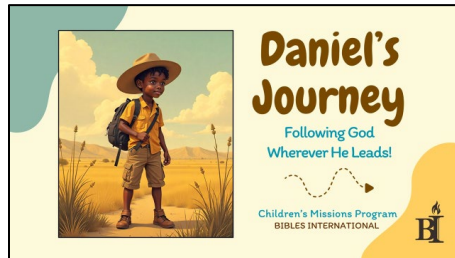


Daniel's Journey

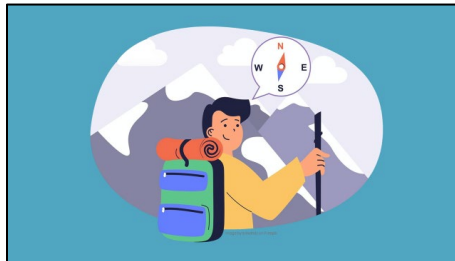
Lesson 5 – “Daniel’s Decision”

INTRODUCTION



(Slide 1 – Daniel's Journey)

Welcome back to **Daniel's Journey**! This is our last lesson about Daniel, a boy in Chad, Africa who is from the Day (DYE) people. Daniel has been learning to follow God wherever God leads him. When we hear about the choices Daniel makes, it helps us learn what it means to follow God wherever He leads us!



(Slide 2 – Hiking with compass)

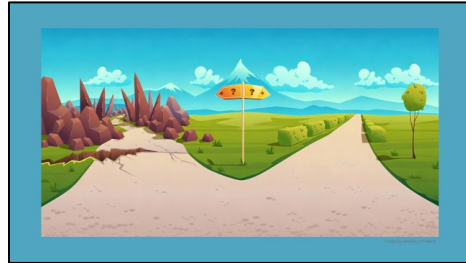
When you're on a journey to a place you've never been before, following a map or GPS is very important. A guidebook is also important as it helps you enjoy the journey even more by pointing out good things to experience along the way and bad things to avoid. But another important tool on a journey is a compass.

If your map is upside down, or the batteries die on your GPS, or the guidebook gets torn, a compass will always point out the right direction. No matter which way you face, it will always point north. You can use it to figure out which way you should be going.



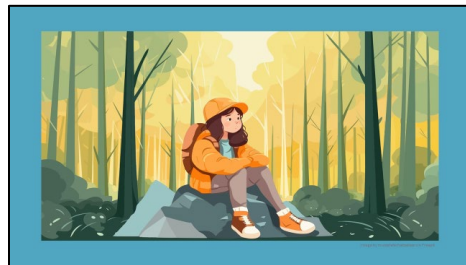
(Slide 3 – Open Bible with cross)

The Bible is our spiritual compass on the journey of life. Just as a compass will always point north, the Bible will always show you the right direction. No matter where you are or which direction you're facing, God's Word will always show you the right way to live.



(Slide 4 – Two roads)

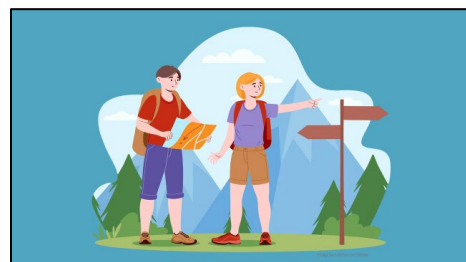
When you want to follow God, the Bible shows you which way to go. It helps you find the right direction and then keep going that way. The Bible helps you know what God wants, so you can make the right choices. If you're listening to Him, He'll help you with every decision you need to make. It's worth it to stay on His path.



(Slide 5 – Girl sitting on rock)

God sees you right where you are. He knows you and loves you. He wants you to be His child and to follow Him. Then He wants you to keep on following Him. When you get tired along the way, stop and talk to Him. He'll give you a calm heart and mind and the strength to stand up again and keep going. That's what perseverance is—going on no matter what and not giving up.

God also wants us to be patient. Our journey through life is a long one, full of different experiences, but He is directing us every step of the way.



(Slide 6 – Hiker guiding another hiker)

As we follow God’s path for our lives, He also wants us to help others know Him and follow Him too. We need to bring others on our journey. How can you do that? By telling your friends everything you know about God and what He is teaching you. And don’t forget to tell them how to go to heaven.

