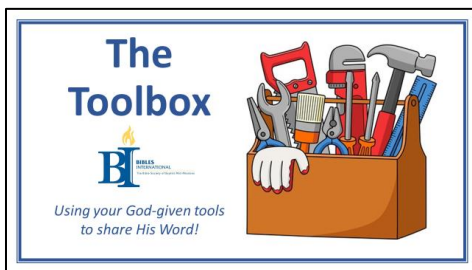


The Toolbox

Lesson 4 – “Uncle Sana’s Toolbox” (India)

INTRODUCTION



(Slide 1 – “The Toolbox”)

Welcome back to **“The Toolbox”**! This is our fourth 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 continue to learn how we can do that too!



(Slide 2 – Yellow house)

Now the neighborhood children who came to Mrs. Reed’s house were thinking about tools everywhere they went. When they saw a bicycle, they thought of the tools you would need to take care of it. When they looked at a fence, they knew it took a hammer and nails to put it up.



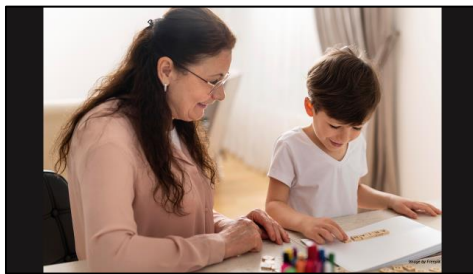
(Slide 3 – Dad and son in kitchen)

When they went into the kitchen and saw Dad was making his famous pancakes for breakfast, they knew he needed tools, too—a mixing bowl, whisk, measuring cups, and other kitchen tools.



(Slide 4 – Mother at sewing machine)

Just that day, Mrs. Reed’s own daughter realized that her mother needed a different set of tools for a new project. Her mother would need a sewing machine, scissors, measuring tape, pins, and many more tools to sew the beautiful costume that she wanted.



(Slide 5 – Woman helping boy spell)

The children now understood that it was the same way with reading. “People don’t learn to read if they don’t have the proper *tools*,” Mrs. Reed reminded them. “But they also don’t learn to read if they don’t have someone to *help* them learn. They need a teacher!”



(Slide 6 – Teacher with children at school)

“I would like to be a teacher when I grow up,” announced Emma. “My teacher at school made it fun for me to learn to read. I think I could help kids learn to read too!”

“That would be great, Emma!” said Mrs. Reed. “But what about their parents?”

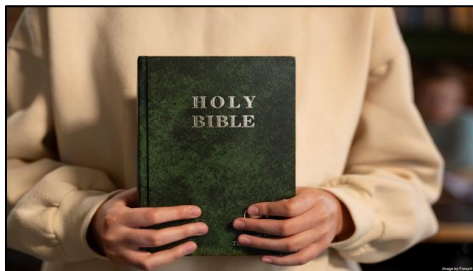


(Slide 7 – Woman and man at table)

“Did you know that there are moms and dads and grandmas and grandpas who do not know how to read? They need someone to teach them, too!” Mrs. Reed explained.

“Maybe I could teach them,” replied Emma. “It must be hard to learn to read when you are already too old for regular school.”

“Yes, it *is* hard,” answered Mrs. Reed. “That’s why there are special reading classes designed for adults. It is very important that they learn to read.”

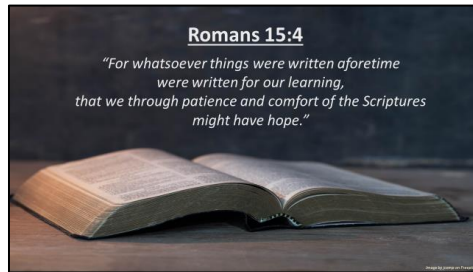


(Slide 8 – Bible in hands)

There are so many important things that we read every day. Signs along the road tell us where to drive and dangerous situations to avoid. Signs in the grocery store tell us the special sales of the day and what we need to do to get the discount.

News articles on the internet help us know what is happening around the world. Even phone text messages help us communicate quickly with family and friends.

However, the most important thing we could ever read is the Bible, God's Word.

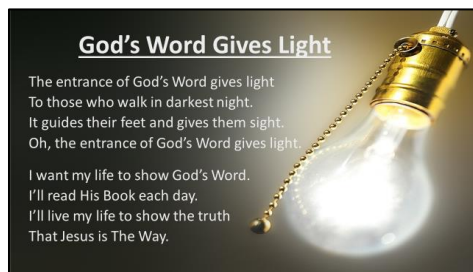


(Slide 9 – Bible verse)

Let's quote our verse together, Romans 15:4.

