



# BIBLE TRANSLATION REVIEW GUIDE

## ABSTRACT

An initial review of Bible Translation practices and effectiveness

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ACCELERATING  
BIBLE  
TRANSLATION

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## Doctrine: Jesus—Resurrection

### Positive Statement:

Three days after Jesus died on the cross he was raised again to life. Jesus rising from the dead is called “resurrection.”

The resurrection of Christ confirmed that God approved Christ’s life and work.

The resurrection proclaims Christ’s victory over sin, death, and hell, and that Christ has finished all that was necessary for believers to be saved.

The resurrection of Christ promises to those who believe that they will also be resurrected from the dead, as Christ was resurrected. Those who are resurrected with Christ will be with God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) forever.

### Mat 28:5-7

**Background:** At the request of the Jewish leaders, the Roman leaders killed Jesus by hanging him on a cross. After Jesus died, Jesus’ friends put his body in a tomb on Friday just before the Sabbath. This passage begins the morning after the Sabbath. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary go to Jesus’ tomb to prepare his body for burial by putting oil and spices on his body. When they come to the tomb, they see that it has been opened, and an angel is standing there. In verse 5, the angel begins speaking to the women.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
<b>Broad Questions</b>		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> An angel appeared to the women at the tomb. <input type="checkbox"/> He told them to not be afraid. <input type="checkbox"/> He told them Jesus was not there, but he had risen from the dead. <input type="checkbox"/> He told the women to tell the disciples that Jesus is risen and that he is going to meet them in Galilee.	
<b>Specific Questions</b>		
What did the angel say about Jesus in verses 6 and 7?	He is risen (v 6). He is risen from the dead (v 7).	
What did the angel tell the women to “come and see” in verse 6?	He told them to come and see where the Lord lay.	

Why do you think the angel told them to come and see where the Lord lay?	The angel wanted the women to see for themselves that Jesus was no longer lying in the tomb.	
How do you understand the phrases in your language for “is risen” and “he is risen from the dead?” [28:6-7]	Both phrases means that Jesus came back to life after he had died.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use these words/phrases “is risen” or “he is risen” in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean “Jesus’ body came back to life”?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Acts 2:22-32

**Background:** This account is from Luke’s second book. It begins by telling how Jesus spent time with his disciples after he rose from the dead and then ascended to heaven with the promise to send the Holy Spirit.

Fifty days after the Jewish Passover, God sent the Holy Spirit to be with his people. The disciples were waiting in Jerusalem, when a “mighty wind” came upon all those who had gathered together. After that, the Holy Spirit gave Peter the ability to stand before the large crowd who had gathered and gave him the words to speak when he addressed the people. This passage is a part of the message that Peter spoke to the people.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		

Summarize 2:22-24.	<input type="checkbox"/> Peter said that the Jews crucified Jesus, even though he was accredited by God. <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus was crucified according God's predetermined plan. <input type="checkbox"/> God raised Jesus to life.	
Specific Questions		
What does the passage say in 2:24 that God did for Jesus?	He raised him from the dead.	
How do you understand the phrase in your language for "raised him up?" [2:24]	The word or phrase means that God caused Jesus to come back to life after he had died.	
Broad Questions		
Summarize 2:25-32.	<input type="checkbox"/> Peter quoted David who said, "I saw the Lord always before me...you will not abandon me to the grave." <input type="checkbox"/> Peter said David was not talking about himself because David died and still is dead. <input type="checkbox"/> David was talking about his descendant, the Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus is David's descendant whom God raised to life.	.
Specific Questions		
What is said about the Christ in 2:31?  (Reviewer: If the translation uses the pronoun "he" at the beginning of verse 31, you may need to clarify that it was David who saw what was to happen in the future.)	Peter (quoting from a Psalm of David) spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, namely, that he was not abandoned to the grave, and his flesh did not see decay.	

