

Write a Draft



Description:

An interactive discussion and a translation exercise

Aims:

- Know that God wants people to understand the message of His love.
- Realize that translators need to translate biblical phrases so that readers understand the true meaning.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will show translators how to translate words and ideas so that they mean what they should to the readers.

Audience:

Grades 2-5

Space Needed:

Classroom

Country/Area:

General

Minimum Time Requirements:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| • Scripture discussion | 1 minute |
| • Translation example | 2 minutes |
| • Translation activity | 10 minutes |
| • Conclusion and prayer | 2 minutes |

Scripture to Study:

Acts 2:4-6

Materials:

- Bible
- Overhead or digital projector and computer
- Overhead transparency or PowerPoint slide of the verse on page 5 (or a poster / chart)
- Overhead transparency or PowerPoint slide of the activity on page 6 of this lesson (or a poster / chart)
- Writing paper
- Pencils
- Copies of activity page 9 (page 7 of this lesson) for each child

Pre-class Preparations:

- Prepare an overhead transparency, PowerPoint slide, or poster / chart, of the information found on pages 5 and 6 of this lesson.
- Make copies of activity page 9 (page 7 of this lesson) for each child.

Class Time:

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

Read Acts 2:4-6. Ask the children the following questions and allow them to respond.

- Why could all of the people from different countries understand what the disciples said? (They heard it in their own language.)
- Do you think that the people who heard the disciples' words understood them clearly? (Very likely, yes.)

TRANSLATION EXAMPLE

Explain,

People who translate the Bible don't just translate words; they make sure that the ideas are clear, too. Sometimes people have never heard of something that the Bible mentions. The translators need to figure out how to make the new idea clear to readers.

Put up the "What Did You Say?" transparency slide or poster / chart (page 6 of this lesson). Tell the children,
I will read some of these sentences to you. Try to figure out what they mean.

Read two or three sentences, and then ask,
What do you think these sentences mean?

After the children have given a few guesses, ask,
Why did you have a hard time understanding these sentences? They use English words, but the sentences still do not make a lot of sense. These sentences don't mean much to you because we don't say things in the same way.

Materials:

- Bible

Materials:

- Overhead or digital projector and computer
- Overhead transparency or PowerPoint slide of the activity on page 6 of this lesson (Or poster / chart of the page)

Translators have to use the right words, in the right way, so that people will really understand what the Bible says.

Explain,

Some of these sentences mean, "Jesus loves me." Others mean, "I have accepted Jesus."

Let's read these sentences together.

Put your hand on your heart if you think the sentence means, "Jesus loves me." Raise both your hands toward heaven if you think that the sentence means, "I have accepted Jesus". Ready?

Read the sentences one by one. Here are the answers:

"Jesus loves me."-- 1, 4, 5

"I have accepted Jesus"-- 2, 3, 6, 7

TRANSLATION ACTIVITY

Distribute one pencil and one piece of paper to each table or each row. Instruct the children,

Work with the other children at your table (or in your row) to translate part of a verse. Try to figure out how you could translate this verse for someone who has never seen snow.

Display Psalm 51:7b (page 5 of this lesson).

After the teams have had a few minutes to try translating, ask,

How did you do? Who would like to read us what you wrote?

Allow a few groups to share their "translations" of the verse portion.

CONCLUSION AND PRAYER

Ask the children,

Do you think a Bible translation needs to speak clearly to the people who read it? Why?

Read Acts 2:4-6 again. Ask,

Materials:

- Writing paper
- Pencils
- Overhead transparency, PowerPoint slide, or poster / chart of the verse on page 5 (Psalm 51:7b)

How could the disciples communicate clearly in so many languages?

Allow children to respond. If they don't mention the Holy Spirit, point out that the Holy Spirit made it possible.

Lead students in a time of prayer asking the Holy Spirit to help translation teams make God's Word clear to those who will read it.

SEND-HOME PAGE

Distribute the "Write a Draft" activity page 9 (page 7 of this lesson) for students to take home.

Materials:

- Copies of activity page 9 (page 7 of this lesson) for each child

**...wash me, and I
will be whiter
than snow.
Psalm 51:7b (NIV)**

What Did You Say?

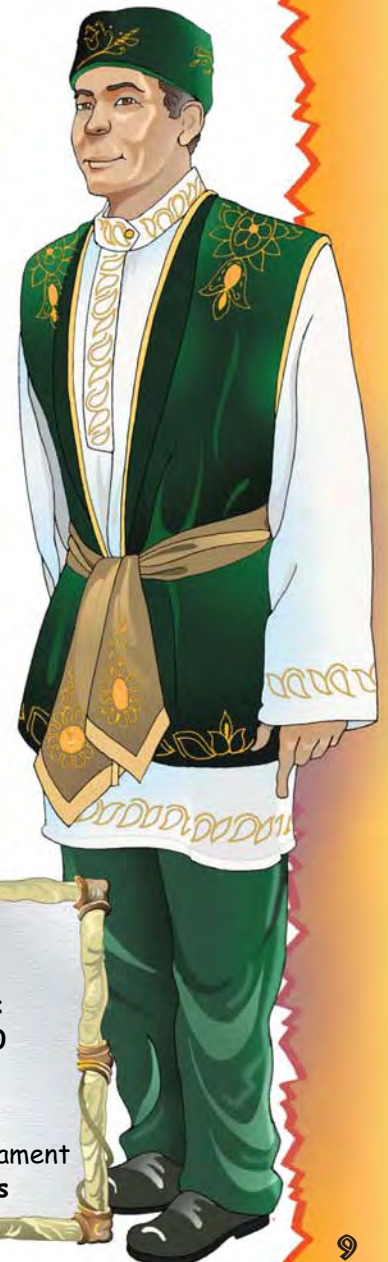
1. Jesus has a big breath for me.
2. Jesus has delivered me from inside death.
3. I am in Jesus' canoe.
4. Inside Jesus' skin is good concerning me.
5. Jesus carries his liver for me.
6. I turned my neck and put it to Jesus.
7. We have the same intestines with God.

Write a Draft

After Bible translators create an alphabet for the language, they finally begin translating! But this work is challenging. Some Bible words do not make sense in the new language.

Translators spend many hours talking with people about the exact meaning of words and ideas. Some words have different meanings to different people. For example, when people say, "That's cool" they mean, "That's good." And kids often say, "Sweet!" when they mean, "Good."

People	Words	Translation
See how "Jesus loves me" has been translated...		
Tboli, Philippines	"Bong nawa Jusas dou."	"Jesus has a big breath for me."
Tami, PNG	"Yesus kulilu lamec pa yau."	"Inside Jesus' skin is good concerning me."
Kamasau, PNG	"Jisas nge yawo niragh righe."	"Jesus carries his liver for me."
See how "I have accepted Jesus" has been translated...		
Tboli, Philippines	"Deng lenwa Jusas ou gu lem hatay."	"Jesus has delivered me from inside death."
Abau, PNG	"Hakwe Jusas so yeyk mon lwak."	"I am in Jesus' canoe."
Dedua, PNG	"Ubana meremma Yesuaru faidua."	"I turned my neck and put it to Jesus."
Kamasau, PNG	"Beghi ane umbo irene rise."	"We have the same intestines with God."



Draw a picture of how people say "Jesus loves me," in one of the above languages. Have a friend guess which language you chose. Now do it with, "I have accepted Jesus."



Tatar

population:
7,000,000

location:
Eurasia

Old & New Testament
in progress