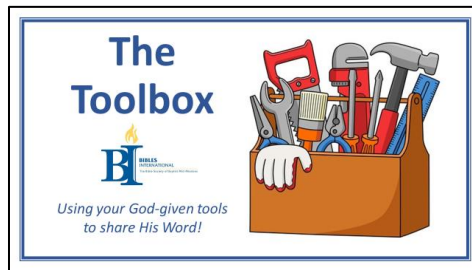


The Toolbox

Lesson 2 – “Grandpa’s Toolbox” (Chad)

INTRODUCTION



(Slide 1 – “The Toolbox”)

Welcome back to **“The Toolbox”**! This is our second lesson, and we are learning that God has given us special “tools” to share His Word. We will talk more about what those tools are and meet other people around the world who are opening their “toolbox” and using their “tools” to help others know God. We will also learn how we can do that too!



(Slide 2 – Yellow house)

Do you remember me telling you about Mrs. Reed, who opens her home to children in her neighborhood, welcoming them in and often reading to them? Last time she was telling them about people who have no books, not even a Bible, in their own language.

Just a few days later, the children gathered once again at Mrs. Reed’s house. This time she let the younger children pick out a book for her to read.



(Slide 3 – Young children looking at book)

Eric, the youngest boy, couldn't read yet, but he always picked the same book—one with the letters of the alphabet and their sounds. "A is for apple, B is for banana..." read Mrs. Reed slowly. Eric tried to guess the letters as she read, but it was hard for him.

One of the older children laughed when he made a mistake. Mrs. Reed looked very serious for a minute, and then said, "Do you remember learning to read? It's hard at first, and you make a lot of mistakes. It's fun once you learn it well, though. Isn't it?"

"Maybe your mom taught you at home, or maybe you learned at school," Mrs. Reed continued. "It takes a lot of time and practice to learn to read, but it really helps to have special *tools* for learning to read."

"Tools?" Little Clarissa asked.



(Slide 4 – Children learning alphabet)

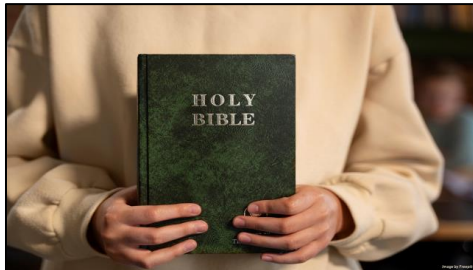
"Yes, tools," Mrs. Reed repeated. "Not tools like a hammer or screwdriver, but tools for learning to read—tools like alphabet cards, picture books, and workbooks. Other tools like easy-to-read storybooks, stickers, and even games make it fun to learn to read."

The children had never really thought about needing the right *tools* to learn to read. They couldn't imagine having books and not being able to read them!



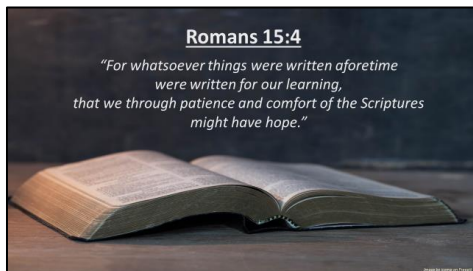
(Slide 5 – Woman teaching girl to read)

Mrs. Reed told them there are a lot of people who cannot read, and many do not have these special tools to help them *learn* to read. “There are people all around the world who are waiting to have a Bible in their own language,” she reminded the children. “We need to help them *get* a Bible, but we also need to make sure that they know how to *read* it!”



(Slide 6 – Bible in hands)

God has given a very special tool to the world to help every person know about Him. That tool is the Bible, and by reading it, we learn about Him, how much He loves us, and what He has done for us.

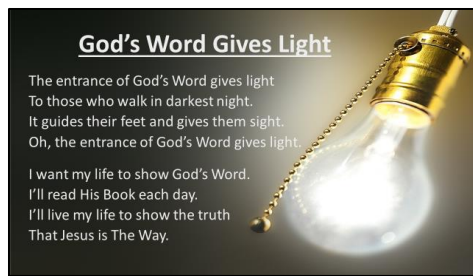


(Slide 7 – Bible verse)

A verse in the Bible, Romans 15:4, tells us...