In 2:32, what did Peter say that he and others witnessed concerning Jesus Christ?	That God raised this Jesus to life.	
How do you understand the phrase in your language for “resurrection” and “raised him up?” [2:32-33]	The word or phrase for “raised him up” means that God caused Jesus to come back to life after he had died.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use this word “resurrection” in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean “Jesus’ body came back to life” or “God brought Jesus back to life”?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Romans 6:8-10

**Background:** The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the Christians living in Rome. Paul taught them that they should not continue sinning just because God is gracious to forgive them.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul said that those who have died with Christ will live together with him.	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Christ has been raised from the dead, never to die again. <input type="checkbox"/> The death he died, he died to sin. <input type="checkbox"/> The life he lives, he lives for God.	
Specific Questions		
What did Paul say about Christ in verse 9?	Christ has been raised from the dead.	
In verses 9-10, what did Paul say about death and Jesus?	Death no longer has authority over Jesus. Jesus cannot die again because he died to sin once and for all, and he lives his life for God the Father.	
How do you understand "raised from the dead" in your language?	It means a person had died and that God had brought him back to life.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use these words/phrases "raised from the dead" in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean "Jesus' body came back to life" or "God made Jesus alive again"?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

**Background:** The Apostle Paul wrote this book to the Christians living in Corinth. In chapter 15 Paul continued a discussion about the meaning of "resurrection."

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
<b>Broad Questions</b>		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul asked how some people could claim there is no resurrection from the dead. <input type="checkbox"/> If there is no resurrection then Christ was not raised, making the Gospel false, and people would still be in their sins. <input type="checkbox"/> But Christ has been raised from the dead.	
<b>Specific Questions</b>		
In verses 12-13, what did Paul say would be the result if there were no resurrection from the dead?	If there were no resurrection, then Christ has not been raised from the dead.	
In verses 14-19, if it Christ did not rise from the dead, what else would be true about the apostles and those who believe in the resurrection?	If Christ had not been raised from the dead, then: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The apostles' preaching is in vain, and they are false witnesses about God, saying that God raised up Christ when he did not.</li> <li>• The faith of Christians is in vain, and they are still in their sins and they are without hope.</li> <li>• The Christians who have died are lost (they will remain dead forever).</li> </ul>	
In verse 20 what did Paul say about the Christ?	Christ has been raised from the dead.	
How do you understand "Raised from the dead" [v 12], "resurrection of the dead" [vv 12, 13], "has been raised from the dead" [v 20] in your language?	They mean a person has died and that God has brought him back to life.  (There are other references to resurrection in 1 Cor 15.)	
"Resurrection" and "raised from the	[Reviewer: the idea of resurrection is expressed in a rhetorical	



dead” are stated in different ways in this passage. Are all of them translated consistently in verse 12-21?	question [v 12] negative statements [vv 12, 13, 14, 16, 17] and if/then statements [13, 14-15, 16, 17-18, 19]. Ensure that the idea of “resurrection” is not lost in these statements.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use these words/phrases “resurrection” or “raised from the dead” in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean “Jesus’ body came back to life” or “God raised Jesus from the dead”?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Doctrine: Jesus—Son of God

### Positive Statement:

The term "Son of God" is a description of the Lord Jesus Christ, and a name by which he is addressed.

When he came to earth, he took on human flesh and he became a human being who lived among his people. He was always and forever “the Son of God,” having the same honor, glory, and power as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

Because Jesus is God's Son, he loves and obeys his Father, and his Father loves him.

### Matthew 3:16-17

**Background:** Matthew, the author of this book, was one of the 12 disciples. In this passage, John the Baptist was preaching and baptizing people in the Jordan River. Jesus came to John so that John would baptize him.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
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Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> After Jesus was baptized, God's Spirit came down like a dove and rested him. <input type="checkbox"/> A voice from heaven said "This is my Son whom I love and I am very pleased with him."	
Specific Questions		
What did Jesus see when he came out of the water? [v. 16]	He saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove.	
What was heard after Jesus came out of the water?	A voice said "This is my beloved Son. I am pleased with him."	
Whose voice do you think it was speaking?	God's voice.	
Is this the same word for "son" that you would use in your everyday language to describe "a human son born to a human father"?	If the answer is "no" go to the follow-up section.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use the word "son" in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean "a human son" or "a son born to a father"?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

**Background:** This is the beginning of Mark's account of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this verse.	<input type="checkbox"/> This is the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.	
Specific Questions		
How did Mark describe Jesus?	Christ, the Son of God	
Is this the same word for "son" that you would use in your everyday language to describe "a son born of a human father?"	If the answer is "no" then go to follow-up section.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use these words/phrases "a son as a member of one human family" or "a son of a human father"?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean "a human son" in your everyday language?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