You need to invite your friends to the places where you are learning to follow God, like church, children’s’ class, or Bible club. Then you can learn and walk down God’s path together—all the way to the end!

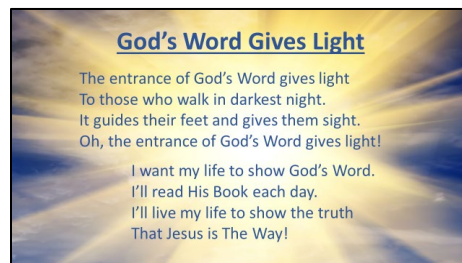


(Slide 7 – Proverbs 3:5-6)

We can trust God’s plan for our lives, and we can be patient and persevere on the path He has laid out for us.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.



(Slide 8 – Song/Poem: God’s Word Gives Light)

*The entrance of God’s Word gives light
To those who walk in darkest night.
It guides their feet and gives them sight.
Oh, the entrance of God’s Word gives light!*

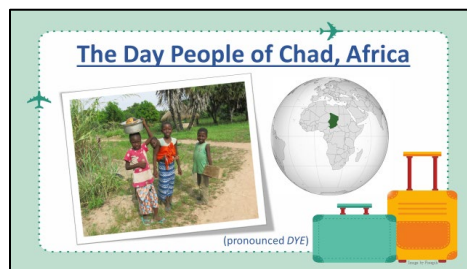
*I want my life to show God’s Word.
I’ll read His Book each day.
I’ll live my life to show the truth
That Jesus is The Way!*

MISSIONS FOCUS



(Slide 9 – Bibles International)

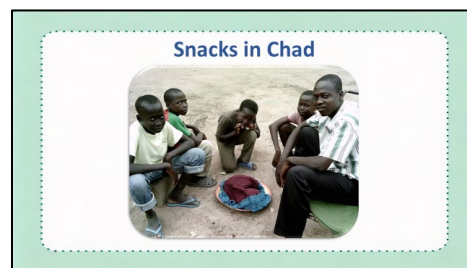
For more than 30 years, Bibles International and the Day (DYE) people in Chad, Africa have been carefully and patiently translating the Bible into the Day language. The translators have persevered for such a long time, without giving up, and God has blessed their work.



(Slide 10 – Day People of Chad, Africa)

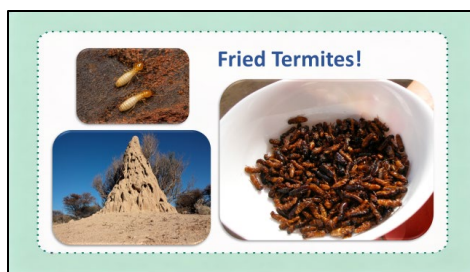
This year (2026), the Day (DYE) Bible translation will be finished! This year, the believers will hold the whole Bible in their hands. They will be able to read it in their language and even hear it on audio recordings!

Let's take one last trip to Chad, Africa and learn a little more about the people who live there.



(Slide 11 – Snacks in Chad)

Last time, I told you about the food that the Day (DYE) eat and how they prepare that food. However, there is one food that I did not tell you about—a snack that they really like but is very different from the snacks at your house. This crunchy snack is very tasty when fried and sprinkled with salt or a seasoning. What is it?



(Slide 12 – Fried Termites)

Fried termites! During the rainy season, the termites come up out of the ground. They have fragile wings and are very easy to collect since they are attracted to light. The people of Chad wash them and then eat them—raw, boiled, or fried.

You might not like the idea of this snack, but termites are actually very nutritious and high in protein, just like the protein bars and shakes people buy here! People in Chad also like to eat large, fried grasshoppers.



(Slide 13 – The Day Stomach)

You might not have the stomach for these kinds of snacks, but the Day (DYE) do. In fact, the word “stomach” is an important word in their language. They often use *stomach* in their expressions like we use *heart* in ours.

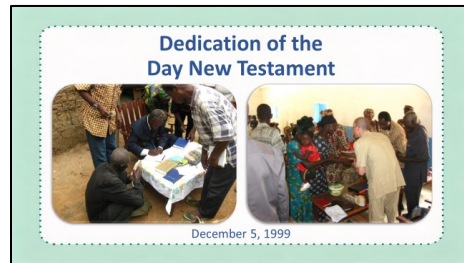
We may say that a mean person has a black heart, but in their language, a mean person has a black stomach. A nice person has a white stomach. A calm person has a cold stomach, while someone who feels secure has a stomach on the ground.

