



Lindaba
ezimnandi

Zencwadi engenamagama

(Kubantu abadala nabantwana abakhulu)

IsiXhosa

The Wordless Book

“A colourful Way to Share the Gospel”

The Wordless Book originally comprised only three pages – Black , Red and White . It was introduced by Charles Spurgeon in 1866 when preaching at the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London. His sermon was entitled “ *The Wordless Book* ”. Mr. Spurgeon told of an elderly pastor WHO had put three pages of these colours together, and often referred to them to remind himself of his own sinfulness (black), of Christ’s blood poured out for him (red), and of the “whiter-than-snow” purification, as granted by the Lord.

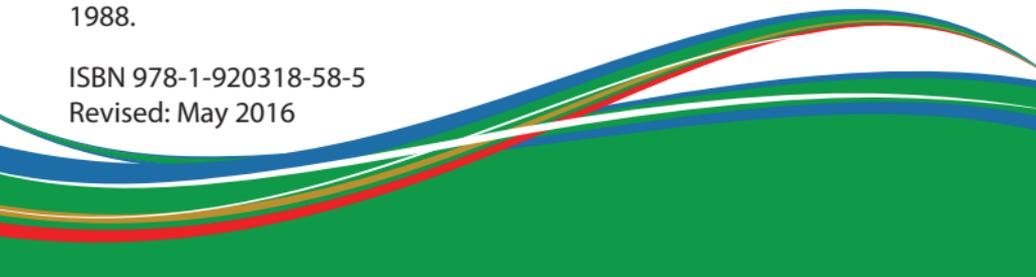
It is not known exactly when the Gold page was added, but that brought another dimension to the book. It depicted the glory of God and His heavenly home. Nine years later, D.L. Moody used the book of colours at a children’s service. An estimated 12 000 people attended to listen to his message about A book with four pages: Black, Red, White and Gold.

When Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) began to print the little book in 1939, they added another page of Green , to represent Christian growth.

In 1993, **AMOS** was founded by Hennie and Janetta Viljoen. **AMOS** realized the value of the Wordless Book in teaching the gospel to the illiterate. They, however, wanted it to tell the complete message of the Bible, and therefore in 1994 added the final colour of Blue to the Wordless Book, to remind us of the promised return of Christ.

It later came to light that the International Children’s Ministry Institute (ICMI) had the same vision, and had already added a blue page in 1988.

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Jesus will come again to fetch his children.

Remember: Jesus rose from the dead. He lives! Before He returned to heaven He promised his disciples that He would return to fetch all his children. (John 14:3)

No-one knows when He will return, but He *will* fulfill his promise. It will be sudden and unexpected and there won't be time to get things in order when it happens. There won't be time for people to be saved then. Only those who are ready, will go with Jesus. If you have accepted Jesus it won't matter if you are still living or have already died. The children of God who have already died, will rise from their graves in a new body. They too will receive everything God has promised.

If you believe in Jesus, He will come and fetch you too. In heaven you will never sin again. No-one will ever die again. None of the bad things that happened to you on earth, will ever happen to you again. You will never be hungry, hurt or sad. You will be with Him forever, with all His other children. It will be so wonderful! Everyone will praise and worship God eternally.

When Jesus comes again He will also punish those who did not want to believe in Him. He will punish them for their unbelief and sin, and send them away from Him. In hell they will suffer pain and sorrow for ever.

Although Jesus can come at any time, it does not mean that

Intshayelelo

Wena uxabisekile kakhulu kuThixo; kwaye ungaba yindlalifa yelifa elimangalisayo. Neyona ngxaki yakho inkulu ingasonjululwa. Oku kunokwenzeka ngokwenyani, itsho iBhayibhile. Le ncwadana uyiphetheyo yingcacisi emfutshane yomyalezo weBhayibhile. Lo myalezo weBhayibhile uyacaciswa ngawo umzekeliso oyincwadi engenamagama, ukuze ube nokuwubamba lula umyalezo lowo. Le ncwadana ayinamagama tu. Kuphela inamaphepha mathandathu anamabala ahlukahlukeneyo. Ibala ngalinye ngumzekeliso wenyaniso ethile, kwaye la mabala azekelisa ezona nyaniso zobomi omelwe kukuzasi nokukholwa kuzo:

	iGolide:	uThixo ungukumkani ongunaphakade
	Untsundu [ungcolile]:	Isono senza ukuba ubomi bakhe bungcolile gazi likaYesu
	uBomvu:	Uhlanjululwe ngegazi likaYesu ukuze ube msulwa/ucoceke
	uCocekile:	Uyakhula ngasemoyeni ukuze ulingane noKrestu (isityalo siluhlaza)
	uLuhlaza:	uYesu uyakubuya (isibhakabhaka siblowu)
	uBlowu:	

Lo myalezo ubalulekile kuwe kwanakubo abantu bonke. Kungoko kufuneka uwuvakalise nakwabanye abantu ukuze basindiswe. Ukufikelela kule njongo le ncwadana iguqu-kulelwe ngolwimi lwabaninzi.