John 3:16-18

**Background:** This passages is from the Gospel that the apostle John wrote. Here, Jesus is having a conversation with Nicodemus, a Pharisee who went to Jesus at night to ask him questions.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
<b>Broad Questions</b>		
Summarize these verses.	<input type="checkbox"/> God loved the world by giving his one and only Son. <input type="checkbox"/> Whoever believes in the Son will have eternal life. <input type="checkbox"/> God sent his Son to save the world, not to condemn it. <input type="checkbox"/> He who believes in the Son is not condemned. <input type="checkbox"/> He who does not believe in the Son is already condemned.	
<b>Specific Questions</b>		
What did God do because he loved the world? [v. 16]	He gave his one and only Son.	
Is this the same word for “son” that you would use in your everyday language to describe “a human son born of a human father”?	If the answer is “no” then go to follow-up section.	
How do you understand the phrase in your language for “one and only”?	This phrase should communicate the idea of “unique.”	
Why do you think Jesus is called the “one and only” or “unique” Son?	There is no one else that is a son to God in the way that Jesus is the son. Sometimes angels, important leaders, or Christians are called sons of God, but Jesus is unique in that he is the divine Son.	
What will happen to those who believe in the Son? [v. 16]	Whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.	
Why did God send his Son? [v. 17]	He sent his Son not to condemn the world but to save world through the Son.	

In verse 18, what did Jesus say would happen to those who do not believe in the name of the Son?	They will be condemned.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use these words “one and only” in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean “one and only”? [describe the meaning that the text should communicate]</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

### Romans 1:1-4

**Background:** The Apostle Paul wrote this letter Christians living in Rome. This passage is Paul’s introduction to the letter.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul introduced himself as a servant of Jesus Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> God called Paul to be an apostle and set him apart for the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> The gospel concerns God’s son; The gospel was promised beforehand by the prophets in Scripture. <input type="checkbox"/> The Son is a physical descendant of David.	

	<input type="checkbox"/> The Son was declared the Son of God through the Holy Spirit by the resurrection.	
Specific Questions		
Who is the gospel about? [1:2-3]	The gospel is about the Son of God.	
What important person did God's Son have as an ancestor? [1:3]	King David of Israel was an ancestor of the God's Son.	
How do you understand the phrase in your language for "flesh"? [1:3]	"Flesh" here refers to the physical body. (Here, flesh here has nothing to do with sinful nature.)	
When the Spirit of holiness raised the Son from the dead, the Spirit declared what about him? [1:4]	By raising him from the dead, the Spirit declared the Son to be the Son of God.	
Who is the Son? [1:4]	Jesus	
Is this the same word for "son" that you would use in your everyday language to describe a human son born of a human father?	If answer is "no" then go to follow-up section.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use this word for "son" in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean "a human son born of a human father" in your language?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Hebrews 4:14

**Background:** This passage is from the book of Hebrews. The author of Hebrews was addressing Jews who had become Christians. This section teaches that Jesus is greater than angels, the priests, the sacrifice, and the law given through Moses. In Hebrews 4:14, the author begins to describe Jesus as the great high priest.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this verse.	<input type="checkbox"/> Jesus, the Son of God, is the great high priest. <input type="checkbox"/> The great high priest has passed through the heaven. <input type="checkbox"/> Christians should hold firmly to beliefs.	
Specific Questions		
How did the author describe Jesus?	He described him as the high priest who passed through the heavens, the Son of God.	
Is this the same word for “son” that you would use in your everyday language to describe “a human son born of a human father”?	If answer is “no” then go to follow-up section.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
Example follow-up questions:  How would you use these words/phrases for “a human son” in your everyday language?  Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean “a human son”?	If possible, determine whether: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Doctrine: Jesus—Deity of Christ

### Positive Statement:

Scripture teaches that Jesus is fully God.

The deity of Jesus is affirmed by God the Father, by Jesus himself, in statements by his disciples and followers, by using names for God that apply to Yahweh in the Old Testament, but that are used to refer to Jesus in the New Testament.

The opponents of Jesus accused him of claiming to be God, and equal with God, and they charged him with blasphemy (claiming to be God).

Christ confirms his divinity by demonstrated by his actions and doing things that only God could do: acts of healing, exercising authority and power over the physical world and demons, calming storms and doing miracles, having power over death, and forgiving sins.

The divinity of the Christ was prophesied in the OT and Christ was given the titles of God and he was worshiped and praised as God.

