

## 2. The Bible

1. *Christians find it difficult to read the Bible;*
  - *Due to illiteracy.*
  - *Its difficult to interpret its message.*
  - *Due to lack of time.*
  - *Unavailability of Bibles.*
  - *Lack of faith in God.*
  - *Lack of interest.*
  - *Fear because it rebukes them.*
  - *Some see it as an ordinary book.*
2. *The uses of the Bible in Kenya today.*
  - *Read for spiritual growth.*
  - *Used to commit leaders to oaths of offices.*
  - *Used in Courts of Law.*
  - *Used in religious ceremonies and rituals, such as, weddings, funerals, baptism.*
  - *Guide people on how to relate with others.*
  - *Used to spread the Gospel.*
  - *Used in church service.*

(7 x 1) mks)
3. *a) The Bible is written in different styles;*
  - i. *It was written by different authors*
  - ii. *It was written at different times in history*
  - iii. *It was written for different readers/ audience*
  - iv. *Different books were written for different reasons*
  - v. *The authors were influenced by different circumstances in history*
  - vi. *Various parts of the Bible were originally written in different languages i.e. the Old testament in Hebrew and New testament in Greek*

*b) The translation of the Bible from the original languages to local languages in Kenya*

  - i. *It was originally written in Hebrew language*
  - ii. *Greek scholars translated the New Testament into Greek language. It was called the Septuagint*
  - iii. *In the 4<sup>th</sup> century it was translated into the Latin language in a version called the Vulgate*
  - iv. *Martin Luther translated the Bible into German language*
  - v. *John Wycliffe translated the Bible into English language*
  - vi. *The missionaries i.e. Dr. Ludwing Krapf translated part of the Bible into Kiswahili and Taita languages*
  - vii. *Later it was translated by the Kenya Bible society into several local languages such as Luhya, Kikuyu, Luo, kamba*

(Any 7x1=7 mks)

*c) How the Bible is used to spread the gospel*

  - i. *It is read to others*
  - ii. *It is translated into local languages*
  - iii. *Christian songs are formed using Bible messages*
  - iv. *The Bible message is preached to other people*
  - v. *It is used in teaching CRE in schools*
  - vi. *The Bible distributed to individuals to read*
  - vii. *It is used in taking oaths therefore increasing the faith of those who participate*
  - viii. *Christian literature is written using Bible messages*

a) *The development of the translation of the Bible from the original languages of local languages*

- i. *Bible originally written in Hebrew and Greek languages*
- ii. *The old Testament was originally written in Hebrew the languages of the Israelites.*
- iii. *The old testament was later translated into Greek, done by 70 scholars.*
- iv. *The translated version was referred to as septuagint.*
- v. *The Greek translation had additional six books commonly called the Deutro – canonical books.*
- vi. *The New Testament was first written in Greek, a century after the death of Christ.*
- vii. *In the 4<sup>th</sup> century, the entire Bible was translated into Latin.*
- viii. *The easier version of the Latin bible was done by great scholar, called Jerome it was called the vulgate.*
- ix. *The first English version was done by John Wyclife from England.*
- x. *In 1611, the Authorized version of the English Bible was written through an order King James I.*
- xi. *The Revised Standard Version (RSV) was done between 1881 -1885.*
- xii. *The early missionaries to E.A started the translation of the Bible into local languages in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.*
- xiii. *Most of the through the work of the Bible society of Kenya.*

c) *6 ways in which Christians can use the Bible in their evangelization ministry*

- i. *Read the bible to others*
- ii. *Bible used for instructing and teaching new converts*
- iii. *Used for preaching and teaching on different issues.*
- iv. *It's the main text in teaching and learning CRE in schools and Colleges*
- v. *Christians hymns are composed from the bible.*
- vi. *Christians translate the bible into local languages.*
- vii. *It's used in oath taking/making promises so that they take the work seriously.*
- viii. *Many Christians books, pamphlets, magazines and other writings quote Bible passages to reinforce their teaching/messages.*