To believe is to grab hold of the stomach, and instead of asking Jesus into their heart, as we often say, the Day (DYE) ask Jesus into their stomach!



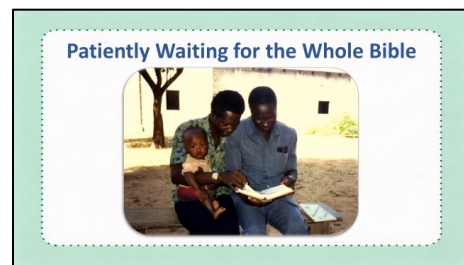
(Slide 14 – The Need)

No matter whether the Day (DYE) invite Jesus into their stomach or their heart, He still needs to be invited into their lives. They need to trust in Him for salvation for their sins and to become followers of God.



(Slide 15 – Dedication of the Day New Testament)

December 5, 1999 was a very happy day in Chad, Africa. On that day, the translation of the New Testament into the Day (DYE) language was dedicated in a special service. More than 2,000 people came to the dedication. Some of them were even from the national and local government. For a small amount of money, the Day (DYE) believers purchased their own copy of the New Testament.



(Slide 16 – Patiently Waiting for the Whole Bible)

However, the New Testament is only half of the Bible. The Day (DYE) have been patiently waiting for the rest of God’s Word, for the Old Testament. This year (2026), that translation will be finished and the whole Bible will be printed in one book.

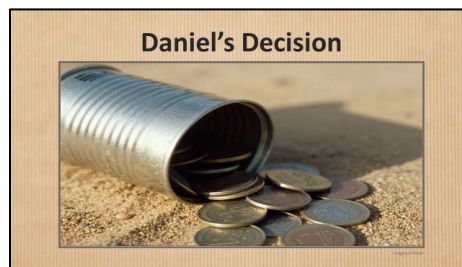
This photo was taken in 1990, more than 35 years ago. The Day (DYE) men are looking at a Bible translated into French, but French is not their language. Day (DYE) is. The men are much older now, and the baby is grown up, but this year (2026), they will be able to hold and read God’s Word in their own language!

MISSIONS STORY



(Slide 17 – Daniel's Journey: Patience & Perseverance)

Daniel is one of the Day (DYE) people of Chad, Africa who are waiting for the whole Bible in their language. Daniel is learning patience and perseverance, both in his desire to follow God and to save money to buy a Bible.



(Slide 18 – Daniel's Decision)

Daniel is also learning to trust God and obey Him. He is learning to do whatever God wants him to do, even if that involves some difficult decisions, as we'll see today. This is our last story about Daniel. It is called "Daniel's Decision."



(Slide 19 – Mama with baby)

"She's very hot," Mama said to Daniel the next morning, holding her baby girl on her lap. "Please bring me some cool water from the clay water pot."

Daniel's little sister seemed fine yesterday, but now she was burning up with fever, even though it was the coolest time of the day.

Mama dipped a cloth in the water Daniel brought her. She laid the cool cloth on the little one's forehead and tried not to worry about her beautiful baby girl.



(Slide 20 – Cemetery; African children)

“Is it malaria?” Daniel whispered, fearful of her response. Even though he was young, he knew that many people in his country become very sick and even die from malaria each year, especially young children. The dreaded illness comes from the bite of an infected mosquito, and there are a lot of mosquitoes in Africa.

“It’s hard to know, my Son. Sometimes a common cold can cause a fever,” Mama said. “But if she gets cold and then hot, over and over again, it’s probably malaria. We must watch her carefully.”

“Should I ask Papa for money to buy medicine?” Daniel asked.



(Slide 21 – Mama; Daniel)

Mama sighed. “Not just yet,” she said. “He will only worry and be upset.” She didn’t even know if he had any money. He usually spent it on alcohol at the local bar.

“Mama, will you still be able to make the beignets (BEN-yay) today for the Bible Translation Center?” Daniel asked hopefully.

“Yes, I think so,” Mama answered. “Your baby sister will sleep a lot because of the sickness. If she cries, I will just bundle her on my back.”