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

When we are patient and trust God's way instead of our own, the Scriptures, another name for the Bible) give us hope and comfort, because we can read for ourselves how God takes care of His children in the way He knows is best for them. Let's make it a habit to read it every day!



(Slide 10 – 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.

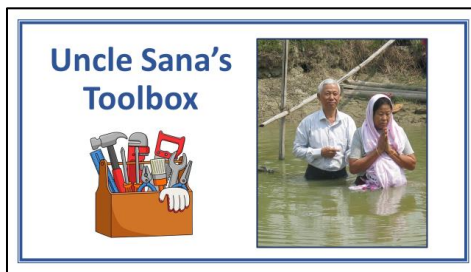


(Slide 11 – God-given tools)

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.

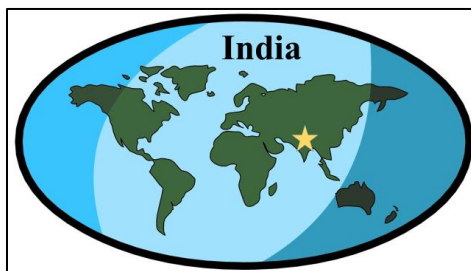
So far we have learned how Mrs. Reed in the United States, Pierre’s grandfather in Chad, Africa, and Gracie’s father, Mr. Singh, in India open their toolbox every day and use their tools to tell others about God.

MISSIONS STORY



(Slide 12 – “Uncle Sana’s Toolbox”)

Let’s find out how a man called Uncle Sana (*SAH-nah*) uses his “tools” every day.



(Slide 13 – World map with star on India)

Uncle Sana lives in the large country of India, in the remote northeastern part of the country. His name is actually Sana Singh (*SAH-nah SING*), and he is Gracie’s uncle.



(Slide 14 – Gracie Singh holding dog)

Last time we met, I told you about a young girl named Gracie Singh who lives with her mother, father, and two sisters in Northeast India. Although her father’s relatives are Hindu and worship idols, Gracie’s father and mother are Christians and worship God. Her father, Mr. Singh, works with Bibles International to help other groups of people in India to have the Bible in their own language.



(Slide 15 – Gracie singing with mother)

Interestingly, when Gracie’s mother married Mr. Singh, she did not need to change her last name as women commonly do, because her last name was already Singh! Her last name and her husband’s last name were exactly the same, even though they were not related at all. Singh is actually a very common last name in India.

Since they have the same last name, Gracie calls both sets of grandparents—her father’s parents and her mother’s parents—“Grandpa and Grandma Singh.” Although their name is the same, there is a big difference between both sets of grandparents.



(Slide 16 – Hindu idols)

Gracie’s *father’s* parents are not Christians. They do not read the Bible. They do not know Jesus as their Savior. Instead, they worship idols, which are statues to

false gods, according to their Hindu beliefs, and so they did not teach Gracie's father about Jesus when he was a little boy.



(Slide 17 – Mother and daughter at church)

However, Gracie's *mother's* parents are Christians, and they taught their children to love God and to serve Him. Both Mrs. Singh and her brother Sana (*SAH-nah*), accepted Jesus as their Savior when they were young and continue to serve God today.

Although Gracie's Christian grandparents live several hours away and she can't see them as often as she would like, her uncle Sana and his family live close enough for many visits back and forth.



(Slide 18 – Uncle Sana and Aunt Nancy)

Gracie loves spending time with Uncle Sana, and also her Aunt Nancy. Aunt Nancy isn't from India. She is from America, but married Uncle Sana years ago. She has spent so many years in India that she feels like it really is her home.



(Slide 19 – Uncle Sana working at desk)

Uncle Sana is a very intelligent man. He can speak more than five languages fluently, including English, and that helps him do his job well.

Just like Gracie's father, Uncle Sana joined Bibles International and has worked with them for many years.

From his busy office in India, Uncle Sana and his staff have worked on 33 language projects for people in India, as well as six other countries near India.



(Slide 20 – Happy children outdoors)

One group of people wanted a clear, true Bible in their own language so badly that they came with an offering of money that they had collected to help pay for the work and printing of the Bible. Even though they were very poor, they still wanted to help. Even though they knew that they couldn't give the whole amount, they happily gave as much as they could!



