

SERMON SERIES: JESUS THE GAME CHANGER: To the Ends of the Earth

What compelled ordinary people to face difficulty, danger, and even death, to take the message of Jesus to the ends of the earth? Join us as we discover remarkable stories of vision, faith and sacrifice from around the world, and be challenged to take up the baton in our time. [*Jesus the Game Changer*. (2019). Grice. Olive Tree Media Ltd.]

Title: Jesus: The Game Changer - The Bible - Beyond Information to Transformation

Are You A Bible Translator?

Jesus: The Game Changer

“For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!” But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, “Lord, who has believed our message?” So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.” (Romans 10:13–17, NLT)

What changed your life?

Jesus

How did you learn about Jesus?

Through the Bible

How did you understand the Bible?

Through language

What language communicates best?

Your heart language.

The Power of God's Word

"For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires." (Hebrews 4:12, NLT)

Problem: Stuck Inside Our Head

We can convince ourselves anything is true.

Solution: Truth Challenging Our Thinking

Scripture Reveals and Releases the Power of God

Read the Bible

Use the Bible App

Bible reading plans

SOAP

Scripture - what stands out?

Observation - what does it say?

Application - what does it say to me?

Prayer - what am I asking God to do in my life now?

Truth Transforms Communities

Bible translation motivates missionaries to educate and to start schools.

And the knock on effect is that the Bible, translated into people's heart languages, has the power to transform entire countries.

“In Africa, perhaps especially, once people had the Bible in their own language, they began to read their own story in the light of the stories they found in Scripture..... and Africa without songs and without music is like, it is not possible. So, the connection is so strong.”

Frontline Workers

Wycliffe Bible Translators

Being In The Game

Read the Bible

The Bible App

Read with a friend, talk about it

Share the Bible

A verse

The app

Support the Work

#blessalex&patty (see below ways to give)

Pray

Give

STUDY GUIDE

Watch this week's episode: [Episode 10: Bible Translation](#) (26:31min)

Each week has an episode to watch with your group or prior to meeting.

REFLECTION

1. How do you respond to Robert Woodberry, Dir. & Sr. Research Prof. at Baylor Univ.:
"Where you had greater Protestant missionary influence, you have higher literacy, higher school enrollment, more newspaper circulation, more book circulation, more voluntary association membership, higher GDP, more medical hospital beds, longer life expectancy, lower infant mortality, lower corruption, and greater political democracy."

DISCUSSION

Bible translation has been a global movement and a key driving force in the Protestant Mission of the last few centuries. It is one of the most crucial motivating factors that has taken people onto boats, planes and trekking across continents to go to the ends of the earth.

2. What stood out to you about this Sunday's message? How so?
3. Dana Robert makes this comment: *"Bible translation makes the point that God does not have only one language."* What do you think is meant by this? Why is it important?
4. Why might the following passages be important for the issues of Bible translation, faith, mission and the written word of God? (Exodus 34:1-4; 2 Kings 22:1-13; Luke 1:1-4; Romans 10:9-15; Colossians 4:10-16; Revelation 2).
5. Read Romans 10:9-15 again. How does Paul link faith, mission and the written word of God?
6. What principles for communicating the Gospel to others can you discern, that might apply to your situation, even if you're dealing with people whose language and culture you share?

Scripture reveals and releases the power of God. Pastor David shared some ways we can engage in Scripture.

7. What methods of Bible engagement work well for you and what makes them so?

ACTION

“The beauty and the glory of Christianity is that we believe God works in all different languages. The act of Bible translation is the act of giving people God’s word in their own language. It’s really the heart of what Protestant Mission has been since the time of Martin Luther.” - Dana Robert

8. This weekend Pastor David spoke about “**Being in the game.**” What do you need to do this week to engage further in sharing God’s Word?

Ways to Bless Alex & Patty...

- **Check** to CSC: Alex & Patty (memo line)
- **Online:** Bless Alex & Patty (drop down menu)
- **Text to 51400:** “alex-patty” and \$ amount

About Wycliffe Missionary Alex Larkin:

The Panao Quechua language community celebrated the completion of their New Testament in 2010 and now these 100,000 people are hungry for God’s full revelation! The translation of the Old Testament into their language is underway. Alex’s role is to help guide the Panao Quechua team through the process. He also empowers them to engage with the Scriptures in new ways.

About Alex & Patty:

Alex and Patty met at a birthday party of a mutual friend in 2019. They started to officially date several months later. When Patty’s internship ended in Hunaco, she went to Lima (Peru) to visit her mother. All of a sudden, COVID hit and the country was locked down with Patty in Lima and Alex in Huanuco- a 12-hour bus ride. They continued their relationship remotely for over 300 days, until Alex was allowed to travel to Lima. During quarantine, Alex proposed to Patty via Zoom and arranged a family party for her.

Prayer for Alex & Patty:

In November 2020, Alex traveled to Lima to stay with Patty’s aunt until the wedding in January 2021. The wedding has had to be postponed multiple times due to Peruvian requirements for documentation and difficulties meeting the requirements with the US Embassy in Lima being closed except for emergencies due to COVID. Alex’s Washington congressman’s office helped him get an appointment for an international stamp on a form that was required.

Then he learned that the original birth certificate that he had ordered needed a special stamp- back to the state of Colorado, which took many weeks due to COVID and

closure of state offices due to protests around the January 6 insurrection. After he had the stamped birth certificate in hand, he was told that his passport was required to have his full middle name, not a middle initial, which is the latest documentation challenge that requires an appointment with the US Embassy in Lima, Peru (still closed except for emergencies).

They thought they would be married by now and would be building a life together but they know God's timing is perfect. **We are praying that the Washington congressman's office can help again with getting an appointment at the embassy for a new passport.**