(Slide 22 – Boys on road)

As he walked down the road to school, Daniel prayed for his baby sister.

“Are you okay?” his friend Amadou (AH-mah-doo) asked when saw Daniel’s face.

“Oh, hi, Amadou. I was just praying for my little sister. She’s sick,” Daniel replied.

Daniel’s Muslim friend was surprised. “You’re praying now? You can pray while you walk?”

Daniel nodded. “God knows our thoughts and hears us wherever we are.”

Amadou looked amazed. “We Muslims have to wash first. Then we get our small prayer rug, kneel down, bow, and face toward the city of Mecca when we pray. We have to do all that five times a day.”

Daniel explained, “God tells us in His Word that His ears are always open to our prayer. We can pray anytime, anywhere, day or night. He sees our heart and knows everything.”



(Slide 23 – Daniel & Amadou)

Amadou (AH-mah-doo) looked around to make sure no one was listening. “Can you show me your God’s words sometime?” Amadou whispered.

“I would love to,” Daniel answered. “And you don’t even have to read it in French. We already have part of God’s Word in our language, and people are working on translating the rest of it.”

“It’s in Day (DYE)? In our language?” Amadou was incredulous. “That’s amazing!”

“Maybe you can come over to my house,” Daniel said. “Then I can show you the New Testament in Day (DYE)—that’s the part that’s already translated—and you can read it for yourself. That’s what God wants you to do, you know.”

Amadou looked excited and scared at the same time. He wanted to look at this special book in the Day (DYE) language, but he was afraid that his father would not like that. Then Amadou made up his mind. “Yes,” he said. “I will do my best to come one day soon.”



(Slide 24 – Baby sleeping)

After school was finished, Daniel raced home to do his chores and check on his little sister. “How is she, Mama?”

“About the same. She sleeps a lot and drinks only a little water,” Mama said.

Daniel touched the baby’s forehead. “Still hot. Do you need more cool water, Mama?”

“That’s okay, Daniel,” she answered. “I will get it. You go ahead and take these beignets (BEN-yay) to the translation center. And keep praying for our sweet baby,” she added.

“Thank you, Mama,” said Daniel gratefully. He carefully balanced the covered tray of sweet, round doughnuts on his head and set off for the translation center.



(Slide 25 – Bible translation center)

When Daniel arrived at the Bible Translation Center, he could see the African translators and foreigners from America working at the table. Daniel carefully lowered the tray of beignets (BEN-yay) from his head and took it to the kitchen.

Since Pastor Nouba (NEW-bah) was busy, Mr. Madji (MAHD-jee) got up to help the boy. Mr. Madji taught the children’s class at church, but he was also one of the African translators.

As Mr. Madji began to make hot tea for the group, Daniel asked him how he learned to translate the Bible.



(Slide 26 – Mr. Madji)

“Well,” Mr. Madji replied, “I learned all I could in the public school, and then I went to Bible school. I didn’t know that one day I would translate God’s Word, but some Americans came from Bibles International. They talked to me about it and offered some classes on Bible translation. I worked hard in those classes, and God helped me to notice details and to learn quickly. I loved what they were teaching and knew I wanted to be part of the translation team.”

“So, if I want to do that too one day,” Daniel said slowly, “I should work hard in school, study the Bible, and ask God for help?”

Mr. Madji smiled and nodded. “Yes, Daniel, that’s what God wants all of us to do—to work hard, read His Word, trust Him, and obey Him. And He’ll help us know what He wants us to do.”

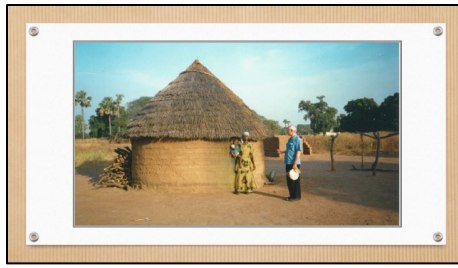
When the tea was ready, Daniel served the beignets (BEN-yay). Everyone enjoyed the sweet, fried doughnuts his mother had made, especially the Americans.



(Slide 27 – Translators working at table)

Once they had finished eating, the African translators and foreigners started working again. Daniel just sat and listened as they decided on the best way to translate God’s words into the Day (DYE) language. At the end of the workday, Daniel had had such a nice time that he didn’t want it to end.

