



Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu

Mission Conference 2026
PCV Kokonas Bible Translation Presentation



Theme: Revisioning PCV Mission
1st Cornithians 16: 14 “
“Let all you do be done in Love”

✓ to see lives transformed.

✓ to reflect the body of Christ by working interdependently to see lives transformed.



Movements of the Global Church

1900

Global North – 82%

Global South – 18%

2020

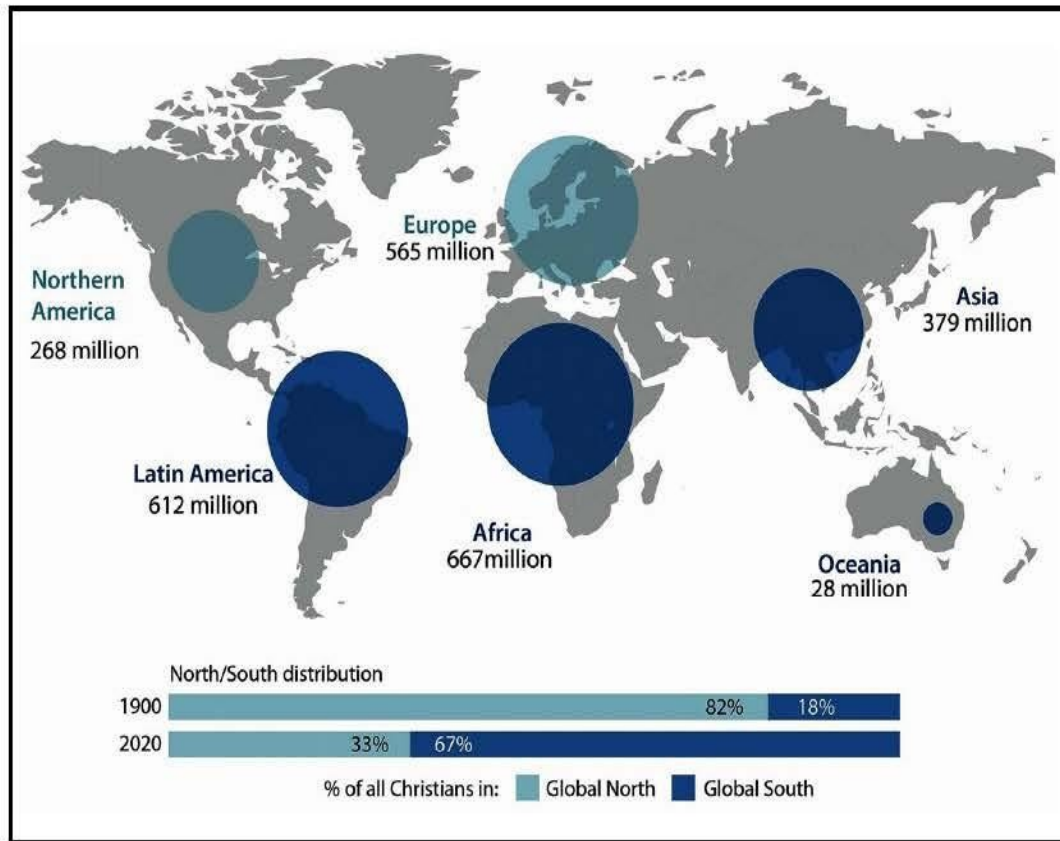
Global North – 34%

Global South – 66%

Estimated 2050

3.4 billion Christians

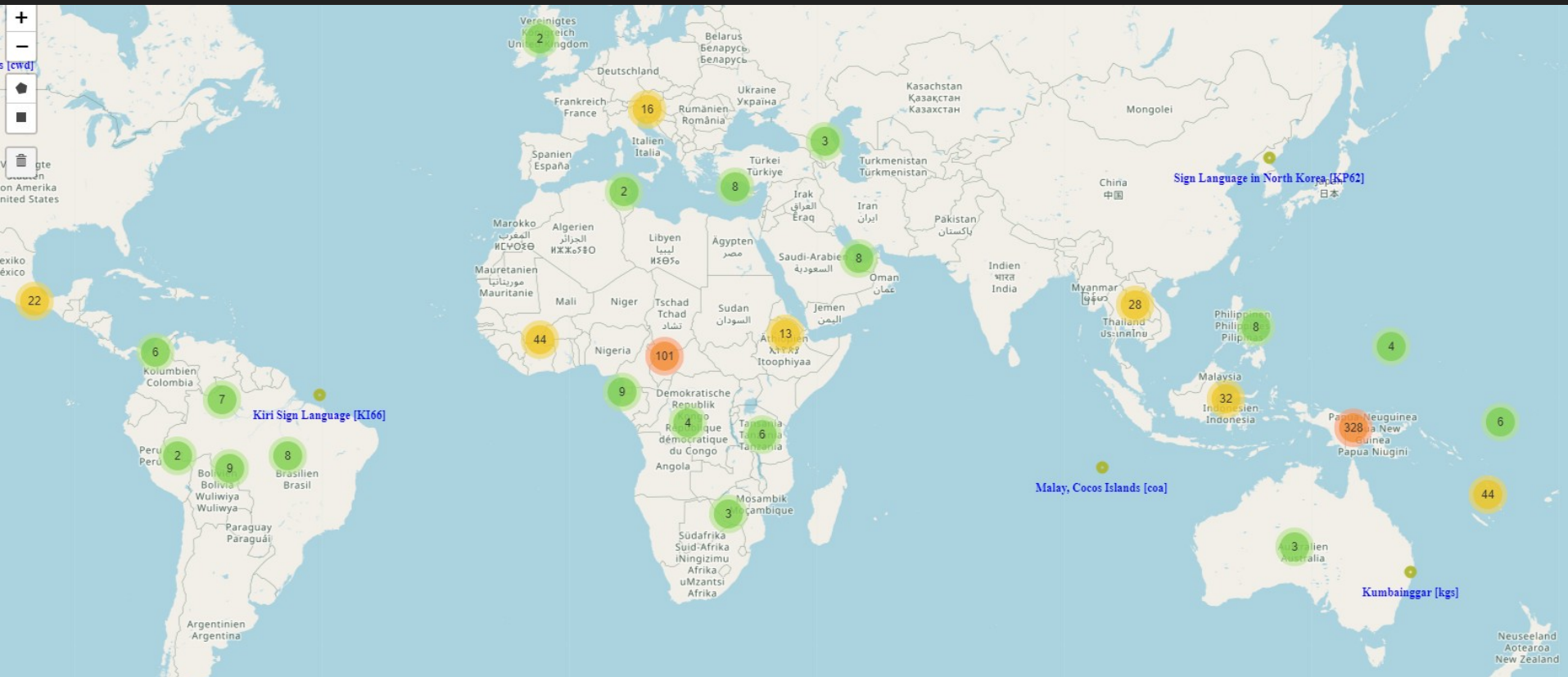
- Global North - 23%
- **Global South - 77%**



Map 1. Christians by continent, 2020.

Source: Todd M. Johnson and Gina A. Zurlo, *World Christian Encyclopedia*, 3rd ed. (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2019), 4.

Remaining languages without Scripture



Vanuatu: PCV + 02025 + all acce...

422 views

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☒ Language list by Cluster

  Styled by Cluster Name

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Fix errors highlighted red in the data
table. [Open data table](#) [Dismiss](#)

-  1 (8)
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-  Other / No value (33)

☐ Is in PCV language list

☐ On Vision 2025 list

☐ Untitled layer

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☒ Base map



250,000+ Christians
Growth since late 1900
= 263,000+

Bible translation

The Septuagint
Old Testament
Hebrew to Greek



Venerable Bede
translates the
Gospel of John
into Old English



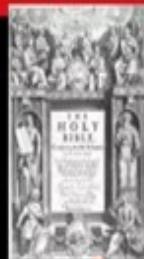
Jan Hus
influences
translations into
Hungarian and Bohemian



Fall of Constantinople
leads to Hebrew and Greek
scholars fleeing westwards



