

Mission and Bible Translation and the History of Bible Translation

Module Description

The subject is approached from a historical, theological, and practical viewpoint. An introduction to missiology discusses the questions: “What is mission?”, “Why mission?” and “What is the scope of mission?”. Then the centrality of Bible translation in mission is considered. An overview of the history of Bible translation is given and the correlation between Bible translation and the spread of the church is shown. It is discussed that the objective of Bible translation is closely linked to theological assumptions about language, communication, translation, the Bible, and to indigenous theology. Also practical issues about distribution and use are considered briefly.

Objectives

1. To help the student understand where Bible translation fits into the work of the church
2. To help the student understand where Bible translation fits into mission

References

- Barr, James 1961. *The Semantics of Biblical Language*. London: Oxford University Press
- Bosch, David J. 1980. *Witness to the World*. Atlanta: John Knox
- Bosch, David J. 1991. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll: Orbis
- Carlisle, T.J. 1968. *You! Jonah!* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans.
- De Hamel, Christopher, 2001. *The Book: A History of the Bible*. London: Phaidon
- Gauteng Association of Vineyard Churches, January, 1998 (unpublished policy document).
- Miller, Darrow L. 2001. *Discipling Nations. The Power of Truth to Transform Cultures.* Seattle: YWAM
- Smalley, W. A. 1991. *Translation as Mission: Bible Translation in the Modern Missionary Movement*. Macon, Georgia: Mercer University Press
- Stine, Philip C. (ed.) 1990. *Bible Translation and the Spread of the Church. The Last 200 Years*. New York et al: E J. Brill
- Verkuyl, J. 1978. *Contemporary Missiology: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans

Hours

Mission and Bible Translation and The History of Bible Translation is taught over 15 hours and requires 35 hours of self-directed study.