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

This verse reminds us to read and study our Bible each day so that God can guide us. Even when we’re not sure what to do, God’s Word gives us light. It helps us know what to do.



(Slide 8 – Song “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.

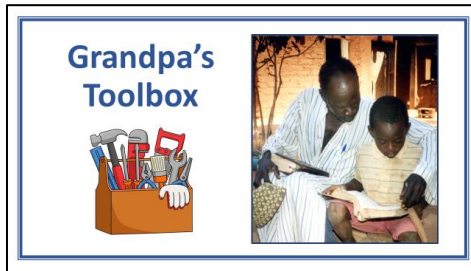
I want my life to show God’s Word.
I’ll read His Book each day.
I’ll live my life to show the truth
That Jesus is The Way.



(Slide 9 – God-given tools)

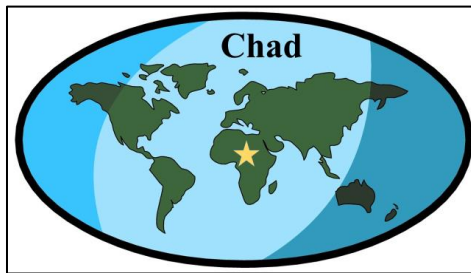
The Bible is the greatest tool that God has given His Children, but He has also given us other tools and creative ways to tell others about Him. We need to use these tools every day!

MISSIONS STORY



(Slide 10 – “Grandpa’s Toolbox”)

Pierre and his grandfather know how important it is to have a Bible in their language and be able to read it. In fact, Grandpa is doing everything He can to make sure the people around him learn about God.



(Slide 11 – World map with star on Chad, Africa)

Pierre and his grandpa live in the country of Chad, which is located almost in the center of the continent of Africa.



(Slide 12 – Pierre sitting outdoors)

Pierre loves to be outdoors. It is always hot in Chad, but Pierre doesn't mind. There are always so many things to do outside. Half of the year it rains a lot and is called the monsoon season. The other half of the year it doesn't rain at all, and it certainly never snows!



(Slide 13 – Pierre's house)

Pierre's house is made of sun-dried bricks and only has a few small windows, but that keeps the house cool and comfortable even on very hot days.

You may wonder why there is no grass in his yard, but that is because his mother is a good housekeeper who takes care of her family. She has carefully removed every blade of grass in the yard so that the ground remains clear.



(Slide 14 – Sister sweeping ground)

Since there is no grass, harmful creatures like snakes and scorpions have nowhere to hide, and the family remains safe.

Every day Pierre's sister takes her broom made of long twigs and sweeps the hard dirt in front of their house, to make sure the ground is tidy and clear.



(Slide 15 – Mother cooking over fire)

Since it is warm all year round, Pierre and his family spend a lot of time outside. His mother cooks all of their meals over a fire, and the family eats outdoors, too.



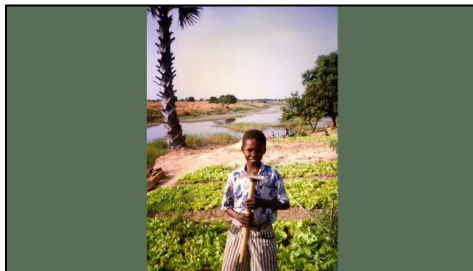
(Slide 16 – Sister carrying baby on back)

Pierre’s two sisters help their mother around the house and in the garden. They also take turns caring for their baby brother. They tie him onto their back with a cloth, which keeps him happy and safe all day long.



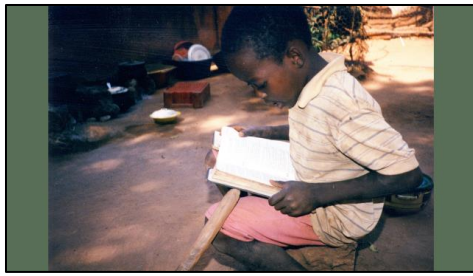
(Slide 17 – Children on school bench)

Pierre goes to school during the week but is always happy when the weekend comes. Of course he loves to play outside, but he also has work to do. Every Saturday, he joins the other children from school, and together they work in the teacher’s garden. It is one of the ways the teacher is “paid” by the children’s families.



