



Pijin Sunday School Materials Produced by Scripture Union This report: July 2010

Introduction

Following the launch of the Pijin Bible in July 2008, it became clear that there was a great need for materials for children and young people. The people asking for these materials included Pastors, Religious Education teachers, school teachers, Sunday School teachers and parents.

In response to these requests, Scripture Union has begun to produce a curriculum of Sunday School lessons. Book 1 is currently being produced (30 lessons, enough for 1 year).

If this is successful, then Book 2 and Book 3 will then also be produced.

Features of the curriculum

Bible-based learning • 30 lessons • Activities suitable for all ages (4 to 14 years) • Topics covered: Genesis to Deuteronomy (Creation, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses) The Gospel of John – The people Jesus met (7 lessons) Easter (2 lessons) Christmas (6 lessons) • Entire book published in Solomon Islands Pijin • Written by Melanesians for the Melanesian culture • Uses teaching materials that are readily available, even in remote villages (e.g. flowers, coconuts, shells, weaving, carving) • Illustrated with Melanesian-style line-drawings

Clear instructions for teachers • Lessons provide some training for teachers: goal-setting, developmental differences among children, creative teaching methods, revision of major concepts, applying the Scriptures to everyday discipleship and life. • Each lesson contains: Goals (main points); Memory verse; Bible story and discussion for all ages; Ways to apply the learning to everyday discipleship and life; Activities suitable for different age-groups (drama, crafts, art projects, word quizzes, games). These reinforce the Bible teaching.

Future plans

The aim is to print 2,000 copies of the curriculum by late 2010. They are expected to retail for approximately \$SBD40-45 (\$A6-7).

Scripture Union plans to hold training workshops in November 2010. These will be conducted by Scripture Union staff from Vanuatu, and Wendy Rayner (Project Coordinator).

The workshops will be "Train The Trainer" in style. They will be aimed at key children's ministry leaders and teachers who can then move on to train others (see diagram at right).

In this way a fairly small number of leaders will move out to their church, village or province to train many others to teach the curriculum.

Who wrote the curriculum?

Jon and Lyndell Paschke (Project Advisors) have lived and worked in Vanuatu for many years. When lecturing at Talua Missionary Training College on Santo, they worked with the theology students to develop the original lessons in the Bislama language. Book 1 has sold out twice, and Books 2 and 3 of the curriculum have also been very popular in Vanuatu. Jon and

Lyndell are now working with Scripture Union to produce other teaching and training resources in Bislama.

Members of SITAG have assisted with translating the curriculum from Bislama to Pijin, in particular Gerry Beimers (formerly translation advisor for the Pijin Bible) and Hilda Kwanae-Steele (translator for the Pijin Bible, and now a Pijin literacy worker with SITAG, based in Auki).

Scripture Union Solomon Islands

SU's ministry in the Solomons currently includes:

- Peer mentoring project in high schools, focusing a biblically-based program of awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS.
- Christian school groups that meet in lunch-times or after school.
- Camping ministry with high-school students.
- Encouraging Bible reading.
- Prayer ministry.

People involved in the project

Wendy Rayner: Project Coordinator.

Wendy is a Scripture Union staff member in South Australia. Wendy has an extensive background as a teacher, trainer, children's ministry coordinator and writer. She has visited the Pacific region many times, and is a member of Scripture Union's Pacific Executive Council.

Hilda Kwanae-Steele (in Auki)

Martha Matzke (SITAG, formerly Honiara – now in the USA)

Gerry Beimers (formerly translation advisor for the Pijin Bible with SITAG in Honiara – now in Melbourne)

Hilda, Martha and Gerry are assisting with translation and editing of the program. All have formal training in theology and linguistics.

Jon & Lyndell Paschke: Project Advisors.

Authors of the original Bislama Sunday School curriculum in Vanuatu. Scripture Union staff, based in Pt Vila, Vanuatu.

Solomon Maui: Director, Scripture Union, Solomon Islands and Scripture Union Solomon Islands Council members

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