TO SUMMARIZE
NATIONAL BIBLE PUBLISHING MONTH

NBPM is an opportunity for you to be involved in an effort to provide enough paper to produce Bibles and New Testaments for missionaries serving in places where Bibles are difficult or impossible to obtain. In reality, *NBPM* is an opportunity for you to have a part in the eternal rewards that come from multitudes of people receiving the glorious Gospel in their language. It is also an opportunity for you to be personally involved with the publishing of God's Word for those without it

Answer Key

1. *credibility*
2. *clarity*
3. *convition*
4. *translation*
5. *publishing*
6. *obedient*
7. *alive*
8. *reproduce*

NATIONAL BIBLE PUBLISHING MONTH

ADULT LESSON 4

GOD'S PURPOSE

FOR PROVIDING HIS WORD TO EVERY GENERATION

LESSON **FOUR**

God's Purpose For Providing His Word to Every Generation

There can be no debate whatsoever that God expects every Christian to publish His words to people who have not heard. Today, we seem content to leave the care, sanctity, and publishing of God's most Holy Book to those whom God never intended to involve in the first place ("strangers"- Ezekiel 44:1-8). In this lesson, we will look at three examples of what God expected His people to do with the truths He had given.

I. Publish the Word in print so others may read it for themselves (Habakkuk 2:2).

A. Written for _____[1]. The vision (Word of God) that God was giving was of such importance he had to write it down ("Write"). It was not enough that Habakkuk just tell the people what God said, he had to put it into print. Writing is a more permanent, accurate, and a safer method of seeing that God's Word is carried to the next generation.

B. Written for _____[2]. The vision (Word of God) that Habakkuk wrote was to reveal clearly ("plain") what God wanted them to receive. Without clear understanding there could be no application.

C. It was written for _____[3]. The vision (Word of God) that God was giving was of such importance that it was to be responded to immediately ("run").

II. Publish the Word in print so that all can obey it (Romans 16:25-26).

A. Grounding in the Word of God (spiritual maturity) comes through receiving all the Scriptures (verse 25).

1. According to my Gospel - Pauline Epistles
2. Preaching of Jesus Christ - Gospels
3. Revelation of the mystery - Revelation
4. Scriptures of the prophets - Prophetical Books
5. Commandment of the everlasting God - Pentateuch
6. Made known to all nations - Great Commission

B. Going with the Word of God has a two-fold plan "...to all nations for the obedience of faith"

1. Requires Scripture _____[4] for all nations (Romans 10:17).
2. Requires Scripture _____[5] to all nations.

III. Publish the Word in print so that the church can send it (Colossians 4:16).

A. The written Word of God was to be a part of their lives ("when this epistle is read").

B. The written Word of God that they received was the result of someone being _____[6] to God's commands to provide it for them. What they received was not to stay with them. They were to copy it and pass it on ("cause that it be read also").

1. Results of being obedient to publish the Scriptures by printing:
   (a) Publishing Scriptures is the key that unlocks the door of understanding (Psalm 111:10; John 14:21). Understanding comes from doing. Doing is putting into practice what you believe.
   (b) The published Scriptures ("truth") make Jesus Christ known to the world (John 16:12-13; 17:17).
   (c) Anything spoken and written down by God is _____[7] today (inspiration) (Matthew 22:31-32). Jesus made reference to Exodus 3:6. This was a passage written some 1500 years earlier, yet Jesus said it was God speaking to them for today.
   (d) Putting published Scriptures into practice is the key to realizing the power of God in a person's life (Matthew 22:29).
2. Reasons to be obedient to publishing the Scriptures by printing:
   (a) The Word of God endures. It can lay on a shelf, in a drawer, or in a closet, waiting until it is needed and wanted.
   (b) The Word of God never needs a furlough. It stays on the job twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, three hundred sixty-five days a year.
   (c) The Word of God never needs a visa to cross the border, and never needs to leave the country to renew a visa.
   (d) The Word of God never grows old, weary, tired; for it never loses its power.
   (e) The Word of God will continue to work even when we are not there.
3. Responsibility to be obedient to publishing the Scriptures by printing:
   (a) The Word of God cannot _____[8] itself. A Bible cannot produce a Bible. That is why God has given the church the responsibility to preserve His Word and reproduce it.
   (b) The word of God cannot move itself. It needs a carrier. It may be by plane, by truck, by mail, or by a missionary.
   (c) Missionaries need the Word of God to get the job done (Romans 10:17).