(Slide 21 – Translators working on computers)

Since both Mr. Singh and Uncle Sana work with Bible translators, Gracie saw a lot of the hard work that goes into translating the Bible into other languages. Sometimes she even went with them to the language workshops, which are special meetings for the national translators and Bibles International consultants to work together.

Gracie always liked watching everyone work during the workshops, knowing that important work was being done. Sometimes Gracie's mother and Aunt Nancy also helped with the translating work.



(Slide 22 – Women playing game)

Since the language workshops typically last for several days, everyone enjoys eating meals together. In the evenings, when they are relaxing from a challenging day of work, they love to play games, such as UNO, that involve numbers or pictures rather than words. Simple visual games like these are easy to learn and play, since they don't require everyone to know the same language.



(Slide 23 - Uncle Sana (left) and Mr. Singh (right))

Like Gracie's father (*Mr. Singh, right side*), Uncle Sana (*left side*) has spent his whole life tirelessly helping other people have the Bible in their own language.

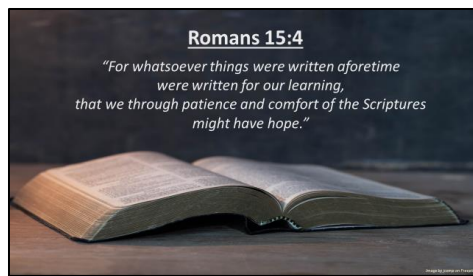
Why is Bible translation so important to them? Listen to Uncle Sana's answer.



(Slide 24 – Indian nationals)

“When people receive the Word of God, people are saved. Churches are strengthened, and many of them will even write songs, taking the themes from the Bible. We are in the work of changing lives!”

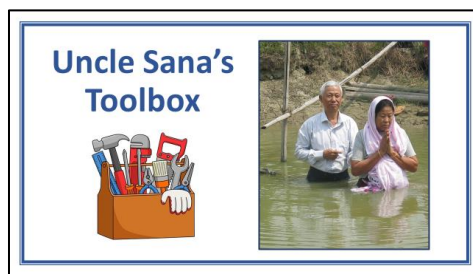
Uncle Sana knows it is the power of God that changes lives, and that starts with reading the Bible, the greatest tool God has given us!



(Slide 25 – Bible verse)

Let's say our Bible verse together.

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



(Slide 26 – “Uncle Sana’s Toolbox”)

Uncle Sana never tires of opening his toolbox and doing what he can to share God’s Word with the people around him. His Bible is his primary tool, of course, but he always uses the intelligence God has given him. His ability to learn and speak many languages and to help organize people to translate the Bible into other languages is an important tool that he uses every day to serve God.

Could you be like Uncle Sana and share God’s Word? Would you use your intelligent mind and the special abilities God has given you to serve Him? Would *you* like to help someone have a Bible in their own language?

MISSIONS PROJECT



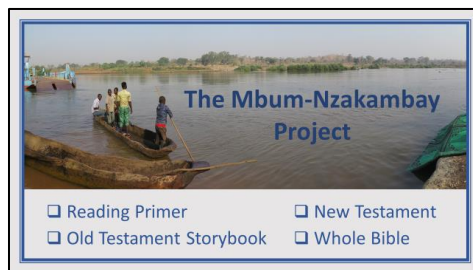
(Slide 27 – “Bibles International”)

That is the goal of Bibles International—to have “a reliable Bible translation in every language and a Bible in every hand.”



(Slide 28 – Green map of Africa)

They want one of these Bible translations to be in the language of the Mbum-Nzakambay (*mm-BOOM nn-ZAH-kahm-bye*) tribe in Chad, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic, which are all found in Central Africa. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone in this tribe had their own Bible and was also able to read it?

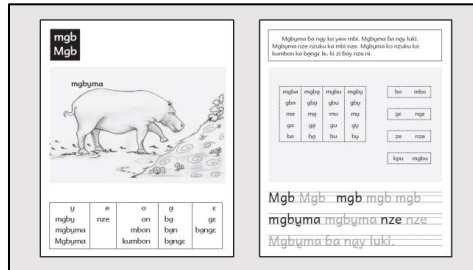


(Slide 29 – “The Mbum-Nzakambay Project”)

This year, Bibles International will start working with this tribe to have a reliable translation in their language—first the New Testament, then the Old Testament, until the whole Bible is finished. It will take many years of hard work.

