LESSON DEFINITIONS

Inspiration – The infusion of ideas into the mind by the Holy Spirit; the communication of the divine will to the understanding by suggestions or impressions on the mind, which leave no room to doubt the reality of their supernatural origin.

Megaphone – a portable, usually hand-held, cone-shaped acoustic horn used to amplify a person's voice or other sounds and direct it in a given direction.

Preservation – The act of keeping from injury, destruction or decay.

Progressive – The act of progressing forward or onward movement; a passing successively from one member of a series to the next; succession; sequence.

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.

Translation – The act of turning into another language.

To see this lesson taught by a Bearing Precious Seed representative, please visit bpsmilford.org/nbpm/resources.

TEACHER NOTES:

REVELATION
- A Few -
God reveals Himself to individuals who then tell others

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NATIONAL BIBLE PUBLISHING MONTH

REVELATION

GOD ILLUMINATES A FEW

TEEN TEACHER GUIDE 1

LESSON ONE: REVELATION

God Illuminates A Few

DISCUSSION TIME

Think for just a moment. What if you were contacted by a secret organization to carry out a special mission? The mission would be to carry a very urgent message to a group of people, a message so urgent that their very lives would be in danger if they do not receive the message in time. What do you think would be the most effective means to get this message to them?

Now, think a bit deeper. Suppose there would be no means of modern communication. There would be no telephones, much less personal cell phones. There would be no televisions to run commercials for them or radios to advertise. There would be no internet, no e-mail, texting, Skype, or any kind of postal services to deliver a letter. How would you get this message out?

Once you come up with a plan, ask yourself if the plan can be duplicated until the entire world hears the exact message you are conveying to them in their own language. How would you alter your lifestyle in order to accomplish the task? What sacrifices would you be willing to make?

READ MARK 16:15; REVELATION 2:7, 17; Romans 1:20; PSALM 19:1

God's mission is to illuminate the world with Truth for every generation in every language. He has given us the mission to take His message to all people. *Illuminate* is defined by Noah Webster as *"to enlighten; to throw light on, to supply with light."* Illumination is the process by which the Holy Spirit of God takes what a human being hears preached or what he reads from God's Word and enlightens his hearing or his mind. Each individual has been created with an innate awareness of God that God Himself desires to illuminate. It is an awareness of a darkness void of the light that only God's dear Son, the true Light of the World, can fill (Jn. 1:9). Even the most primitive, remote, and unlearned people all over the world have a belief system acknowledging a higher power who requires appeasement and worship. We see that even nature itself screams of a higher Power that coordinates it all, a Creator. God has a desire to reveal Himself to the world. He wants the world to know Him. Instead of going person by person to each individual who ever lived on the face of the earth and revealing Himself personally, He instituted a four-piece plan to accomplish this task.

REVELATION is the first piece. God revealed truth, but it was limited to that individual's memory to convey it to others.

INSPIRATION is the second piece of God's plan. This piece allowed the Revelation** to be accurately written as well as be more accessible. This would enable the "truth" to illuminate, not just the individual who received it, and the ones with whom they shared it, but also everyone else who could read or hear it read to them in that language.

PRESERVATION is the third piece of God's plan. Accurately copying God's Revelation** in a specific language made the illuminating Scriptures available from generation to generation.

TRANSLATION** is the final piece necessary for the illumination of the entire world. Translation** is necessary in order for this preserved, inspired, illuminating revelation** to be taken to all nations, not just those fortunate enough to speak the original languages of the Scriptures.

God originally spoke to man as a means by which to illuminate him with a revelation** of truth. Jesus, the Living Word of God, was the perfect Revelation** from God, taking on the form of human flesh (Jn. 1:1, 14). He came to earth and enlightened man with how everything should bring glory to the Father. The Holy Spirit was later sent to illuminate what had been written down and preserved and to show how it lifted up Jesus Christ. Each successive element of God's illuminating plan brought enlightenment and a greater level of understanding than the preceding element. The illumination is progressive**.

READ PSALM 25:5, 10; 33:4; 119:151

All truth originates from whom? ***GOD THE FATHER***. Not only is He the originator of all truth, He is all truth (Deut. 32:4; Ps. 100:5). He simply revealed truth (Himself) to people, and they were to tell others of that revelation**. He used men as His "megaphones"** to proclaim His truth.

Who did God use to proclaim His truth in the following passages?

Genesis 2:15-17 ***ADAM***
Genesis 6; 2 Peter 2:5 ***NOAH***
2 Samuel 23:2 ***DAVID***
Daniel 5:5 ***A MAN'S HAND***
John 4:1-42 ***JESUS***

These people were God's choice messengers, used to pronounce judgement, foretell good news, or proclaim God's glorious promises to His children. God wants to use you also as a messenger of hope to a lost and dying world. Consider the people you encounter daily and how you might be a megaphone** of truth.

***– *Indicates a defined word within the lesson.*