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YOUTH WITH A MISSION

BELT M
GUIDING
DOCUMENT

Purpose of the Document

To provide a synopsis of Biblical Education & Leadership Training (BELT), its history, its ministry scope and how it operates. Further, to provide a roadmap for those interested in being involved with BELT, along with opportunities for participation and resources for those already involved.

The desire of BELT is to see God's Kingdom expanded on earth through the transformation of individuals, families, churches, and communities by the Word and Spirit of God. To that end, we seek the help of God and partnerships with those who love Him. Thank you for taking the time to learn who we are and what we are about.

Table of Contents

- History of BELT - the Wycliffe connection
- Vision and mission
- Core values
- BELT's connection to the Bible School for the Nations
- BELT initiatives
- BELT opportunities
- Curriculum and resources
- University credit and use of the BELT curriculum
- Levels of BELT trainers
- Training for instructors

History of BELT - the Wycliffe Connection

The first BELT seminar, conducted in a remote language group in Papua New Guinea, saw God impact many lives. The synergy between YWAM and Wycliffe Bible Translators in that first seminar began a partnership resulting in BELT teams assisting in Scripture engagement activities in many language groups around the world.

The Transformation Series (TS), BELT's initial primary training tool, was developed with a purpose of making the Bible understandable and culturally relevant in people groups who had limited access to Bible training. Since 1995, BELT teams have conducted over 340 Bible seminars in more than 40 countries, in partnership with Wycliffe, YWAM and local churches.

Vision and Mission

The vision of Biblical Education & Leadership Training is to see communities and people groups transformed by the Word of God through empowering community and church leaders who have limited access to Biblical training.

Our mission is to partner with mission organizations (prioritizing Wycliffe Bible Translators) and indigenous churches to develop leaders through culturally relevant Bible training that teaches them to apply the Scriptures to every area of life and equips them to teach and influence others (2 Timothy 2:2).

Core Values

As a ministry of Youth With A Mission, BELT affirms YWAM's foundational values and further emphasizes the following guiding principles.

Relying on the Holy Spirit – We recognize that experience, expertise and skills in no way can replace the probing, convicting and life-altering activity of the Holy Spirit. As such, we teach, mentor, serve and lead in humility and in dependency on Him.

Pursuing Truth – We desire to be life-long learners. We strive to know, love and obey God and his Word, and to reason from the Scriptures to every area of life. We see the Bible as the primary instrument for effecting change in people and the world.

Empowering Others – We purpose to equip believers so they will flourish in their relationship with God and others, as well as grow in their leadership and reliance on God's guidance and provision. We desire to seed movements of disciple-makers that impact every sphere of society.

Contextualization – We strive to contextualize our training and ministry to be relevant and easily grasped among those with various ways of learning, various cultural and educational backgrounds, as well as in their heart language.

Participatory Learning – We encourage participants to take an active role in their learning. We utilize interactive, creative and reproducible training methods that guide people to discover truth through engaging with the Bible, the Holy Spirit and each other.

Excellence – We strive for godly maturity in our character and for the highest quality in all we do. We serve whole-heartedly out of love for God so people of all nations might know and glorify Him.

Partnerships – We partner with mission organizations and indigenous churches because we believe effectiveness and God's blessing are multiplied in unity and collaboration with other believers.

BELT's Connection to the Bible School for the Nations

Eight years after BELT commenced, the Bible School for the Nations (BSN) was developed with the goal to:

- Multiply and train BELT workers and YWAMers to have a greater Biblical foundation in knowing God and His message along with tools to effectively communicate the Bible
- Provide deeper, accessible, practical Bible training in the nations

Many on the BSN pioneering team were involved with BELT in some way. So what had been developed in BELT over the years influenced the teaching methodology of the classroom, and the BELT seminars provided a practical vehicle to bring transformational content taught in the BSN to the nations.

The relationship between BELT and BSN continues to be mutually beneficial. The BSN helps to strengthen BELT staff with a deeper Biblical foundation, while BELT helps to provide significant outreach opportunities to grow BSN staff and students in leadership and

cross-cultural training skills and kindle a passion for teaching the Bible in the nations. BELT additionally provides an avenue to BSN graduates who are passionate about discipleship to continue teaching the Bible through a YWAM global ministry.

BELT Initiatives

Within the global network of BELT, God has opened doors allowing for strategic partnerships and regional projects.

- **Bangladesh:** In conjunction with YWAM and another Christian NGO, BELT is providing spiritual formation training to some 2000 young adults from Hindu, Buddhist, and Christian backgrounds.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** In partnership with Wycliffe Bible Translators, BELT is empowering church and community leaders in 11 regions in the north-east, containing more than 30 people groups.
- **Mexico:** In the least evangelized area in the Americas, BELT teams are reaching the unreached indigenous and partnering in Bible translation, oral Bibles, and the Jesus film.
- **Nepal:** BELT is training national YWAM church planters in 18 unreached people groups, as well as equipping church leaders of the Himalayan region.
- **Yachts for Life:** Two sailing vessels are delivering Bible training and community development to remote outer Pacific island communities.
- **Audio Bibles:** For oral learners and those with limited access to the Bible, BELT is able to provide an audio Scripture resource in the mother tongue language.