### John 1:1-4, 14-18

**Background:** John was one of the 12 disciples. He was with Jesus during his earthly ministry. He was an eyewitness to these events, and he wrote an account of what he saw Jesus do and he wrote about what he heard Jesus say. This section was John's introduction to his Gospel.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
<b>Broad Questions</b>		
Summarize what John said in verses 1-4.	<input type="checkbox"/> In the beginning of everything, the Word existed. <input type="checkbox"/> The Word was with God and the Word was God <input type="checkbox"/> All things were made through the Word <input type="checkbox"/> In the Word was life <input type="checkbox"/> The life was the light of men	
<b>Specific Questions</b>		
Who is 1:1-4 about?	The Word is the subject of this section (the reader may understand that John is writing about Christ. This is made clear in 1:17).	



How did you understand the phrase in your language for “the Word”?	<p>It should be clear in translation that when John is writing about “the Word” he is writing about Christ. “The Word” is a way of describing who Christ is and what he has done.</p> <p>The pronouns referring to the “The Word” should be the kinds of pronouns that refer to a male human being.</p>	
Why do you think John would refer to Christ as “the Word”?	<p>By referring to Christ as “the Word” means that Christ reveals who God is, because he is God himself.</p> <p>And he makes it so people can know God, by telling them about God and showing them who God is.</p>	
What did John say about the Word in relation to God? [1:1]	The Word was with God; the Word was God.	
How did God make all things? [1:3]	God made all things through the Word. There was nothing created apart from him.	
Broad Questions		
Summarize what John said in verses 14-18.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The Word became flesh (a human being) and he lived among other human beings (people like us).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> We have seen the glory of the one and only who came from the Father</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The Word is full of grace and truth</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> John the Baptist testified about The Word</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> From him they received grace after grace</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Law came through Moses; Grace and truth through Jesus Christ</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No one has seen God</li> </ul>	

	☐ The one and only God at side of the Father made him known	
Specific Questions		
What did the Word become and do? [1:14]	The Word became flesh (a human being) and lived among people.	
What did John say he and the other eyewitnesses saw concerning the Word? [1:14]	They saw the glory of the Word.	
In verse 14, how did John describe the glory?	It is the glory as of the one and only who came from the Father, who is full of grace and truth.	
In verse 18, who made God the Father known to people?	The one and only God, who is at the side of the Father (that is the Son of God) made God the Father known.	
Who is The Word, the one and only from the Father, and the one and only God?	Jesus Christ (verse 17)	
In 1:1-4, 14-18, John said the Word was with God, the Word was God. And, he talked about the one and only God who is at the side of the Father. What do you think this suggest about Jesus Christ?	Jesus Christ is divine, and he was at the side of the Father in glory.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
Example follow-up questions:  How would you use these words "the Word" in your everyday language?	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean “the Word”? [describe the meaning that the text should communicate]		
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### John 20:26-29

**Background:** This is account of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. Soldiers put Jesus on a cross and put nails in his hands and feet to hold him on the cross. Then when he died, a soldier pierced Jesus’ side with a spear. Jesus’ friends put his body in a tomb, and a few days later some of his friends went to his tomb and saw that his body was not in the tomb. Then Jesus came to some of his disciples and spoke with them. But one of his disciples, Thomas, was not with them. When they told Thomas that they had seen the Lord, he did not believe them. He said he would only believe if he could see the wounds in Jesus’ hands and side.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
<b>Broad Questions</b>		
Summarize what John said in verses 26-29.	<input type="checkbox"/> Jesus appeared to Thomas and the other disciples (a week after the resurrection). <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus told Thomas to touch the wounds in his hands and side and to believe. <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas answered “My Lord and my God.” <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus said “blessed are those who believe without seeing” (those who believe but have not seen are very happy).	
<b>Specific Questions</b>		
When Jesus came, what did he say to Thomas?	He said that Thomas should touch his wounds (in his hands and his side) and stop doubting.	
What did Thomas say after Jesus spoke to him?	My Lord and my God!	
Why do you think Thomas said, “My Lord and my God”?	He realized that Jesus was raised from the dead and that he must be the Lord God.	

How did Jesus respond to Thomas?	He said, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen, and believed"(those who believe but have not seen are very happy).	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use these words/phrases "my Lord and my God" in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean "you are my Lord and you are my God" [describe the meaning "my Lord and my God" and how this could be expressed this expression]?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Philippians 2:5-8

**Background:** This is in a letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi. In this passage he tells the Philippians how important it is to know and understand who Jesus is.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Believers should have same attitude as Christ Jesus. <input type="checkbox"/> Christ existed in the form of God. <input type="checkbox"/> Christ did not consider equality with God something to hold on to (he was willing to no longer have equality with God).	

