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How to Use a Concordance

To Enhance your Bible Study

Let's say you have to lead a Bible Study on Psalm 48. The word "Zion" shows up three times, and your mentor suggests doing a word study. What does "Zion" really mean? Is it significant? How would you go about studying the word throughout the entire Bible?

Assuming that you have a Bible, one way to study Zion would be to simply read the Bible from cover to cover, and make note of any references to "Zion" that you come across. If you could dedicate one hour a day to this project, you might finish your list of references in about 3 months.

What if your Bible study was only a week from now?

Saving time on this step is important especially for those in preaching roles. With a concordance, you can study words much quicker.

So you look up the word "Zion" in a concordance. After feeling overwhelmed looking at a list of 154 references, you decide to nar-



Pastor Palanga shows off his new books

BLF Canada's Toe-Blake Roy teaching a class to Togolese pastors



row your search to just the Psalms.

The remaining 38 occurrences seem more reasonable to tackle. One at a time, you look them up and quickly decide what each verse says about Zion. With each reference, categories begin to emerge in your mind, which gives you a better idea of what Zion symbolizes in the Psalms.

For example:

The Lord lives on Zion (3:4; 9:11; 50:2; 76:2), because he selected it (132:13-14).

The Lord reigns as king on Zion (48:2), where a Davidic king reigns as his agent (2:6).

From Zion, the Lord bestows blessing and salvation (133:3).

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There and Back Again

BLF Canada has a new missionary. Micheline Cabot, who was on the mission team to Haiti last winter (2013), has felt the call of God on her life. She has now been accepted as an official BLF Canada missionary.

She went to Togo with

the team in November (other team members were Toe-Blake and Linda Roy). There, Micheline and Linda ministered to pastor's wives while Toe-Blake taught theology courses to the pastors.

Now, Micheline is back

in Haiti, using her medical background to help at the medical clinic at the Tivernay mission station. This time she will be there for three months (BLF Canada will be sending two other teams to Haiti for shorter times while she is there). IQ



Micheline digging-in to Togo cuisine!

Concordances (continued from page 1)

Zion is a secure refuge (46:1ff), which God himself defends (48, 76).

Eventually, Zion will become the site of universal worship (Psalm 87).

Now you're much better equipped to start thinking about how Zion is relevant for the Christian today. Romans 11:26-27 says (quoting Isaiah) that the deliverer will come from Zion. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Davidic King reigning in Zion. John says in Revelation 14:1 that he saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, showing that the location remains important in the end times. Mount Zion is a symbol of the Kingship of the Lord, representing security and safety. For a sequel to your Bible Study, you could work through the Isaiah references.

This study all started with a concordance.

BLF Canada provided Concordances of French Bibles to 19 pastoral students in Togo this past November, funded by donations from people like you. They were elated to receive such basic tools to do their work. They also received Bible Dictionaries, as well as 200 books from BLF Europe's publishing house (each receiving a pastoral pack of 10 titles, with a spare set for their library). 90 books and 100 brochures were also sent by BLF Europe to equip their churches. IQ



For pictures and stories from Haiti and Togo, visit BLF Canada's facebook page:

 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/BLF-Canada/107519959328452>

<http://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?charityID=s51631>



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