5. (a) *Ways in which Christians use the Bible to spread the good news*

- i. *Christians read the Bible to others*
- ii. *Bible is used for instructing and teaching new converts on Christian doctrine*
- iii. *Used for preaching & teaching on different on different issues*
- iv. *Bible is used as the main text book in teaching and learning of Christian Religious Education in schools and Colleges*
- v. *Used as a reference book in general search of knowledge*
- vi. *Hymns are composed from the Bible*
- vii. *Christians distribute Bibles to individuals to read the word of God*
- viii. *Christians translate the Bible into vernacular so that many people can read and understand un their own language*

b) *7 problems which church leaders encounter in their work of evangelization*

- i. *Lack of money and resources to meet the needs*
- ii. *Lack of acceptance by some Christians i.e. education*
- iii. *What they teach may make them unpopular i.e. politicians*
- iv. *May be working in hostile environment, where they suffer from diseases and harsh weather*
- v. *Poor infrastructure and inaccessibility*
- vi. *Some people may not be ready to forgive church leaders when they make mistakes*
- vii. *Lack of co-operation from church members/ leaders*
- viii. *May suffer stress/ depression*
- ix. *May face harassment from civil authorities*

- x. *May face temptations from worldly pleasures*
- xi. *Too much demand on their time*

6. *7 reasons why reading the Bible is important to Christians)*

- i) *Provides moral and spiritual guidance*
- ii) *Helps discover the will of God/ discover the mind of God*
- iii) *A way of communicating with God*
- iv) *Helps understand Christian doctrines*
- v) *Gives guidance*
- vi) *Source of consolation*
- vii) *Source of knowledge,*
- viii) *Spiritual development*

7. *Five literary forms used by the authors of the Bible are;-*

- ◆ *The use of narratives /prose form e.g. Genesis*
- ◆ *Religious epics e.g. Exodus*
- ◆ *Legal expressions/legislative texts e.g. Leviticus*
- ◆ *Prophetic speeches e.g. Jeremiah*
- ◆ *The use of prayers e.g. Nehemiah*
- ◆ *The use of poetic devices e.g. psalm*
- ◆ *The use of wise saying e.g Proverbs*
- ◆ *Philosophical essays e.g Job*
- ◆ *The use of love songs e.g. song of songs*
- ◆ *Epistles e.g Romans*
- ◆ *Biographies/ Gospel e.g. St. Luke*

(b) *Four ways in which the Bible is used to spread the Gospel today are:*

- ◆ *It is used for preaching by Priests/evangelists*
- ◆ *It is used for instructional purposes*
- ◆ *Free distribution of Bibles to schools/people*
- ◆ *The Bibles are freely sold in Bookshops*
- ◆ *There is massive publication of the Bible for e study e.g. Daily living*
- ◆ *Quotations from the Bible are printed in the magazines/funeral programmes/wedding cards*
- ◆ *There is on going translation of the Bible into local languages*
- ◆ *Illustrations /Biblical stories are shown/hanged on the wall/calendars/posters/Christian magazines*

8. *5 reasons why the Bible was written after the death and ascension of Jesus Christ*

- *There was need to write an orderly account for Jesus*
- *There was need for a text to combine both old and new testaments*
- *There was rapid expansion of the church*
- *It was intended to counter the rise of false teaching which confused the Christians*
- *Christians had awaited for long for the second coming of Jesus Christ which was not forth coming*
- *The death of many eye witnesses led to the need to write so that we preserve Jesus teachings*
- *The writing materials on which the work was recorded was available*
- *They had the Holy Spirit which inspired them to write*

9. *a)Reasons why the bible was translated from original languages to local languages*

- *in order to enable the word of God to reach more people in their own language*
- *in order to train local people to take up leadership skills*
- *in order to increase the demand for formal education*

- *to facilitate the expansion of the church*
- *to indigenize Christianity*
- *to encourage research into African language/culture*
- *in order to establish local bible translation society e.g. bible society of Kenya*

*b) Some Christians find it difficult to read the bible*

- *some church traditions/leader bar members from reading the bible*
- *difficulty in interpreting the scriptures*
- *existence of different biblical versions therefore difficulty in identifying the best*
- *being too busy/lack of time*
- *lack of interest in the bible /interest in other books other than the bible*
- *it is so voluminous*
- *lack of reading skills/culture*
- *unavailability of the bible*
- *it is too expensive/costly to some*
- *lack of faith in God fear of collective rebuking nature of the bible/fear of being challenged*
- *some see the bible as an ordinary book*
- *negative attitude to be reading the bible*
- *laziness in reading the bible*
- *some believe that the bible is only read on specific worship days e.g. Friday, Saturday, Sunday*

10. *(a) The books of the apocrypha*

- *Esdras*
- *Wisdom*
- *Baruch*
- *1<sup>st</sup> Macabees*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> Macabees*
- *Tobit*
- *Ecclesiastics*
- *Judith*

