

# Translation Helps

Topic 8 – Session 1



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# Quality Affirmation



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# Translation Helps

Translation Notes      Introduction to the Gospel of Mark

## Translation Notes

### Introduction to the Gospel of Mark

#### Part 1: General Introduction

##### Outline of the Book of Mark

1. Introduction (1:1-12)
2. The ministry of Jesus in Galilee
  - Early ministry (1:14-3:6)
  - Jesus becomes more popular among the people (3:7-5:43)
  - Moving away from Galilee and then returning (6:1-8:26)
3. Progress toward Jerusalem, repeated times when Jesus predicts his own death, the disciples misunderstand, and Jesus teaches them how difficult it will be to follow him (8:27-10:52)
4. Last days of ministry and preparation for final conflict in Jerusalem (11:1-13:37)
5. The death of Christ and the empty tomb (14:1-16:8)

##### What is the Book of Mark about?

The Gospel of Mark is one of four books in the New Testament that describe some of the life of Jesus Christ. The authors of the gospels wrote about different aspects of who Jesus was and what he did. Mark wrote much about how Jesus suffered and died on the cross. He did this to encourage his readers who were being persecuted. Mark also explained Jewish customs and some Aramaic words. This may indicate that Mark expected most of his first readers to be Gentiles.

##### How should the title of this book be translated?

Translators may choose to call this book by its traditional title, "The Gospel of Mark" or "The Gospel according to Mark." They may also choose a title that may be clearer, such as "The Good News about Jesus that Mark wrote." (See: [How to Translate Names](#))

##### Who wrote the Book of Mark?

The book does not give the name of the author. However, since early Christian times, most Christians have thought that the author was Mark. Mark was also known as John Mark. He was a close friend of Peter. Mark may not have witnessed what Jesus said and did. But many scholars think that Mark wrote in his gospel what Peter told him about Jesus.

#### Part 2: Important Religious and Cultural Concepts

##### What were Jesus's teaching methods?

The people regarded Jesus as a rabbi. A rabbi is a teacher of God's law. Jesus taught in ways similar to those of other religious teachers in Israel. He had students who followed him wherever he went. These students were called disciples. He often told parables. Parables are stories that teach moral lessons. (See: [law of Moses](#) and [disciple and parable](#))

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Translation  
Notes

## For use with drafted passages

### Key Terms

abomination, abominations, abominable, foul, foul thing, disgusting thing, disgusting things, disgusting practices

#### Definition:

The term "abomination" is used to refer to something that causes disgust or extreme dislike.

- The Egyptians considered the Hebrew people to be an "abomination." This means that the Egyptians disliked the Hebrews and didn't want to associate with them or be near them.
- Some of the things that the Bible calls "an abomination to Yahweh" include lying, pride, sacrificing humans, worship of idols, murder, and sexual sins such as adultery and homosexual acts.
- In teaching his disciples about the end times, Jesus referred to a prophecy by the prophet Daniel about an "abomination of desolation" that would be set up as a rebellion against God, defiling his place of worship.

#### Translation Suggestions:

- The term "abomination" could also be translated by "something God hates" or "something disgusting" or "disgusting practice" or "very evil action."
- Depending on the context, ways to translate the phrase "is an abomination to" could include "is greatly hated by" or "is disgusting to" or "is totally unacceptable to" or "causes deep disgust."
- The phrase "abomination of desolation" could be translated as "defiling object that causes people to be greatly harmed" or "disgusting thing that causes great sorrow."

(See also: [adultery](#), [desecrate](#), [desolate](#), [false god](#), [sacrifice](#))

Key Terms  
Names  
Other

### Genesis

#### Genesis 1

##### Genesis 1:1

What did God create in the beginning?

God created the heavens and the earth.

#### Genesis 1:2

What was the Spirit of God doing in the beginning?

The Spirit of God was moving above the surface of the waters.

#### Genesis 1:3-6

How did God create light?

God said, "Let there be light".

#### Genesis 1:7

What did God make on the second day?

God made the sky between the expanses of water.

#### Genesis 1:8-9

What did God make on the second day?

God made the sky between the expanses of water.

Translation  
Questions

Translation  
Words

# Use Resources to Check:



- Your own work
- A fellow translator's work
- Keywords and names
- Each verse



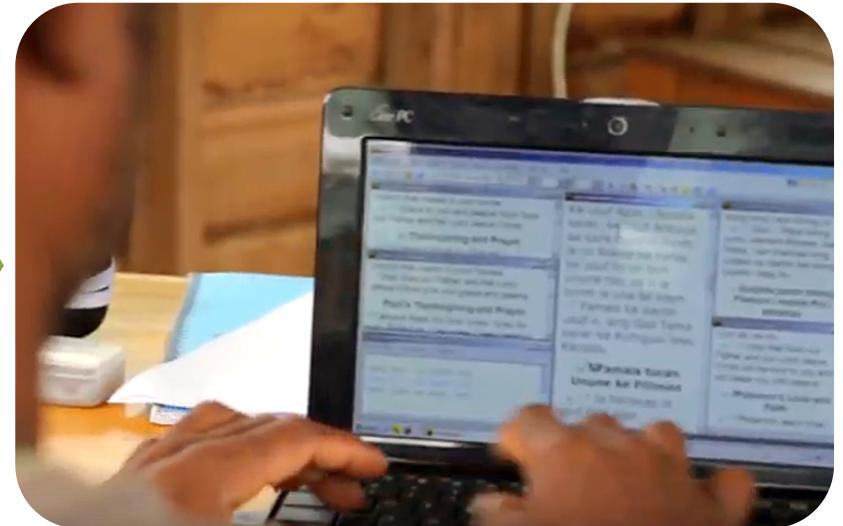
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