	<input type="checkbox"/> He took on form of a servant and was born in the likeness of men. <input type="checkbox"/> He humbled himself and obeyed even to the point of dying on a cross.	
Specific Questions		
In the first part of 2:6, what did Paul say about Christ?	He existed in the form of God.	
How did you understand the phrase in your language for “existed in form of God”?	Christ Jesus had the same nature as God. He had the same character as God. [It does not mean that he had the shape of God.]	
What did Christ think about his equality with God? [2:6]	He did not consider his equality with God as something to hold on to.	
What does “his equality with God” mean? [2:6]	It means that he and God had the same status or rank.	
What does it mean that Christ did not consider his equality with God as something to hold on to? (2:6)	He possessed all the status, rank, or rights as God the Father. But he was willing to lay aside his rights and glory, so he could become the Savior of the world.	
So what did Christ do? [2:7]	He emptied himself and took the form of a servant, and was born in the likeness of men.	
What does it mean that Christ emptied himself? (2:7)	It means that he set aside his status, rank, or rights. He let people think he was less than God. He did not do everything he had the right to do or demand that people give him the worship that he had the right to receive.	
What does it mean that Christ took the form of a servant? [2:7]	He had all the power and authority of God, but he chose to become the same as a servant. He had the low rank or status of a servant.	
What does it mean that Christ was	He became a human being and he was born to Mary.	

born in the likeness of men? [2:7]		
What do you think? After the Christ took the form of a servant and was born in the likeness of men, was he still God?	If they answer “no, Jesus was not still God,” ask them if there is anything in the passage that indicates that.	
What else did Christ do? [2:8]	He humbled himself and became obedient, and his obedience led him to die on a cross.	
What does it mean that Christ became obedient to the point of death? [2:8]	He obeyed God the Father completely. He obeyed God even though he knew that it would result in dying.	
What do you think? Why did Paul write “even death on a cross”? [2:8]	This meant that people killed Christ by hanging him on a cross. This was a very painful way to die. It was also a very shameful way to die. This shows how completely he obeyed God.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use this word/phrase from the list above, and find ways of expressing these words in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases in your language you would use to mean [describe the meaning that the text should communicate]</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

## Colossians 1:15-20

**Background:** This is a letter that Paul wrote to the Christians living in the ancient city of Colossae.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
<b>Broad Questions</b>		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> The Son is the image of the invisible God. <input type="checkbox"/> The Son is firstborn of creation. <input type="checkbox"/> All things were created by him. <input type="checkbox"/> He is before all things. <input type="checkbox"/> He holds all things together. <input type="checkbox"/> He is head of body/Church. <input type="checkbox"/> He is the beginning, firstborn from dead. <input type="checkbox"/> He has first place among all things. <input type="checkbox"/> Fullness of God lives in the Son. <input type="checkbox"/> God reconciled all things to himself by death of his Son.	
<b>Specific Questions</b>		
What did Paul first tell about the Son? [1:15]	He is the image of the invisible God.	
How did you understand the phrase in your language for “the image of the invisible God”? [1:15]	No one can see God the Father. But the Father perfectly revealed his character in his Son. So when someone sees the Son it is the same as seeing the Father.	
What else did Paul say about the Son in 1:15?	He is the firstborn of all creation	
Why do you think Paul called the Son the “firstborn of all creation”? [1:15]	This means the Son is superior to all created things. Here “firstborn” means he is most important. It could also refer to Him as the primary heir--the Father has given everything to him. However, it does not mean he was the first	

	created thing. Nor does it refer to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.	
What was created by or through the Son? [1:16]	All things in the heavens and on the earth, visible and invisible, and all the powers and rulers.	
What came before or existed before the Son? [1:17]	Nothing. He is before all things.	
How does the Son continue to affect all things? [1:17]	In him all things hold together.	
What was pleasing to God? [1:19]	It pleased God to have his fullness live in the Son and to reconcile through the Son all things to himself.	
How did you understand the phrase in your language for "his [God's] fullness should live in him [the Son]"? [1:15]	The entire essence, nature, and power of God are in the Son.	
This passage teaches the following things about the Son. He is the image of God, he existed before all things, all things were created by him, all things hold together in him, and God's fullness lives in him. What do you think all of these things suggest about the Son?	He is deity. He has all the power and authority of divinity along with God the Father and God the Spirit.	
Who is the Son? What is his name? (His name is not mentioned in 1:15-20.)	Jesus	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
Example follow-up questions:	If possible, determine whether:	



<p>How would you use these words/phrases in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases you would use to mean [describe the meaning that the text should communicate]?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	
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## Doctrine: Jesus—the Savior

### Positive Statement:

Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah that God sent to the world to save his people from their sins.

