test their memory but to check the completeness and clarity of the content. Participants may look back at the Scripture (or ask to hear it again) when asked questions.
- The leader should read the background information before reading the passage of Scripture. (If the check is of a written translation, all the participants should have copies of the Scripture, if possible.)
- The summary question is intended to get most of the information about the passage. The specific questions are designed to bring out the details.
- If something is missing, comments should be made on the guide itself and this should be shared with the translation team. NOTHING should be changed in the Scripture by the reviewers.

Revision of the Bible translation takes place some years after the initial completion and printing or audio production of the translation.

Why are Bible translations revised? God's Word does not change, but languages and word meanings do change over time.

Revisions can be made:

To correct typographical and grammatical errors.

Notes:

If you have a large group, you may want to split them into smaller groups to work through the passage.

Remind participants that including others in refinement has multiple purposes:

- affirming the quality of Scripture with new eyes on the text
- encouraging the acceptance of the translation by a wider audience
- giving the community confidence in the quality of the translation

Revision
Keeping the Translation Current/
Generational Ownership
Language changes over time.
- Plan by the church to revise the translation
- When needs is identified
- Every 5 years or other



- To express the meaning of scripture in a way that is more accurate to the original text.
- To ensure that doctrine is accurately communicated.
- To include changes when there have been changes in the way the language is spoken.

Other resources will also soon be available for refinement and revision. A <u>Greek Words</u> <u>for Translators</u> and <u>Commentary for the New Testament</u> will be available soon.

Discuss:

- How is the refinement process part of quality assurance? What about revision?
- What do you think the response would be from Christians in your community who are asked to help with refinement or revision of the translation?

Notes:

Refinement Resources



<u>Confirm:</u> Participants should understand that getting feedback from a wider audience is an important step in refining the translation and expanding its reach. The team should feel confident that resources are available to help them with this.