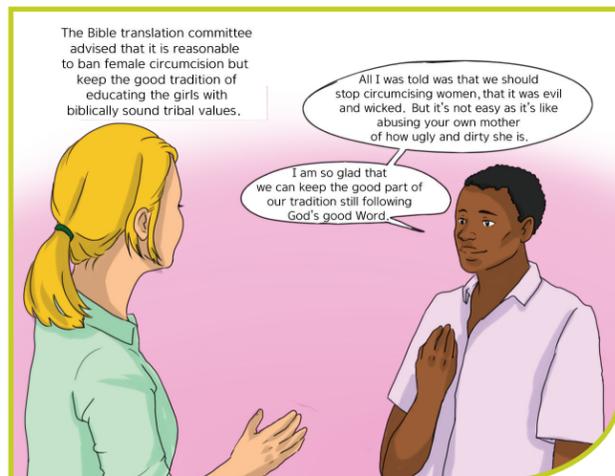
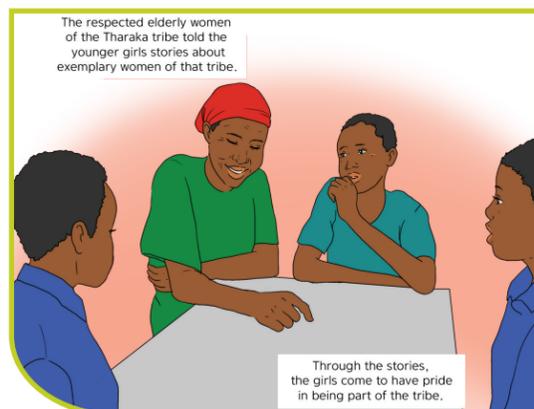
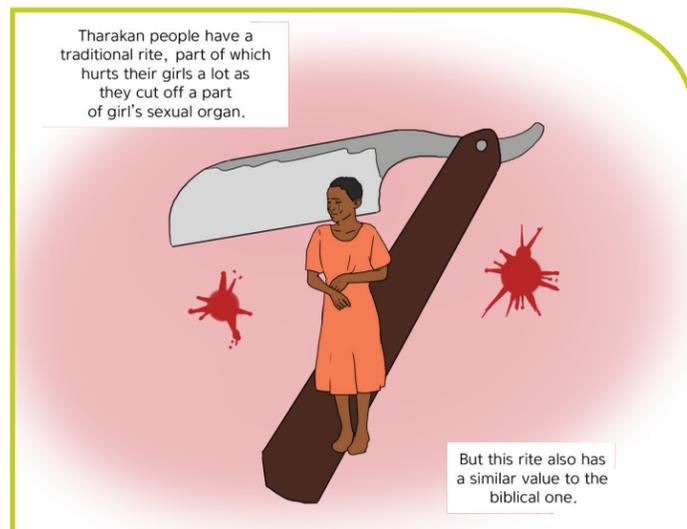
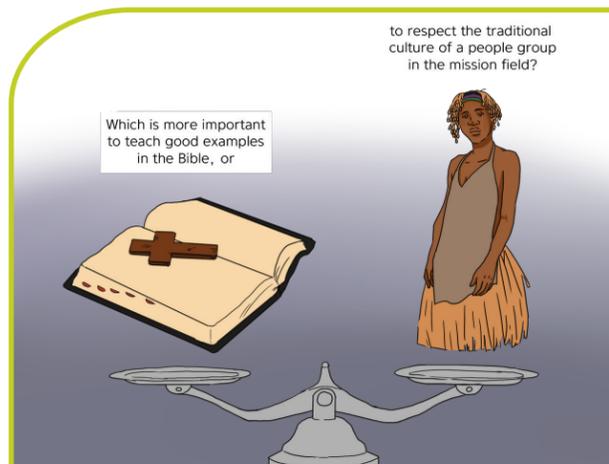


Praise the Lord with What Is Ours



Let's read the Bible

Deuteronomy 30:9-18
Joshua 6:11-20
Joshua 14:5-15

We consider together

Ask your parents one good thing about the Korean culture and that of the western culture, which are of biblical value as well.