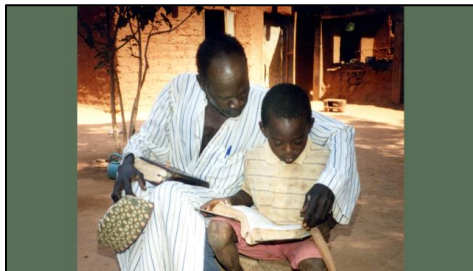
(Slide 18 – Pierre holding hoe in garden)

His favorite tool is this short-handled hoe made from a piece of metal attached to the end of a stick. He uses it to dig up the ground, plant the garden, and keep it weeded. At the end of the growing season, Pierre will help the teacher harvest peanuts and other vegetables from the garden.



(Slide 19 – Pierre reading Bible)

Pierre certainly enjoys a rest in the shade after working all morning in the garden. He also likes to practice reading, ever since he learned to read at school. Pierre doesn't have electricity in his house, and the small windows let in only a little light, so he prefers to read outside, especially when his grandpa joins him.



(Slide 20 – Grandpa and Pierre reading)

Grandpa lives in the house next to Pierre's, and when he is home, he likes to spend time with his grandson. They often read the Bible together, the older helping the younger with the hard words.

Many of the people in his village have no books in their homes—not even one! But Pierre and his family are Christians, and they have a Bible in their home.

Pierre's grandpa is an evangelist. He loves to preach and tell others about Jesus. Grandpa faithfully teaches Pierre and others in his village, but he also wants people in other villages to know about the Lord.



(Slide 21 – Village road)

Grandpa usually walks or rides his bike to other nearby villages. Sometimes the villages he wants to visit are a long way from home, so he catches a ride in a truck going that direction.

At the end of the day when the villagers come home from their gardens, Grandpa gathers them together to hear what he has to say. He knows that because he is a visitor, they will be interested in knowing why he is there.



(Slide 22 – Villagers gathered)

Many different languages are spoken throughout Africa. Even in the country of Chad, different tribes will speak different languages. Fortunately, Grandpa can speak several languages, so he can communicate with many people.

Most of the villages Grandpa visits do not have the Bible in their own language. So Grandpa studies the Bible in *his* language and then tells them in *their* language what it says.



(Slide 23 – Men listening)

Although some people are not interested, others listen very intently to God's Word. Grandpa tells them of God's love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and

some of them then pray to ask Jesus to forgive their sins and to save them from eternal punishment.

The villagers enjoy listening to him teach, but they soon realize that the Bible is in *Grandpa's* language and not in their *own* language. Some wonder if God truly does love them because it seems to them that God does not know their language.

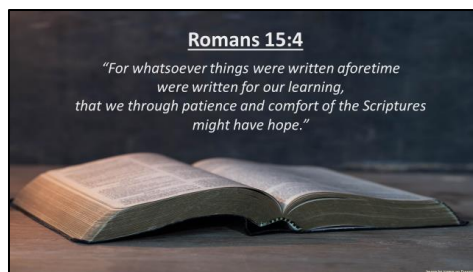
When Grandpa leaves their village, they have no Bible to read for themselves. They must wait until he returns to teach them more.



(Slide 24 – Grandpa studying Bible)

Grandpa remembers when his own tribe did not have a Bible to read either. He is so thankful that Bibles International helped his tribe have the Bible in their own language. He prays daily for other tribes to have the Bible in their language too and to have a hunger to read it for themselves.

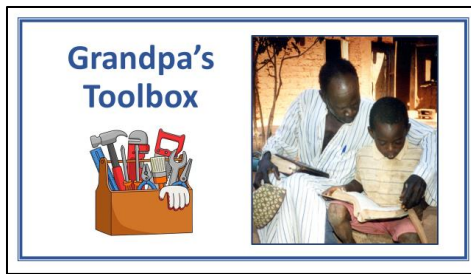
Grandpa often reminds Pierre what a special thing it is to read God's Word and how important it is to learn from it.



(Slide 25 – Bible verse)

Romans 15:4 tells us, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

God gave us the Bible so we can learn about Him, respond to Him, and serve Him in everything we do.