Xa ufunda ke lo myalezo uwamkele uyakutshintshwa ngokupheleleyo ngenceba kaThixo. Funda ke kakuhle.



As a child of God you must live more like Jesus!

Once you have accepted Jesus Christ, you are a child of God. You have been saved, but you are like a small tree which has to grow and become strong. You have to grow spiritually. You must get to know God better and obey Him. Live more like Jesus every day to show Him how grateful you are for your salvation. Read Colossians 2:6-7 and 1 John 2:6. **You can grow spiritually by doing the following things:**



Read and obey the Bible. Learn what it says. Remember: The Wordless Book emphasizes the main aspects of the Bible message. When you read the Bible, ask yourself how the passage you are reading relates to one or more of the six colours.



Pray to God. He said that you could speak to Him at any time and about anything. He promised, in the name of Jesus Christ, to answer your prayer when you ask according to his will. But God does not answer selfish prayers. Learn the prayer Jesus taught his disciples - the Lord's Prayer. (Matthew 6:9-13)



If you are a child of God, remember that God has saved you for a reason. He wants you to **tell others** how good and how great He really is. Show others, through your words and actions, that God loves them and wants them to be his children. Use the Wordless Book to help you.

you! He may be so big that He needs nothing and nobody, else, but He knows you by name and He wants to be good to you. You don't have to earn his love with gifts or sacrifices; you also don't have to be hurt before He will love you and help you. He loves you - just as you are!

He wants to be your God, but He also wants you to be his child. However, there is something that prevents you from being his child. The dirty page tells you all about it.

Read these passages in the Bible so that you can get to know God better:

Genesis 1:1 to 2:4a
Deuteronomy 6:4
Nehemiah 9:5-37
Job 11:7-9
Psalms 139:1-18
Isaiah 44:6-26

Isaiah 45:20-25
Matthew 6:24-33 and 10:29-31
John 3:16
Acts 17:24-31
Romans 1:18-25 and 11:33-36
1 Timothy 1:17



You have sinned and cannot save yourself

God did not force Adam and Eve (the first people He created) to love Him. He created them with a free choice: they could choose to love and obey Him, or not. Satan misled them and they chose to disobey God. Now, all people are born sinners like Adam and Eve. This means that it is natural for all people to do wrong things: nobody needs to be taught. Because all people are born sinners, all people sin. There is no one without sin. (Romans 3:23)

But, what is sin? In the Bible, God Himself tells us that sin is being disobedient to Him. Not loving God and other people is also a sin. If you don't love God and other people, you think, say and do bad things against them. You think about how you can hurt people or take their belongings. You curse and lie to people. You tell all kinds of bad things about them. Or, you steal their possessions, because you don't want to work. By breaking other people's things or setting them on fire, you show that you don't love them. Abortion (killing an unborn child), divorce, rape and child-molestation is all very wrong in God's eyes. All these things prove that you don't love Him or other people. That is why God calls it sin.

It is not only sinful to do wrong things. Being disobedient to God by not doing what He wants is just as sinful.

What should you do? God wants you to love, obey and worship Him. You must also love all other people as you love yourself. Treat others as you would want them to treat

When you have accepted Jesus, God assures you that you are His child and that you have eternal life. (John 1:12 and in 1 John 5:12-13) You can be absolutely sure of your salvation - not because you feel differently, but because God says so. Jesus now lives in you through his Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will give you the desire and power to live like a child of God. He will also give you the assurance that God is your Father.

Because Jesus Christ took away your sin, God has declared you righteous. He will not punish you for your sin. Show Him how grateful you are by the way you live for Him and by being obedient to Him.

If you want to know more about this, read the following Scriptures:

Matthew 16:24-26

John 6:66-69 and 15:18-27

Acts 16:30-31

Romans 5:1-11

Romans 8:1-39 and 10:9-13

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Galatians 5:13-26

Ephesians 1:1-14 and 2:1-10

Ephesians 4:17 to 6:20

1 Peter 1:13-16



If you believe in Jesus, you can be sure you are saved

Jesus has already done everything that is necessary for you to become a child of God. He also wants to take your sin away so that your life can be clean. But, knowing this does not make you a child of God. You must *believe* that He did it all for you! You must make it your own. It is almost the same as food: knowing about food and seeing it does not take your hunger away. You have to eat it, to be satisfied. Similarly, you have to accept and believe that Jesus died in your place to be a child of God.