“Would you like to come home with me?” Daniel asked the man from America. “I don’t know if Papa will be there, but you can meet my mother and baby sister.” The foreigner quickly agreed.



(Slide 28 – American at hut with Mama)

When they neared his home, Daniel announced, “Mama, a guest from America!”

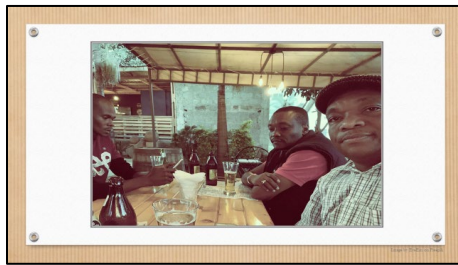
“Hello, Madame,” the American said. “My name is Brother Mark. I am working with the translators at the Bible Translation Center.”

Daniel’s mother was very pleased to meet the foreigner but quickly turned her attention to her son. “Daniel, you need to find Papa and ask him for money. We need to buy medicine for your little sister’s fever. She is getting worse!”

“It will be dark soon,” said the foreigner. “I will go with your son.”

Daniel and Mr. Mark left quickly, with a flashlight ready in the American’s pocket. “Do you know where your father is?” Mr. Mark asked.

“We can check at the bar first,” Daniel said quietly, feeling ashamed. “Papa does not know Jesus like Mama and I do. He gets drunk but doesn’t feel any better. I hope he still has some money left.”



(Slide 29 – Men at bar)

When Mr. Mark and Daniel approached the village bar, they could see several men sitting at a table, drinking alcohol and laughing.

“Papa,” Daniel called out. “I need to buy medicine for the baby. She’s very sick.”

“She’ll be fine.” Papa was drunk and slurred his words. “Besides, I don’t have any money to give you.” Papa thought this was funny, and the men laughed with him.

“Who’s that man with you?” he asked.

“This is Mr. Mark,” the boy said. “He’s from America. He’s helping us have God’s Word in our language.”

“Good!” Papa replied in a harsh way. “Maybe he can ask God for the medicine—and for more money too! I could use it!” The men laughed again.



(Slide 30 – Daniel outdoors)

Daniel took Mr. Mark’s hand and pulled him away from the drunken men. “I’m sorry, Mr. Mark,” Daniel apologized. “The bad drink makes them mock you, and God too.”

“I know, Daniel.” The American spoke kindly as they walked away. “Only God can change your father. He needs to be saved—from alcohol and from his sins too. He cannot help you now, but your Heavenly Father can. Pray to God for His help.”

Right there on the path outside the bar, Daniel and Mr. Mark prayed. And God heard them.



(Slide 31 – Can of coins)

As soon as they had finished praying, Daniel remembered the tin can in the ground under his sleeping mat. In the can were the coins he was saving to buy a Bible when it was translated.

Daniel suddenly knew what God wanted him what to do! “We have to go back to my house,” he announced.

When they arrived at Daniel’s little round house, Daniel told Mama that Papa had no money left. Then he quickly removed the can from the hole under his sleeping mat. There were only a few coins left. He hoped they would be enough.

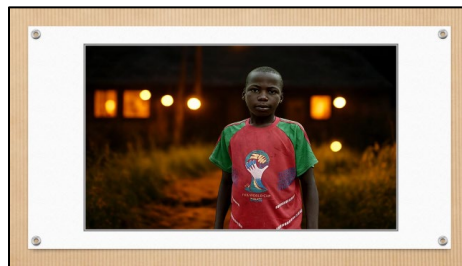


(Slide 32 – Baby sleeping)

Daniel took a deep breath and said bravely to his mother, “I will take the last of the money and buy medicine for the baby.”

Mama sighed with relief and a little sadness too. Daniel encouraged her by saying, “God will provide the money for the Bible some other way. I know He will.”

Mr. Mark quickly added, “And I will help if the baby needs to be seen at the clinic tomorrow.” Daniel and Mr. Mark hurried away again to buy medicine to bring down the baby’s fever.