BELT Opportunities

With operating locations in twelve countries, and opportunities amongst government officials, children and in community development, there are more ways to get involved with BELT than ever. Needs include sea farers, graphic design artists, video editors, curriculum developers and more. Belt is ever expanding – so we'd love to plug you into your area of passion and strength.

To learn more about ways to be involved with BELT, please visit Global Opportunities and Passion Pathways at www.ywambelt.org/resources/other-training-opportunities/.

Curriculum and Resources

The Transformation Series (TS) are two-week seminars, with three levels aimed to challenge and equip participants personally and in their leadership. It is available in the recent Discovery version (discovering key principles through the discussion of Biblical stories and passages) at www.ywambelt.org/resources.

- **Transformation of the Heart, TS1,** focuses on a leader's relationship with God and his or her response to the Gospel message.

- **Transformation of Character**, TS2, deals with discipleship topics and skills for godly leadership.
- **Transformation of Society**, TS3, discusses how to impact a society (focusing on the family, the church and civil government).

The Discovery version of TS2 and TS3 additionally provides a chronological overview of the Bible while examining key biblical leaders (TS2) and related seminar themes (TS3).

The goals of the TS are to see individuals transformed, churches strengthened, and communities impacted through the Word and Spirit of God.

Additional resources for children, government officials, and community development can be found under the Resources tab at www.ywambelt.org.

University Credit and Use of the BELT Curriculum

Although BELT's TS material is available for anyone to use, in order to qualify for two credits with the University of the Nations (U of N) Extension Studies, certain elements must be in place to help ensure a quality seminar. These include:

- a YWAM BELT qualified team leader or coach in attendance (see description below)
- team members trained in BELT's philosophy and methodology (through CCT or BIT - see below)
- a seminar duration of at least two weeks (approximately 35 hours a week) with an outreach component
- 80% attendance by the participant

In order to receive a BELT certificate of completion, all of the above must be present, though the team leader would not need to be a YWAMer.

Find U of N registration guidance and forms in the BELT Resource Area at www.ywambelt.org/login. Staff login is required.

Sample Breakdown of Daily Hours

Instruction: 4 hours

Worship, intercession, devotions or quiet time: 1 hour

Small groups, skills training or outreach preparation: 1.5 hours

Though BELT teams have cross-cultural and communications training, we rely on experienced local workers to advise on felt needs and contextualization, and we rely entirely on the Holy Spirit to bring transformation. The BELT Teachers and Leaders Guides, as well as the BELT Information Packet, expand further on these things.

Levels of BELT Trainers

Within BELT, there are three levels of trainers, depending on experience, training and capability. To ensure and sustain quality in BELT seminars, it is encouraged that a BELT team include at least one team leader or coach.

1. **Instructor** – has completed a CCT (Cross-Cultural Training) or BIT (BELT Instructors Training) seminar. A BELT instructor is guided by a BELT coach or a BELT team leader.

2. **Team Leader** – has completed at least two full BELT seminars (TS1 and preferably TS2) with a BELT team leader or coach present; has completed a BELT orientation seminar (either CCT or BIT); has a good understanding of the BELT vision, content and methodology; and is able to mentor others on their team. A BELT team leader is assessed and approved by a BELT coach.
3. **Coach** – has completed all three TS seminars, has completed a CCT or BIT; has a comprehensive understanding of the BELT content (what), methodology (how) and philosophy (why); has completed a BSN or equivalent; and is approved by a BELT elder. The BELT coach is involved in on-going mentoring and empowering of BELT team leaders and instructors. He or she should be integrated into the BELT network, and is accountable to the eldership team.

Training for Instructors

There are three training paths for those desiring to become qualified BELT instructors.

1. **For BSN participants**, the one-week Cross-Cultural Training (CCT) module (taught by BELT staff or BSN staff having BELT experience), provides a foundation in teaching the Bible in a cross-cultural setting. For BELT seminars led by these BSN staff and students, BELT certificates can be issued to seminar participants and U of N credit can be received if the seminar qualifies. See University Credit and Use of BELT Curriculum for more details.
2. **For YWAMers**, preferably graduates of YWAM Bible training programs, BELT's two-week BIT (BELT Instructors Training) provides training in BELT content and methodology and Biblical worldview. For BELT seminars led by those completing BIT, BELT certificates can be issued to seminar participants and U of N credit can be received if the seminar qualifies.
3. **For non-YWAMers**, BELT offers the two-week BELT Instructors Training which provides training in BELT content and methodology and Biblical worldview. Although further BELT staff involvement is recommended in running a seminar, it is not necessary. U of N credit, however, cannot be given for participants completing these BELT seminars unless U of N standards are met. BELT certificates can be issued if a qualified BELT team leader is present and the seminar qualifies.

Support

We are excited about the grassroots multiplication of Biblical truth around the world, and we hope to see this continue through the use of the BELT materials. We would be happy to assist you or connect with you for any additional training or resources.

BELT Eldership Team
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