

Chapter 1: Introduction to Wycliffe Associates

For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, “Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?” Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?” But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it (Deut. 30:11-14).

YOUR NOTES:

○ What do you think of when you think of Bible translation?

Most people think of foreigners who go to places far from home to help translate Holy Scripture into a language that has none.

Wycliffe Associates (WA) History—Why?

- Wycliffe Associates was established in _____.
- Purpose was to provide practical assistance to translators globally.

WA History—How?

- Christian believers volunteered skills to assist Bible translators around the world
- Freed translators to focus on Bible translation rather than other necessary activities.

YOUR NOTES:

WA History—Urgent need for translation led to a new solution.

- In 2014, Wycliffe Associates developed and tested a new Bible translation method.
- Mobilized Assistance Supporting Translation: _____
- MAST equips **mother-tongue translators** to translate the Bible into their own heart language.
- The **local church** (all the churches in each language community) has a central role in MAST Bible translation for their own language.
- Teamwork and collaboration support a clear and accurate translation.

Impact Story:

In 2014, a pastor from a small language community of the Himalayas hiked into the city to meet with WA missionaries about getting Scripture in his language. This young pastor shared his exciting discovery: they could launch the translation project themselves, with WA training and support!

The pastor and his brother began to translate - and to recruit other believers to join them.

Later that year, a group of 13 gathered for training and translation of Scripture using the new MAST Nationals translation process.

Within 2 weeks, this group had translated and checked almost half of the New Testament. They continued to work, finishing their New Testament in less than 2 years.

Now, our focus is training translators in this new method.
We provide free, open-license resources to translators
around the world.
And we'll soon be offering these resources in the gateway
languages!

At Wycliffe Associates, our vision is a Bible in every language.

We can't do it ourselves.
So how can we achieve this?

We train and equip believers like you in Church Owned
Bible Translation.

- **What is your team's vision?**

- **How does our vision line up with yours?**

YOUR NOTES:

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“Having the Bible in my heart language is a great blessing for me. Personally, I feel that having the Bible in my own language is a key to unlock spiritual and physical treasure from the Lord. For Daa Yindu people, it is like God is speaking in their heart language without the help of an interpreter. Now both young and old people have started to read and listen to God’s Word in their own language. Thank you, Wycliffe Associates, for your untiring work for the Daa Yindu.”

- *Daniel, youth pastor and member of the Daa Yindu Bible translation committee in Myanmar*

Review of Core Concepts, Chapter 1:

- Bible translation has traditionally been done *for* people groups by foreigners.
- Wycliffe Associates (WA) was established to assist translators.
- Native speakers can create a more natural and accurate translation, and complete it faster than foreigners.
- WA now partners with local churches to empower native speakers to translate the Bible.
- Our Vision is “A Bible in Every Language.”