King James Bible published.
It eventually became the most
printed book in the history of
the world



Cameron Townsend's
third Summer Institute of
Linguistics training school
sees a team of single
women translators go to
Mexico

Syriac
Scriptures translated
into Syriac



The Vulgate
Jerome commissioned
to produce a new
translation in Latin



John Wycliffe
and his followers
translate from Latin
into Middle English



Johannes Gutenberg
invents the printing
press, transforming
Bible distribution



Martin Luther
translates the Bible
from Greek and
Hebrew into German



Miles Coverdale
completes **William**
Tyndale's translation
into English

Bishop Samuel
Ajayi Crowther,
the first African
mother-tongue
translator
completes the
Yoruba Bible

Cameron Townsend
founds Wycliffe
Bible Translators



130BC

2ND CENTURY AD

382

730s

1382

1435

1440s

1453

1534

1530s

1611

1885

1936

1942

History of Bible Translation

- 1900 Years: Church Based Bible Translation
- Vanuatu History 1800'
 - Presbyterians, Anglicans, Catholics, Church of Christ, Seventh Day Adventists others
 - Bible Societies
 - 1940's Bible Translation Organizations oli kam antap
 - Today: ol Church oli kam wetem Vision and Ownership

Response to the Global Shift

- Challenges identified:
 - Global Church ino satisfae long hao translation i stat
 - Sam long ol Baebol we oli Transletem finis yumi no yusum
 - Transformation hemi no wan products be hemi goal blong Bible Translation
 - Ol Church Based Bible Translation process mo resources oli nomo stap
 - ETEN hemi form olsem wan alliance mo komitim hem blong to endem Bible Poverty
- Church and Community Based Bible
- Translation hemi form blong addresem sam long ol Jalens ya

1.

