Bible Translations

God worked through various human authors, including their background, personality, cultural context, writing style, faith commitments, research, and more.

66 books

3 languages: Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic

How to Choose?

1. Choose a translation that uses modern English. Languages change over time and there is little to be gained in translating the Bible from Greek or Hebrew into a kind of English that you no longer use and can’t understand.
2. Choose a translation that is based on the standard Hebrew and Greek text. The *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS)* for the OT; United Bible Societies’ *Greek New Testament (GNT)* or Nestle-Aland’s *Novum Testamentum Graece*. These translations are most accurate to the original biblical writings.
3. Give preference to a translation by a committee over a translation by an individual. Translating requires an enormous amount of knowledge and skill. Individuals may read their own biases into their translation.

Interpretive Journey—from *Grasping God’s Word*

1. Grasp the text in their town. What did the text mean to the original audience?
2. Measure the width of the river to cross What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?
3. Cross the principlizing bridge. What is the theological principle in this text?
4. Consult the biblical map. How does our theological principle fit with the rest of the Bible?
5. Grasp the text in our town. How should individual Christians today live out the theological principles?

Joshua 1:1-9

1. What did the text mean to the original audience?
2. What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?
3. What is the theological principle(s) in this text?
4. How does your theological principal fit with the rest of the Bible? Which verses confirm this principle?
5. How should individual Christians today live out the theological principles?