However, Bibles International wants to make sure the Mbum-Nzakambay will be able to *read* the Bible when it is translated. So they are also creating tools to help them learn to read their language.

These tools are a Reading Primer (*PRIMM-er*) and an Old Testament Storybook. The Reading Primer is already finished, although more copies need to be printed.



(Slide 30 – Primer pages)

The Reading Primer is like a child’s first reading and writing book. It teaches the whole alphabet for their language, as well as common words. Then the Primer teaches them how to spell words and write them too. There are also some short stories at the end of the Primer.

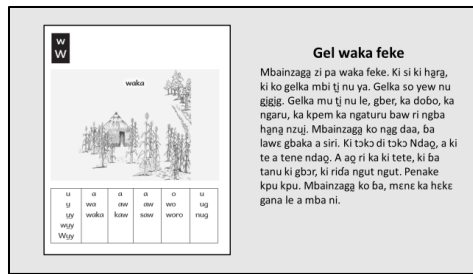


(Slide 31 – Teacher training workshop)

Bibles International created the Reading Primer last year and has already started training teachers to use it with their students.

These training sessions, or *literacy workshops*, are very important. Since not all of the Mbum-Nzakambay children know how to read, and so many adults also do not know how to read, they need to be taught. So Bibles International trains national teachers, who will then work with their own people to teach both children and adults to read.

The other reading tool that Bibles International is working on is the Old Testament Storybook.



(Slide 32 – Primer story)

We don't have a picture of the Storybook yet, but this page from the Reading Primer will show you what a story in the Nzakambay language looks like.

Soon a whole book of stories will be written in their language. They will not be made-up stories, however. They will be true stories from the Bible that have been written into their language. Most of the stories are from the Old Testament. Many of them are from the first book of the Bible, called *Genesis*.



(Slide 33 – Nationals reading)

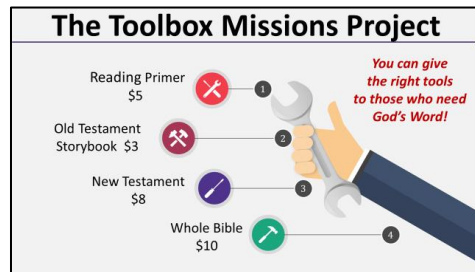
The Old Testament Storybook will be written in a simple way so that it is easy to read and understand. This storybook will help both the children and the adults read better and faster, but also help them to understand many of the things they will later read in the Bible.

The children and adults can work one-on-one with a teacher or attend reading classes to have extra help. They can even take the Storybook home to practice reading. Then they will be ready when the Bible is printed in their language!



(Slide 34 – Outstretched hands with coins)

You can be part of this project by helping Bibles International cover the cost of printing all of the materials and Bibles for this tribe in Africa!



(Slide 35 – Toolbox missions project costs)

It doesn't take much money to give an important tool to the Mbum-Nzakambay (*mm-BOOM nn-ZAH-kahm-bye*). It costs only...

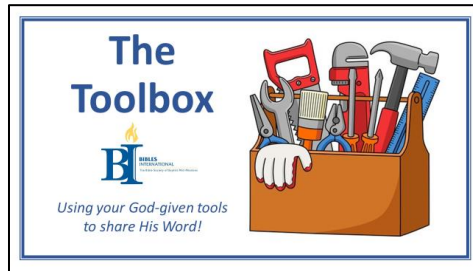
- \$5 to print a large Reading Primer for a child or adult who is learning to read
- \$3 to print a colorful Old Testament Storybook to help early readers begin to read and understand God's Word
- \$8 to print a New Testament for someone who needs to hear about Jesus
- \$10 to print the whole Bible in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

Would you like to help?

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

You can also help by praying for the national teachers. They need to be trained well so that they can teach their students well. They will need a lot of patience, and their students will too. Pray for the students who will be learning to read—that the children will learn quickly and the adults will understand and remember what they are learning.

CONCLUSION



(Slide 36 – “The Toolbox”)

The next time we meet, we will learn more about the Mbum-Nzakambay in Africa, and you will hear the story of Hmuaka (*mm-WAH-kah*), who lives in India.

[Teacher: Distribute the Lesson 4 Activity Sheets as desired.]