



Vietnamese Study Bible

Overview

Bible Society Vietnam is translating the Old Testament and related content to complete a Vietnamese Study Bible, an easy-to-use resource for Vietnamese Christians to deepen their engagement with the Bible and grow in their faith.



The Need

The increase in church planting has led to a strong need for accessible resources to improve biblical knowledge among lay preachers, Sunday school teachers, and enthusiastic attendees. Vietnamese evangelical Christians received a revision of their Vietnamese Bible in 2010. They now need a one-volume, easy-to-use Study Bible to help them engage more meaningfully with the Bible.

While Bible Society Vietnam also understands that there is a need for a scholarly edition of the Bible, for the time being, the needs of the average churchgoer are the most urgent — for an accessible Study Bible that aims to serve the majority of Vietnamese evangelicals.

1m+

Vietnamese evangelical Christians
(according to the 2009 Census)

<6%

of Vietnamese are non-literate

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

2 Timothy 3:16, NIV

Goals

The goal of this project is to develop an easy-to-use, accessible source of reference with helpful charts, tables, diagrams, and information. The goal is to finish the content related to the Old Testament in 2024 and publish the Study Bible in mid-2025.

In 2023, better content was developed by adding notes and adding/revising articles, especially those addressing: social aspects, the leadership of women, inclusive love for the wider society, social justice including poverty, immigration, hospitality, etc. By the end of the year, 1,000 copies of the book of Romans were printed and distributed, in order get feedback from readers.

In 2024, the goal is to take time to revise and add notes, especially for the poetic and prophetic books, and have them reviewed and checked by the translation consultant. Furthermore, feedback from the readers of the book of Romans will be implemented.

Impact

This Study Bible will help Vietnamese Christians and pastors understand the Bible better, come to know God more, love him more, and spread his love to their neighbours within and without church.

The Study Bible is aimed at the average Sunday School attendees and their teachers, plus the lay preachers and evangelists in remote areas who have little access to formal biblical studies. It will help preachers to become more effective (and accurate) in their preaching and help believers to have better access to the Bible.

Testimony

"My generation often contemplates the word of God within the modern context and brings God's word to today's social setting ... we are more drawn toward the application of biblical knowledge to solve today's problems of young people ... I saw that many of them have the urge to study the Bible more deeply ... I was driven to help them come closer to the Bible.

"When I was given a copy of the Gospel of Luke in Study Bible format, I was impressed by the design and layout of the book; it's very catchy and helpful. Those who study the word of God will benefit from the Study Bible because there are many features ... The footnotes and illustrations help the readers easily imagine or visualize the background in which the biblical story happened." — Sky, 26-year-old Bible college student

Prayer Needs

- Pray that the project produces a Study Bible that meets the needs of Vietnamese Christians.
- Pray for the translation team, the translation consultant, and that the team will be blessed with wisdom and skills as they adapt the contents and designs from the CEV Learning Bible to the Vietnamese Study Bible.
- Pray for the completion of all the contents in 2024 and the publication in 2025.