

02 Open Copyright Licensing – Walkthrough

(Slide deck and white board – 60 min.)

Intro: We are going to talk about copyright and how WA uses and creates material that is free for all under a Creative Commons licensing. This license is called CC BY-SA.

Ask: What do you know about copyright? Is the Bible that they use copyrighted? What does this mean?

- Make a list of what they share on white board or easel.

Explain what the letters CC BY-SA mean.

1. **CC stands for Creative Commons.** It is an organization that helps people license their work in a way that gives permission to others to legally copy, adapt, and distribute the work.
2. **BY stands for attribution.** It means that people may distribute or adapt the work so long as they give credit to the creator of the work. (*“You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.”—from Creative Commons website*)
3. **SA stands for Share Alike.** This means that when people remake and share something based on the original work, they must use the same kind of license for the new work. This gives the same permission to others to copy, adapt, and share the new work.

Ask: How does this seem different from what you know about traditional copyrights?

- Read 2 Corinthians 9:7, explaining that this passage is one of the reasons we are committed to this kind of licensing. Jesus told His disciples to “freely give” as they had “freely received” (Matthew 10:8b NIV). This licensing allows us to model that command of Christ.

Explain what CC BY-SA licensing does.

1. It provides a standard way to grant the public permission to use a creative work under copyright law.
2. This license answers the question, “What can I do with this work?” Anyone may copy, translate, distribute, or adapt the material without seeking permission or paying fees.
3. This license prevents others from taking the work and restricting the right to copy, adapt, or distribute.

Creative Commons is the licensing that WA uses in translation work. The traditional practice of Bible societies is to hold the copyright and reserve their rights to copy, share, and adapt the work.

Ask: Why do you think WA does it differently?

Q & A – Review and Confirm Understanding

- Who will own the translation?
- Who can print or distribute it?
- What else can people do with the translated work? How might this be good?
What might be some concerns?
- What could happen if a translation does not have a CC BY-SA license?

Confirm: Our licensing agreement is different from what is generally expected. A full understanding of this is important before asking translators to sign an agreement.