

## TEACHER NOTES:

Buddhism because they know nothing about the good news of Jesus Christ. There is no full Bible in the Lowa language for them to read to hear the Gospel message.

Now that we are aware of this great need, it is our responsibility to pray for these people. Pray for the translation of the Bible into the Lowa language, pray that God will raise up people to take it to them, and pray that hearts of the Lowa people will be opened and softened to the message of salvation. God has begun to raise up translators for the Lowa Bible, but we must still be in prayer for them as they take on this great task; and may we never forget to continue in prayer for the vast number of other Unreached People Groups still waiting.



NATIONAL  
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MONTH

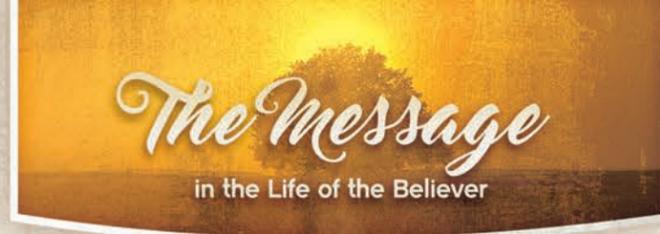
TEEN LEADER GUIDE 4

# *The Message*

in the Life of the Believer



*Bearing Precious Seed is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Milford, Ohio*



### TEACHER NOTE:

The focus of this lesson is the ongoing importance of God's Word in the lives of believers. The value of the Word of God is inexpressible. God tells us the premium He places on it in Psalm 138:2. He even magnified it above all His name! With that being said, shouldn't His children hold His Word at such a high level that they would carry it to all nations? God clearly tells us to go and preach the Gospel to **ALL** people everywhere.

### READ:

Psalm 138:2; II Timothy 3:15; and Colossians 4:16

### DISCUSSION

We understand that all of Scripture has value and is profitable in the life of the believer (II Tim. 3:16). Probably most, if not all of your students have had access to a Bible all of their lives. Because of that, sometimes what we have becomes commonplace or the norm. We could take it for granted and not esteem it as we should. Instead of discussing the value of the Word of God as a whole, ask your students to share a favorite Bible verse and then tell why that verse means so much to them. Start by giving your own testimony as to how the Lord has used His Word in your life.

**For the Believer:** Scripture emphasizes the value that the written Word of God brings to the life of the believer. Studying it is the key to obtaining spiritual maturity (II Tim. 3:17). It produces spiritual maturity in the life of a believer (Titus 1:9). It provides security for the believer. We can be confident in our beliefs in spite of opposition (Titus 1:10-14). At the same time as we mature as Christians we must take the Gospel message to people everywhere for them to be born into the family of God and begin their relationship God desires to have with them. Their acceptance of that message will change their eternal destination. Unfortunately, that is often where we stop. Just as we must take them the Gospel message and what Jesus did for them (the PLAN of salvation), we must also take them the rest of the message so they can learn about what He is still doing for them (the PERSON of salvation) and the life that is made available to them. This is clearly the intention of our Lord when He said, *"teaching them to observe ALL things..."* (emphasis added). Discipleship is key to help new converts mature in the faith and to do that they need a copy of God's Word in their language.

### DISCUSSION:

Many people do not have access to the Bible in their language because many are poor and can't afford it; however, for others there are not enough copies printed and available, and still for many, no one has translated the Scriptures into their language. Discuss ways your students could help provide God's Word to those in need.

### READ:

I John 1:1-5

**As a messenger:** Soul-winning is only the first step of the process. We are to be witnesses of Jesus Christ. To be an effective messenger, the Scriptures are a requirement. The value that the written Word of God brings to the life of a person after they accept Christ at salvation is of such importance that three separate authors of the Bible made a point to talk about it in the New Testament alone. Interestingly, toward the end of these men's lives, as they were giving what was likely their farewell charge to different people, they emphasized the necessity for the written Word of God in people's lives!

John gives instructions about the Written Word in the life of a believer:

- He says It produces **true joy** (I John 1:4).
- He shows us in (I John 2:1) how to have **victory over sin**.
- He says It is what produces a matured **love** that truly impacts others (I John 2:5).
- He states that a life obedient to It is the key to **answered prayers** (I John 3:22).
- Through It we can gain assurance of our **salvation** (I John 5:13).
- Then he teaches us that It is the **instruction manual** to tell us the proper way we should live (in Truth) (II John 4).

Just as the Church in Antioch, the New Testament church of today must send not only the messenger with the Gospel, but also send them with the Scriptures to leave in the hands of the believers so they can continue to grow when the messenger leaves. Paul preached the Gospel message in cities and people believed and received it. Evidence that God wanted them to have more is the fact that He inspired Paul to write most of the New Testament to these believers in addition to what they had received in his preaching to them.

What are you doing today to help fulfill the Great Commission in your church? Would you pray that God would raise up translators to translate God's Word where it is still needed today? Would you give so some who can't afford a copy could get one? Would you be willing to go and carry the Message to them and disciple them in the faith?

**Could God use you?**

## THE LOWA PEOPLE OF NEPAL

BY SARAH KIRBY

Imagine you are a part of an Unreached People Group in Nepal known as the Lowas (also referred to as Lobas). Life would be entirely different from how you know it in the United States. This article will give you a glimpse into daily life as a Lowa and a better understanding of the great need these people have for the Gospel.

Probably the first things you think of when you hear the words "different culture" are unusual foods or clothing styles. As a Lowa, your meals will mainly consist of rice, vegetables, and "flour pudding." Because you are most likely a Buddhist, you will not eat any meat. As far as style goes, Lowas are very conservative in their dress; you will wear long sleeves even in the hot summer months and will have long braided hair, regardless of your gender.

Your social ranking will determine much of the way you live as a Lowa. The people still rely heavily on feudalism in their culture, even though it has been abandoned by most other peoples. If you are among the common people, your occupation will be either a shepherd or a farmer, and you will live in a small one-story home. However, if you are among the higher classes, you will be a lord and dwell in a three-story house to display your rank.

Would you still get to keep your iPhone if you were a Lowa? It may surprise you that the answer is quite possibly yes. Over 84% of Nepalese people are telephone users, with 74% of these being cell phones. Although only about 29% actually have data on them, Internet usage is growing more rapidly everyday. Many people in Nepal even have TVs.

While all these factors would change your life dramatically, by far the greatest change would be religion. Buddhism claims 99.8% of the entire Lowa population. If you were a Lowa, your life would be surrounded by Buddhist teachings from the minute you were born. You would be taught that you will die multiple times but rebirth into a new life form each time. The ultimate goal of these rebirths is to reach a place of "Nirvana." Buddhists believe that Nirvana is state in which you are completely free from desires, feelings, and sense of self. Once you reach this point, you will no longer experience the death and rebirth cycle. You would also be told that you have a "driving force" inside you called Karma. Buddhism teaches that every person has his own Karma, which influences whether he chooses good or evil in each life. It also says that there is no forgiveness for any choices one makes because his Karma is controlled by the universe.

Man is born with an inherent desire to worship; if he is not given the truth, he will find something else to worship instead. The Lowa people have turned to