



NO BIBLE SUNDAY?

Find more *No Bible Sunday* ideas and resources at www.nobiblesunday.org

Children's Resource

Alphabeti Spaghetti

Description:

A chance to decipher a message, and go home writing in a new alphabet.

Aim:

To experience using an unfamiliar script and to teach that different scripts are used for Bibles in many languages.

What's needed:

Pencils, coloured pens, scissors.
Copies of the second page of this activity.
Either printed on card or with card to stick the bookmark onto and glue..

Time:

Depends on use

गओडश वओरड बरइनगश लइफए

God's word brings life but reading the Bibles isn't easy if you don't know the alphabet. The message above is on the last page of this activity and is the first thing you'll need.

1. Ask for a volunteer who is good at reading. Then hold up the sheet and ask if they can read it. if you do have someone in the group who knows the script make the most of it!
2. Hand out the activity sheet.
3. Explain the first activity:
 - work out the three words (The words are 'apple', 'orange' and 'banana').
 - work out the sentence (The message reads 'God's Word brings life').
 - write your own name in Devnagri Script.
4. Hand out scissors, gluesticks and card.
5. Explain the second activity:
 - colour in the bookmark
 - sign your name in Devnagri on it
 - cut it out
 - stick it onto thick card
6. Pray together thanking God that we the Bible in a book that we can read and understand. Pray for the Jirel people. Pray that many will come to know Jesus as they read the New Testament and that a strong Jirel Church will grow.

Encourage the children to keep the bookmark and use it as a reminder to pray for the Jirel people. Be careful to point out the difference between what the children have written (which is English written in a foreign script) and the verse on the bookmark (which is a foreign language and a foreign script). Otherwise they may try to decipher the 'code' on the bookmark when they get home, and won't be able to!

Adapted from the Idea Bank. Further resources for use throughout the year at www.wycliffe.org.uk/ideabank

Here is the *Devnagri* alphabet. It looks a bit like spaghetti.

Wycliffe Bible Translators

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N
अ ब च ड ए फ ग ह इ ज क ल म न
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
ओ प कउ र श ट उ व व कस य ज

Here are some English words written with Devnagri letters. Can you find out what they mean?

अ प प ल ए ओ र अ न ग ए ब अ न अ न अ

Devnagri letters are joined up together to make whole words. Each word looks like a clothes line with washing hanging on it. Here's a whole sentence. Can you work out what the message says?

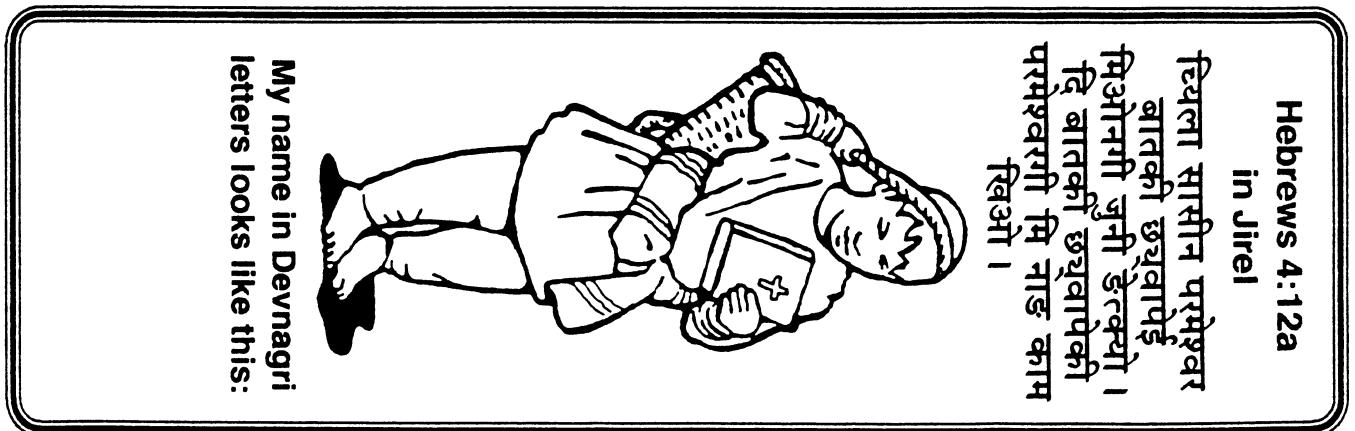
गओडश वओरड बरइनगश लइफए

Can you write your name in connected *Devnagri* letters?

Fact: The *Devnagri* script was first used to write the Hindu Scriptures. *Devnagri* means "the writing of the gods." Today this alphabet is used to write languages around North India.

Fact: The *Jirel* people of South Asia write their own language in the *Devnagri* script. Translators took 22 years to put the New Testament into the *Jirel* language. Now it has been published for the first time!

Here is a bookmark to color and keep:



To find out what this verse from the Jirel New Testament says, read Hebrews 4:12a.



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