A lost world sits in darkness, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the source of Light (Rom 10:17). The Gospel must be in one's language in order to see the Light. With so many people without a Bible in their heart language, there is an urgent need for laborers. Yes, we need messengers to carry the message of God's dear Son to them. However, there is also great occasion for servants to surrender to the noble call of Bible translation. **Would you consider allowing Him to use your gifts and talents to do this vital task?**

LESSON DEFINITIONS

Illuminate – To enlighten intellectually with knowledge or grace.

Kindreds – Clans or tribes; extended family.

Nations – Races of people joined by practicing similar customs or a common culture.

Peoples – Groups distinguished by a particular language and culture.

Revelation – The act of disclosing or discovering to others what was before unknown to them; appropriately, the disclosure or communication of truth to men by God Himself.

Tongues – Languages; people distinguished by speech.

Transformation – A change of heart in man, by which his disposition and temper are conformed to the divine image; a change from enmity to holiness and love.

Translation – The act of turning into another language.

Bearing Precious Seed is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Milford, Ohio

NATIONAL BIBLE PUBLISHING MONTH

TRANSLATION

GOD ILLUMINATES THE WORLD

TEEN LESSON 4

LESSON FOUR: TRANSLATION

God Illuminates The World

A FEW — A PEOPLE GROUP — A GENERATION — THE WORLD

READ REVELATION 7:9-10

What words in verse nine indicate God's Word must be translated?

_____

_____

In the context of spoken languages, the words *translate* and *translation* are not found in the Bible. However, inferences such as *all the nations, all the earth, all ye people, all ye inhabitants of the world, every creature, all ye lands, every tribe, every tongue, uttermost part of the earth, regions beyond,* and *out of every nation* are found in Scripture. In order for this to occur, all nations (people groups) must be able to hear or read the Word of God in their heart language. If *"...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"* (Rom. 10:17), then someone must interpret by mouth and translate by pen.

There are several evidences in Scripture indicating that Bible translation is a piece of God's plan necessary to accomplish His desire of illumination. God's command to go to all nations gives evidence. It was a genuine concern of the Old Testament writers (Isa. 34:1-2; Zech. 2:11; Zech. 8:22-23; Ps. 117:1; Ps. 22:27-28; Ps. 67:2; Ps. 72:11, 17), and it was also a genuine concern of the Apostle Paul (*"unto the ends of the earth"* Acts 13:47; *"cause that it be read"* Col. 4:16; *"regions beyond you"* 2 Cor. 10:16). It was definitely a genuine concern of Jesus Christ. These passages reveal His desire to reach all nations: (*"the world"* Jn. 3:16; Jn. 8:12; *"them that believe"* Jn. 1:1-12; *"Whosoever"* Jn. 4:13, 14; *"every creature"* Mk. 16:15). The people He reached also show His desire to reach all nations.

What nationalities were the people whose lives Jesus changed in the following passages?

_____ (Matthew 8:5-13)

_____ (Mark 7:25-30)

_____ (Luke 8:26-37)

_____ (Luke 17:11-19)

_____ (John 12:20-32)

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

What small four-letter word in verse eleven indicates a changed life? _____

The end goal of Bible-translation should be less about words on a page and more about transforming lives. Producing a Bible in the heart language of a people allows each element of a culture to be given a standard, a measuring stick, by which lifestyles and customs can be compared with the Word of God. ***A natural byproduct of Bible*** _____ ***will be*** _____ .

Here are some facts that reveal the need for Bible translation:

- Over _____ known major languages are spoken globally.
- Only _____ languages have the entire Bible.
- _____ languages have only the New Testament.
- _____ languages have only Scripture portions (one or more books).
- 209,000,000 people have no Scripture portion at all in their language.
- 40% of the nearly 8 billion people living today do not have access to any Scripture.

Knowing these facts, we have a convicting dilemma.

- 70% of Independent Baptist missionaries are over _____ years old (*BIMI statistics*).
- Only _____ % of Bible college students in America are preparing to go to the foreign field.
- For every _____ people who surrender to the field, only one actually makes it there.
- For every _____ missionaries that return home on furlough, only one returns to the field.
- On average, comparing the number of known missionaries going to the field and the number of churches in the U.S., it takes _____ churches to produce one missionary (ratio of missionary to churches is 1:4).