Vietnam



Easy to Use Study Bible

Project: 102190 Non Tax Deductible



10%

of the population of Vietnam are Christians, with 1 million+ evangelical Christians as well as 7 million Catholics

<6%

of Vietnamese are non-literate

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.

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 Vietnamese Study Bible, which is an accessible source of reference with helpful charts, tables, diagrams, and information. The goal is to complete the translation of the Study Bible by December 31, 2025, ensuring it serves as a vital resource for Vietnamese Christians and pastors to deepen their understanding of God and share his love with others.

In 2025, the goal is to finalise the translation process through a structured plan that includes thorough checking, editing, and typesetting. The translation consultant will check the historical books (Jan-Mar), poetic and wisdom literature books (April – June), and the prophetic books (July-Sept). From October-December, all Old Testament books, maps and photos will be finalised by the Translation Consultant and then typeset. Upon completion, Bible Society Vietnam will print 1,000 copies of the Study Bible, facilitating ongoing engagement with the text.

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.

By the end of 2024, this 13-year project (which began in 2018) was 98% complete. The New Testament was finalised and ready for typesetting in 2024, and the Old Testament books were all reviewed (Stage 1 of the translation process).

Testimony

"When I learned more about this project, I was convinced that this is what the church in Vietnam needs. This could be the first-ever study Bible in the Vietnamese language. Churches could benefit from the book. Missionaries, for example, can use it to help people in rural and remote areas better understand the Word of God. It is because people in poorer areas lack access to high-quality Christian materials. And the book will provide pastors with valuable information when they are preparing for sermons." — Callie*, a Bible college graduate and reviewer of the Study Bible

*Name changed to protect privacy.

Prayer Points

- 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 publication of the Bible in 2025.