*(b) Effects of Bible translation:*

- *Development of local languages*
- *Local people could read the Bible in their own languages*
- *The word of God reached more people in their own languages*
- *It led to the establishment of more schools to cater for the growing*
- *Led to formation of independent churches as Africans could read and interpret the Bible.*
- *Africans became more actively involved in the church.*
- *Africans began exercising leadership in the churches*
- *Africans became critical of certain issues preached by missionaries e.g. equality, love, monogamy e.t.c*
- *It led to mass evangelism – more Africans became Christians.*
- *There was demand for more Bibles leading to establishment of local printing presses.*
- *Missionaries began to appreciate the African culture, thus reducing suspicion between parties.*
- *Africans rediscovered their own cultural identify e.g. dancing styles, local languages, musical instruments e.t.c.*
- *Africans understood themselves better and became more aware of their own human dignity.*
- *It led to the establishment of Bible translation societies e.g. Bible society of Kenya.*

*(c) The Bible is referred to as good news:-*

- *Bible has a message of Hope.*

- *Contains messages of reconciliation*
- *Through it man gets salvation from his fallen state*
- *It gives an answer to the suffering of man*
- *Gives a man revelation of mysterious*
- *Through it God communicates his will to man*
- *It brings mankind closer to God.*
- *Makes man to be aware of his destiny*

11 *Christians read the bible;*

- *It is the word of God.*
- *It provides moral and spiritual guidance.*
- *Helps to discover the will of God.*
- *Reading it is an aspect of worship.*
- *It is the basis of Christian doctrines and practices.*
- *It gives guidance on relationships among human being.*
- *Christians come to discover who they are.*
- *Helps understand the universe and their relationship to it.*
- *Help in spiritual development and maturity.*
- *It is a source of inspiration*
- *Helps understand the meaning of their lives and relationship to god and to one another.*

12. *a) Major division of the New Testament in their order;*

- i. *Gospels*
- ii. *Paul letters*
- iii. *General letters*
- iv. *Historical book*
- v. *Prophetic book*

*b) Development of the Bible translation from original languages to local languages*

- i. *The O.T was originally written in Hebrew*
- ii. *O.T books were translated into Greek*
- iii. *The Greek translation was known as Septuagint*
- iv. *The N.T was originally written in Greek*
- v. *In the 2<sup>nd</sup> C, it was translated into Latin*
- vi. *The Latin translation was known as vulgate*
- vii. *In the 16<sup>th</sup> C, it was translated into English*
- viii. *In the 19<sup>th</sup> C, the missionaries who came to Kenya translated the English version into Kiswahili and other later other languages such as kikuyu, dholuo, kikamba, kalenjin and other languages*

13. *Christians find it difficult to read the Bible.*

- *Due to illiteracy.*
- *Its difficult to interpret its message.*
- *Due to lack of time.*
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- *Lack of faith in God.*
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- *Fear because it rebukes them.*
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14. *(a) The reasons why the missionaries translated the Bible into African languages are:-*

- *Make evangelization effective*
  - *They wanted Africans to understand the scripture easily*
  - *Translation made it possible for missionaries to learn African languages*
  - *They wanted to use the translated Bible as their resource text in missionary education*
  - *They wanted to keep abreast of the changes in the world*
  - *The missionaries wanted to indigenize Christianity and make it adaptable to local situations and cultures*
- (Any 5 = 5x1 = 5mks)*

*(b) Ways in which translation of the Bible into African languages led to African mass evangelism:-*

- *The ability of African to read and interpret the Bible into their own languages contributed to development of independent churches which attracted any to Christianity*
  - *As Africans read the Bible in their own local languages, they participated more actively in church affairs*
  - *As Africans read the Bible in their vernacular and understood its content many embraced Christianity*
  - *Missionaries knowledge of local Bible enabled them to preach to more Africans as communication was not a problem*
  - *The missionaries were able to appreciate African culture. This removed suspicion between the two and more people were attracted to Christianity.*
  - *Africans were able to have a better understanding of God's word as they could read and interpret it on their own*
  - *Translation promoted revival movements and these were used to preach to more people*
- (4x2 = 8mks)*

*(c) Reasons why Kenyans are attracted to Church are:-*

- *Kenyans are attracted to Church as membership creates a source of identity and belonging*
- *Some go to Church out of habit or as a Sunday routine*
- *Some go to Church to socialize and make friends*
- *Some go to Church to receive material help*
- *For spiritual growth*
- *Some see the Church as a place to receive recognition*
- *Others are attracted to Church out of a sense of duty*
- *To seek consolation and comfort*
- *To receive physical healing*
- *To seek forgiveness and correction*

*Some go to Church to seek God's blessings*

*(7x 1 = 7mks)*