(Slide 26 – “Grandpa’s Toolbox”)

Every day Grandpa opens his “toolbox” and shares the Gospel with the people around him. His “tools” are his love for God, but also his feet and even his bicycle, because he uses them to travel to people in far-away villages. His greatest tool, however, is the Bible.

Could you be like Grandpa and help others learn about God? Would you like to help someone have a Bible in their own language?

MISSIONS PROJECT



(Slide 27 – “Bibles International”)

Bibles International wants everyone to have a Bible and to be able to read it. Their goal is “a reliable Bible translation in every language and a Bible in every hand.”



(Slide 28 – Green map of Africa)

Right now, Bibles International is working with the Mbum-Nzakambay (*mm-BOOM nn-ZAH-kahm-bye*) tribe in Central Africa to have a reliable Bible translation in their own language. This tribe is spread out across three countries—Chad, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic.



(Slide 29 – “The Mbum-Nzakambay Project”)

They will work together to translate the New Testament first and then the Old Testament, so that the whole Bible will be translated into their language. Bibles International will also work with them to create two other tools, a Reading Primer (*PRIMM-er*) and an Old Testament Storybook, to help them get ready to read the Bible.

Now, have you been wondering how they will actually *translate* the Bible?



(Slide 30 – Bible translation team)

Several of the Mbum-Nzakambay Christians will be chosen to become *translators*. They are the ones who will write the words from the Bible into their own language. However, they need to be trained by people at Bibles International—*consultants*, we call them—so that God’s Word is carefully and accurately translated into the Nzakambay language. God has given us His Word with no mistakes, so we must make sure that we don’t make any mistakes while translating it!



(Slide 31 – Translation workshop)

The national translators and the Bibles International consultants will work together sometimes and separately at other times, but they will also periodically have

special meetings called *translation workshops* to make sure that God's Word is carefully and accurately translated into the Nzakambay language.

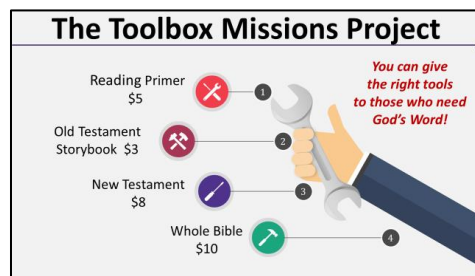
This is a lot of work to do, and it will take a long time, but it's definitely worth it to make sure that they can read the Bible in *their* language, just like you can read the Bible in *your* language.

Would you like to help? You don't need to know their language. You only need to give something that you already have.



(Slide 32 – Outstretched hands with coins)

Bibles International wants to print a lot of Bibles and Reading Primers and Old Testament Storybooks for the Mbum-Nzakambay, but they need money to do that. So if you can give to our special offering, your money will be a big help.



(Slide 33 – Toolbox missions project costs)

It only takes a small amount to be a big help! It costs only...

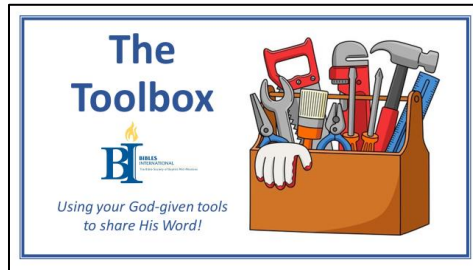
- \$5 to print a large Reading Primer for a child or adult who is learning to read
- \$3 to print a colorful Old Testament Storybook to help early readers begin to read and understand God's Word
- \$8 to print a New Testament for someone who needs to hear about Jesus
- \$10 to print the whole Bible in the Nzakambay language

Can you help these people in Africa have their own Bible? Would you like to pay for their Primer or Storybook, so that they can learn to read and understand their Bible?

[Teacher: Promote and collect the Mbum-Nzakambay Project offering as desired.]

You can also help by *praying* for the translators. Pray that they will do their work well, so that their people can hear God talking to them in their own language!

CONCLUSION



(Slide 34 – “The Toolbox”)

The next time we meet, I will tell you more about the Mbum-Nzakambay tribe in Central Africa. I will also tell you about a young girl and her father in India.

[Teacher: Distribute the Lesson 2 Activity Sheets as desired.]