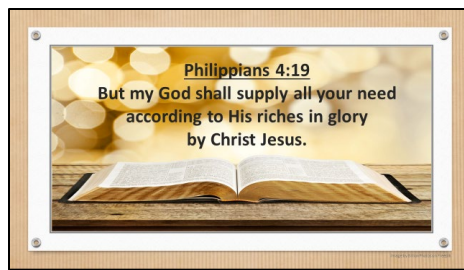
(Slide 33 – Daniel in darkness)

At the little store, Daniel was relieved that he had just enough money to buy the needed medicine. Although there wasn’t a single coin left over, he was glad he had bought the medicine for his sister.

On the way home, Daniel said, “I’m glad you came, Mr. Mark. I’m glad I’m not alone tonight.”

The American man was glad he could encourage this African boy. “God is always with us, Daniel. We are never alone.”

“Pastor Nouba (NEW-bah) says that too,” commented Daniel. “And he says that God will give us what we need at the right time.”



(Slide 34 – Philippians 4:19)

“Yes,” Mr. Mark reassured him. “The Bible tells us that, in Philippians 4:19. ‘But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.’ God promises to provide for our needs, in His own timing and in the way He desires. Talk to Him, Daniel, about what you need and what you want. He is always listening.”

“Then I will pray for my baby sister to be well again,” Daniel said. “I’ll pray for Papa, too, that he will stop drinking and turn to God instead. And I’ll pray for my friend, Amadou (AH-mah-doo), and his aunt. They need to believe in Jesus too.”

Then Daniel thought of the empty tin can at home in the ground under his sleeping mat. “And I will pray for me too—that I can start saving money again to buy a Day (DYE) Bible when it’s ready.”



(Slide 35 – Bible in hands)

“God will help you do that, Daniel,” the foreigner said. “God wants you to have His Word—all of it—in your own language. You keep praying and working and saving money, and God will help you. I will keep working with the Day (DYE) translators, even when I go back to America.”

“Soon,” he added, “very, very soon, we will be finished translating the whole Bible into Day (DYE), and you will be able to have your own beautiful copy of God’s Word!”



(Slide 36 – Patience & Perseverance)

Daniel chose to follow God’s leading in his life, even when it meant that he used the last of his money to help his little sister. But he also knew that God would help him start over again to save money to buy a Bible.

Following God wherever He leads begins with a choice, your choice. God does not make you choose Him. He doesn’t make you follow Him and obey Him. But when you choose Him, He guides you and helps you keep going all the way to the end. He gives you the help and strength you need so that you can serve Him your whole life. You can be patient and persevere, following God wherever and however he leads you!

MISSIONS PROJECT



(Slide 37 – Bibles International)

Bibles International wants people around the world to know God through His Word translated into their own language. Their desire is to have “a reliable Bible translation in every language and a Bible in every hand.” So, they’re working hard with nationals in 14 countries to translate God’s Word into 39 different languages!



(Slide 38 – Children’s Missions Project)

So many kids and adults want the Bible in their own language, but it's hard for them to save enough money to buy their own copy. Bibles International is helping them do that. Bibles International pays the cost of translating the Bible and then printing and shipping it. This means that people in other countries pay a much smaller amount to have their own copy of God's Word.



(Slide 39 – How can you help?)

Would you like to help the work of Bibles International? There are two ways you can help. You can give, and you can pray. You can give some of your money to help people have a Bible. You can also pray that the Bible will be translated into other languages and that people will read and obey God's Word.



(Slide 40 – Buy a Bible)

Would you like to help kids and their families have their own Bible? It costs \$10 for Bibles International to print and ship a Bible in another language. If you can give some of your money, then you'll be helping kids like Daniel of the Day (DYE) tribe in Africa get their very own copy of the Bible in their language!

CONCLUSION



(Slide 41 – Daniel's Journey)

This was our last story about Daniel and his people, the Day (DYE) of Chad, Africa. I hope that as you have watched Daniel learn to follow God, you also have been learning to follow God. Are you listening to Him? Are you willing to follow God wherever He leads you? Will you do whatever He wants you to do?

Optional

- Distribute Lesson 5 Activity Sheet.
- Collect Children's Missions Project offering.
- Distribute Children's Program Take-home Card.
- Distribute Missions Project Take-home Card.
- Distribute Missions Gift Take-home Card.
- Distribute Prayer Take-home Card.