Having faith in Jesus and following in his footsteps is like being born again.

Our mistaken judgments, thinking worthless things are the most important, the bad habits we used to have – all of this changes. God has always loved us, and we must remember that He has given us great things, since a very long time ago.

We can see changes like this in the life of Joshua, when he went into Canaan to battle. He was able to learn many things as he drove out the Canaanites from the Canaan lands. God had planned for the land to be filled with His people. God allowed the people to think on their own about their past thoughts, habits, and cultures. What do you think is good in God's eyes? What do you think God wishes for us to change? God patiently waited for the Israelites to change and to give thanks to Him by their own free will. This is because these types of changes happen slowly and carefully, not suddenly and quickly.

John Ommani was a missionary working with the Kenyan Tharaka tribe. As he helped translate the Bible into their language, he began to understand who they were. The tribespeople had many good traditions that had come down from their great-great-grandfathers, but there were also a few that were sinful. The tribe did something hurtful to their girls during their coming of age ceremonies, when they became mature adults. People from other countries heard about this, and they shook their heads and condemned the Tharaka tribe so that they would fix this troublesome tradition.

The team of missionaries who were working together to create a Tharakan bible came to find that not all of the traditions were bad, but there were also traditions that were good in God's eyes.

God let them think on their own about their past thoughts and habits, and about the cultures of their time. God patiently waited for the Israelites to change and to give thanks to Him by their own free will. This is because these types of changes do not happen quickly and suddenly, but are slow and delicate.

John Ommani was a missionary working with Kenya's Tharaka tribe. He went to live with the Tharaka people, and got to know about the tribe as he worked on trans-

lating the Bible into their native language. The tribe had many good things that had come from their grandfather's grandfather, but they also had traditions that were not so good. One of these traditions was a coming of age ceremony for when girls became women. During the ceremonies, the tribe did something that was very painful for the girls, and when many other countries came to hear about this tradition, the people shook their heads in disbelief and condemned the Tharaka tribe so that they would fix this troublesome tradition.

The team of missionaries who were helping create a Bible in the Tharakan language told the people that it was not their tradition that is bad, but amongst the traditions that there were good things that were good in God's eyes and right with His Word. The respected elderly women of the Tharaka tribe told the younger girls the stories of exemplary women of that tribe, and through these stories, the girls came to have pride in being part of the tribe. The missionaries did not call all traditions bad, but instead looked closely and carefully at them, found good traditions, and claimed that we must help the tribe in keeping their good traditions.

A Tharaka Methodist pastor, Reverend Githetu, said, "I have never known these seminars could help me so much. I had been in Bible school and all I was told was that we should stop circumcising women, that it was evil and wicked. How could I tell that to my people? It is like abusing your own mother of how ugly and dirty she is. Even if she is, you do not tell her just bluntly like that! I am glad that the old men who came for the seminar said that the whole community needs to hear this. The way people are now teaching this to the young girls is gaining momentum."

(Ommani, John L. 2000. "Tharaka Female Circumcision: A Case Study in the Role of the Translation Organization." Notes on Anthropology 4 (51).)

The Bible must be translated into the language of each language group in order for them to fully understand the Word of God. God starts the work directly Himself. It does not matter which culture; God's Word always makes the darkness flee. The lives of the people change. Then they finally come to praise God through their culture.

Let us pray all together for many nations to come to praise God with their cultures.

Wycliffe Canada wants to see the revival of the Canadian Church through Bible engagement, not only by their reading but also praying and living it out in their life, while they bless those people groups who do not have the Bible by prayers and offerings, a cent per verse or 10 cents per chapter. Please contact us if you want to join.
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