

Decoding the Meaning of the **Bible**



Let's try reading this verse in a couple of different languages, and see if any of these examples make sense to you.

This is Hawaiian Pidgin, a language spoken in Hawaii. You might kind of understand what it's saying, like a few words here and there.

**God wen get so plenny
love an aloha fo da
peopo inside da world,
dat he wen send me, his
one an ony Boy, so dat
everybody dat trus me
no get cut off from God,
but get da real kine life
dat stay to da max foeva.**

This is Farefare, a language spoken in Ghana. You probably can't understand this at all!

**Nawēnne nōŋe
nērsaalba mε halı, tı a
tōm a Bi-yēŋa dūnia zuo,
tı nēr-sεka woo n bɔ ē
sura kǎn sǎ'am, la a wun
yē vɔm n ka ba'asru.**

And this is Ladakhi, a language spoken in India. I'm guessing there's nooooo way you understand what this is saying.

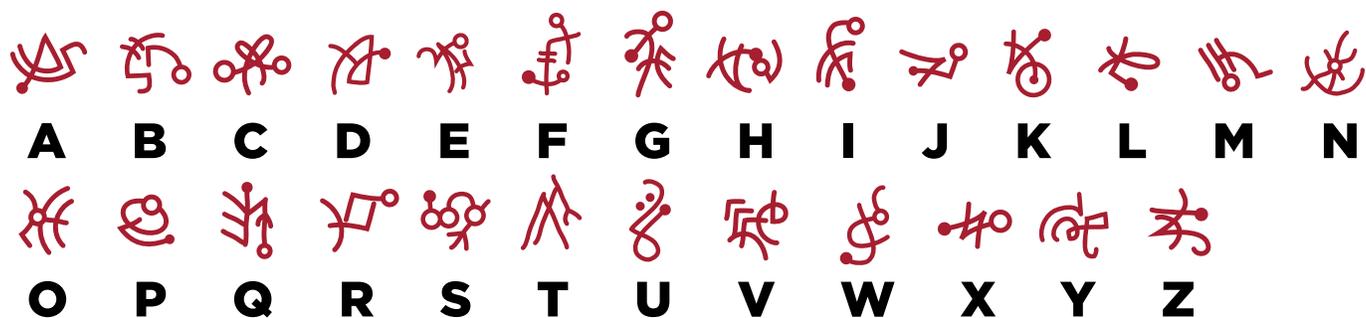
**དགོན་མཚོག་གི་ འཇིག་རྟེན་པའི་
མི་གྲུན་ལ་ འི་ཟམ་ བྱམས་པ་
བཙུན་པ། ཁོང་གི་ ཁོང་རང་གི་ སྲས་
གཅིག་གཅིག་པོ་འང་ ཁོང་གྲུན་ནི་ སེའ་
སལ་ལ་ བཙུན་པ། སྲུ་ཞིག་གི་ ཁོང་གི་
སྲས་སི་ཀ་ དད་པ་ ཁྱོད་ན་ ཉེ་གྲུན་ལ་
ཤི་ཅེས་ མེད་པ་ མཐའ་མེད་པའི་ མི་ཚོ་
ཐོབ་ཡིན།**

Did you understand any of these? Probably not, and that's because they're in a different language than the one you understand best. Isn't it frustrating to not know what these words mean?

People all around the world feel just like this when they try to read the Bible in another language! They might be able to learn how to read the words, but their hearts won't understand it because it's not the language they grew up speaking.

That's why Bible translation exists, so people can understand what God is saying to them through the Bible, just as if their own mom or dad were talking to them!

Decoder



Let's pray!

There are still people all around the world (lots of boys and girls just like you and me!) who don't know what God is saying to them in the Bible. But God wants everyone to be able to read his words in the language they understand best! Let's pray that one day soon, everyone will be able to read and understand the Bible for themselves.

Dear Jesus,

Thank you that you love us! Thank you that you want everyone to know how much you love us in a way that will speak to our hearts, and that's in the language we understand best. Help people to get the Bible in their own language so they can read about you and learn about your love. You're an amazing God, and we know that you love us all so much that you came to earth to die in our place! Please help more and more people learn about that when they're able to read John 3:16 in their own language. We love you, Jesus!