All people have sinned against God and need God to save them from his wrath.

Jesus offered himself as a sacrifice for people's sins by dying on the cross and being punished for their sins.

Because Jesus died for sinners, God forgives and restores any person who believes in His Son, Jesus.

There is no other way to be forgiven and to be saved except by trusting Jesus as the Savior of sinners.

### Luke 2:8-14

**Background:** Luke 2 is about the birth of Jesus. Mary had become pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. She and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. There she gave birth to Jesus. In 2:8-14, the angels appeared and announced to shepherds nearby that Jesus has been born. The angel told them about who the child is and the place where the shepherds would find him.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> An angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds. <input type="checkbox"/> An angel told them that a savior, Christ the Lord, was born in the city of David.	

	<input type="checkbox"/> An angel told them they would find the baby in a manger wrapped in strips of cloth. <input type="checkbox"/> Many angels appeared and sang praises to God. <input type="checkbox"/> Shepherds went to Bethlehem and saw the baby. <input type="checkbox"/> Shepherds told others about what had happened. People were amazed. <input type="checkbox"/> Mary treasured in her heart all the things she heard. <input type="checkbox"/> Shepherds praised God for what they saw.	
Specific Questions		
In verse 10 who did the angel say would receive great joy from the message he was announcing?	All people.	
In verse 11, how did the angel describe the person who was born in the city of David?	A savior, who is Christ and Lord.	
How do you understand the phrase in your language for “savior”?	The word “savior” means person who rescues someone else from trouble or danger.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
Example follow-up questions:  How would you use this word/phrase “savior” or “one who rescues people from danger” in everyday language?	If possible, determine whether: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	

Is there a word/phrase in your language you would use to describe “a person who rescues someone else from trouble or danger”?		
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### 1 John 4:14-15

**Background:** This is a letter written by the apostle John. In chapter 4 John wrote that “God is love,” therefore, if God remains in a person, then that person should love others. In verses 14-15 John taught about how Christians know for certain that God remains in them.

In these verses, “we” refers to John and the other apostles.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> We (the apostles) testify that the Father sent the Son to be savior of the world. <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus is the Son of God <input type="checkbox"/> Whoever acknowledges this remains in God and God in him.	
Specific Questions		
What does John say that he and the other apostles (“we”) have seen and testify to? (v. 14)	God sent his Son to be the savior of the world.	
Who is the Son? (v. 14-15)	Jesus	
How do you understand the phrase in your language for “savior”?	A person who rescues someone else from trouble or danger.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
Example follow-up questions:	If possible, determine whether:	

<p>How would you use this word/phrase “savior” or “one who rescues people from danger” in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases in your language you would use to describe “a person who rescues someone else from danger”?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately.</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader.</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept.</li> </ul>	
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## 1 Timothy 1:15-16

**Background:** Paul wrote this letter to his close friend, Timothy. Timothy was the leader of church in Ephesus and he was having difficulties. This letter was written to give Timothy advice and encouragement. In chapter 1, Paul first warns Timothy about false teachers and then he reminds him about the message that is true and should be accepted by those who hear it.

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Broad Questions		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Christ Jesus came to the world to save sinners <input type="checkbox"/> This is a true message to be accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Paul called himself the worst of sinners <input type="checkbox"/> But through Paul, Christ could show his mercy and patience <input type="checkbox"/> This was an example to all those who trust in him for eternal life	
Specific Questions		
What is the message that Paul said is reliable and	That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners	

worthy of all acceptance? [v. 15]		
How do you understand the phrase in your language for “to save sinners”?	To rescue those who have sinned from trouble, danger, or punishment.	
Follow-up (Use if there is a misunderstanding concerning a specific question.)		
<p>Example follow-up questions:</p> <p>How would you use this word/phrase “saving sinners” in your everyday language?</p> <p>Are there other words/phrases in your language you would use to describe “rescuing someone from trouble, danger, or punishment”?</p>	<p>If possible, determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word or phrase was not translated accurately</li> <li>• There is something else in the passage that is confusing the reader</li> <li>• The translation is correct, but the reader does not understand the term or concept</li> </ul>	