If the local church and other missions are involved in vernacular Bible translation, the translated Scriptures are more likely to be used.



2.

If Bible translators don't take the time to discover the vision of the local church, Scripture use is jeopardized.



CONCLUSION

The Eight
Conditions of
Scripture
Engagement

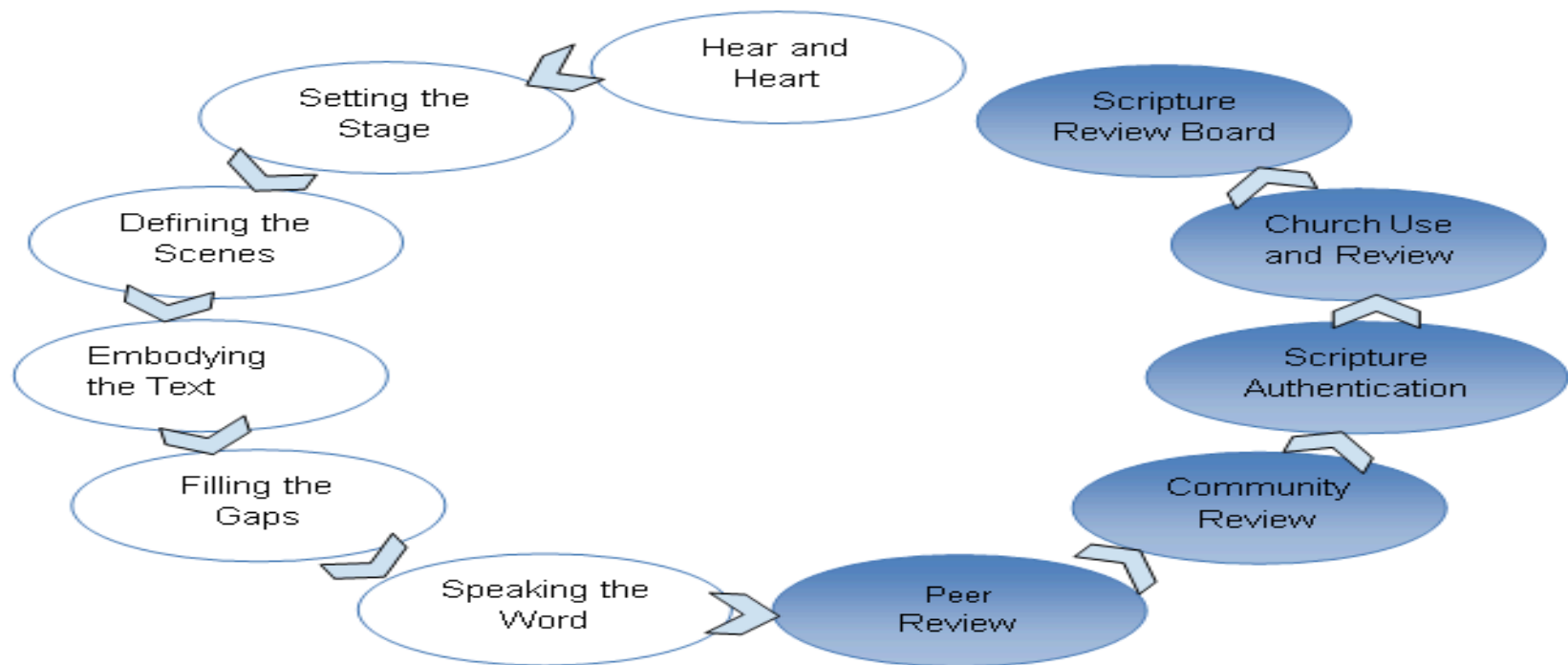
// ...that the people groups of the world will not only have the Scriptures in their heart language, but that the Scriptures will have greatest spiritual effect.
//



Translation Strategy

1. Bible Translation as a Ministry of the Church
2. Integrated Oral - Literate Process
3. Church and Community Based Quality Assurance

OL STEP BLONG CCBBT



Discussion

- Wanem nao Movements blong Global Church istap talem long yumi tudei.?
- Wanem transformation ol Churches mo komuniti blong yumi long PCV i wantem luk?
- From wanem yumi mas mekem Bible Translation olsem ministry long ol church tudei.?

“Tankiu tumas”