

NOTICE FOR TRANSLATORS

Please take the text of the three booklets (-1- The History of Jesus the Nazarene, -2- The Way of Jesus the Nazarene, -3- Life With Jesus the Nazarene) into your hands while you read these instructions.

1. General instructions: Please note that this is not Jesus of Nazareth, but Jesus the *Nazarene*. We do not emphasize a place, but a person from a certain place (example: not a person from Australia, but an Australian). For the general layout and design use a modern, appealing front page. You should be able to produce it at low cost, but it should be done in such a way that people will want to read it. Don't use a form that makes it look like a "holy" or "church" product. And don't print the type so small that people can't read it properly.
2. Booklet 1: You will need to print the whole text, not just the quotes! Many people don't have a Bible and it makes no sense to expect from them to look the texts up in their Bible. In a number of cases you will have to adapt the first line of a new text portion so that the text flows intelligibly. If there is more than one translation of the New Testament in your language use the most modern one which people will normally be better able to understand. Discuss this with your Bible Society as you may need to secure copyright to reprint these verses. This booklet will be roughly 50 % longer than the other two. Don't print the verse number in front of every verse (as in a normal Bible), but rather let the text flow as in a novel. After each large section, for example every chapter or when a quoting another book of the NT, you can add the respective Bible quote, for example (*Matthew 5-7*). Don't forget the proper address at the end (P.O. Box is best in most places). Outside of Europe you may want to change "Nazareth in Israel" in the introduction to "Nazareth in Palestine", or "Nazareth in Western Asia".
3. Booklet 2 & 3: Be careful to adapt the examples and concepts to your cultural situation. Biblical principles are the same everywhere, but they have to be set into the correct context. The text was originally written for an Orthodox / Post Communist context so that you may want to tackle another problem besides the ones in chapters 6-8 of booklet 2. It is also important that you find the correct theological terms! This might be very difficult and require you to talk with other Christians so that you find out what is correct. Don't change the theological statements. For example in one place it has happened that "plenary inspiration" of the Bible was translated with "verbal inspiration"; this is not a better translation, but rather wrong.
4. Miscellaneous: Booklet 2 has a number of questions at the end of each chapter that relate to booklet 1. Be careful to print the correct reference to booklet 1 which means you have to finish the final typesetting of booklet 1 before you can finish booklet 2. A couple of times we are offering a New Testament, a Bible, further biblical study material, a visit, or practical help. You can only print this if you will actually do this; don't promise anything you can't fulfill! Don't rush the production of the booklets, but deliver a quality product that honors God.
5. Introductory questions: These are to be used in connection with the short form of the Manual (§ 1-41) or in a pamphlet about the Church of the Nazarene. They need even more adaptation to your cultural and political situation (see for example the first few lines). Some of the questions may be of no interest to your culture (for example the question about the use of crosses) then leave them out or find others that are important in your context. These questions try to repeat what the Manual says in a less rigid form and try to lead people into reading the Manual. The principle behind the questions is, we are not fighting others or put them down, but we try to help, care, and serve.

If you have any questions or I can be of any help don't hesitate to contact me. We will do all we can to help you. May the Lord bless you richly in the propagation of the gospel in your country.

Yours in His wonderful love

Dr. Hermann Gschwandtner
Church of the Nazarene, Eurasia Region - New Church Development
drhermann@eurasia-help.org