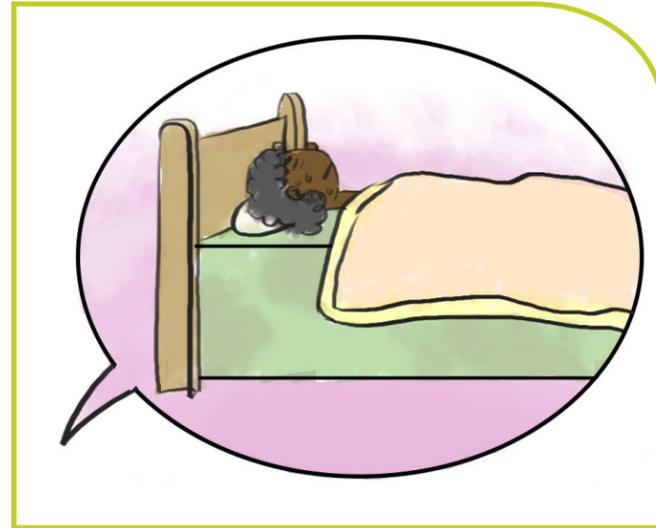


Anothe Way to Meet *Jesus*



Let's read the Bible

Mark 9:2-13
 11:1-10
Luke 2:25-35

We consider together

Thank you Jesus for conquering death! Please let many more nations have a good faith in you and overcome their fear.



Do you like listening to stories? Do you like watching movies? If the Bible was told in stories and movies it would be much easier to understand.

In places that do not have a written language, where they only tell stories by mouth, they love to listen to stories and to watch movies rather than read. In those places, even when the Bible is translated into their language, it is hard for them to understand and read the words. In these cases, a movie about the story of Jesus is made, and the voices are dubbed in their own language. Then, the people will get to clearly understand what the Bible was talking about.

The Mamainde tribe in Brazil was just like this. They had a translated version of the Book of Matthew in their own language. This was because from 1959 to 1979 a missionary couple from Wycliffe Bible Translators had translated and printed the Book of Matthew for them. Even though the missionary couple had done this amazing work, not one of the Mamainde people could read or understand the translated Book of Matthew. After knowing this, David and Julie Everhard, another missionary couple, started working for the Mamainde people in 1989. Usually when the Jesus film is made, the Book of Luke is used, and so the Book of Luke was translated, and afterwards the voices could be dubbed into the Mamainde language. The mission work that started in 1989 resulted in a Jesus film in the Mamainde language in 1997. A VMS (Vernacular Media Service) team from JAARS went to the Mamainde people to start recording altogether.

In order to record the Jesus film, voice actors are needed for each character of the Bible. Amongst those characters, they also need a person to be the voice for Satan. Somehow, a shaman was picked to play Satan. Weirdly enough, the shaman's voice was audible on the VMS staffs' headphones, but did not record onto the tape. They tried to record again a few times, but when they listened to the recordings they could only hear strange sounds. "If you are... buzz... hiss, pop!... the Son of God... crackle... stones to become... buzz!... bread."

The VMS staff tried to make the recordings work, but it didn't. Then they realized that this was Satan that was trying to get in the way of God's work.

"Father, we realize that this is more than recording well or not. God, you want the Mamainde people to listen to the story of Jesus. Please stop the powers of Satan that are trying to get in our way, that we will be able to record clear voices. Amen."

As soon as the prayer finished, the weird sounds totally disappeared.

Another worry the missionaries had was gather people to watch the Jesus film. The Mamainde people were nomads who travelled along the plains with their camels, sheep, and horses. So they were not sure if the Mamainde people would like coming to see the movie. But the Mamainde people came to see the movie, and stayed from start to finish, watching until the scene of Jesus' resurrection.

As soon as the Jesus film dubbed in the Mamainde language finished, the people realized that Jesus was victorious over death. They sat as still as stones, not saying a word. The Jesus film was so shocking to them, they could not move. For the last 20 years, they had a Bible in their own language, but it was that very day that they listened and watched the Word and finally understood.

(Jungle Flight by Dane Skelton, pp.23-30, "Zaccheus in Mamainde")

The Mamainde people started to worship Jesus after watching the Jesus film, and wanted to know more about Jesus. They truly came to believe that Jesus was the only one that would save them from the anaconda that eats the spirits of the dead, bringing them into eternal life.

Jesus always talked to people in parables (stories). In the Book of Luke, you hear about Jesus telling these stories himself. Just like when Jesus was here, people were able to understand the Bible stories after listening to them in their own language.

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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