However, you can't accept and believe in Jesus and continue to live in sin. You must be willing to turn your back on sin and be obedient to God. You may lose some old friends because you no longer want to do the wrong things you used to do together. Jesus said that the world would hate his children because they hate Him. It will not always be easy for you to be a child of God. You have to be willing to follow Jesus, because only He can save you from your sin and give you eternal life. You must decide now!

If you want to accept Jesus, you can pray the following prayer:

Jesus, I am sorry about my sin and I know I cannot do anything to save myself. I believe that You took the punishment for my sin. Please forgive me and make me Your child. Please help me to do Your will from now on!
(Use your own words if you would prefer to do so.)

you. It is sinful not to love God and all people.

You therefore have a problem: it is not only the sin that you do, but also the fact that you are a sinner, which keeps you from being a child of God. You deserve to be punished forever in hell. Nothing *you* can do will help you escape this punishment.

But, there is good news for you! Because God loves you so much, He has made a wonderful plan. The red page tells you about God's plan.

Read the following passages. They will help you understand what sin is and why it is bad for you:

<i>Genesis 3:1-24</i>	<i>Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28</i>
<i>Exodus 20:1-17</i>	<i>Matthew 7:12 and 22:34-40</i>
<i>1 Samuel 15:22-23</i>	<i>John 16:8-9</i>
<i>Psalms 51:5</i>	<i>Romans 3:9-26 and 5:12-21</i>
<i>Isaiah 5:8-24</i>	<i>Ephesians 2:1-3</i>
<i>Jeremiah 22:13-19</i>	<i>James 1:13-15</i>
<i>Malachi 2:15-16</i>	<i>Revelation 21:8</i>



God sent his Son Jesus Christ to save you

Although we are all sinners, God has never stopped loving us. He is love! (1 John 4:8-10) He is also holy and just. He hates sin and so sin must be punished.

You will only realise how much God loves you, when you realise that He decided to take your punishment upon Himself. To do this, He had to allow his Son to become a man. How? God performed a miracle! His Holy Spirit came upon a young woman and through God's power, she conceived without having ever had intercourse with a man and Jesus was born. God said that the Child must be named Jesus, because He would save people from their sin. Therefore, Jesus is truly God, but also truly man.

As a man Jesus was tempted by Satan, but He remained obedient to God. Jesus never sinned. That is why He could take the punishment for your sin and mine. He died in your and in my place on the cross.

Because he is also truly God, He triumphed over death. He has risen from the grave! Through his resurrection He conquered Satan and every evil power. He came to set us free from the power of sin. Forty days after his resurrection, He went back to heaven. Ten days later, God the Father and the Son sent the Holy Spirit to his children. It is the Holy Spirit that convinces people that Jesus died on the cross for their sins.

Jesus is the only Mediator between God and man. (1 Timothy 2:5) Sin keeps God and man apart. Jesus is the only one who can bring God and man together, because He is the only one without sin. He did this by dying on the cross, bringing peace through his blood. The cross is the symbol of the reconciliation between God and man; between heaven and earth.

Anyone who sins, needs a mediator and a saviour. No other person can help you reach God. This means that neither Mary, the mother of Jesus, nor your ancestors can help you. No prophet, spiritual leader or any important person of any religion can do it. Only Jesus can help you! Read John 14:6.

The following passages tell about the life and work of Jesus Christ, the only Saviour:

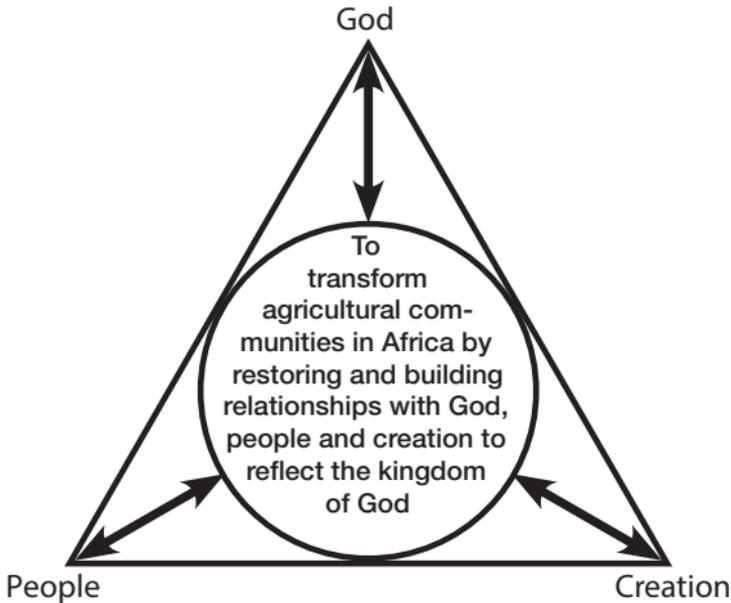
<i>The Gospel of Mark</i>	<i>Romans 1:2-6</i>
<i>Luke 1:26-38 and 2:1-20</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 15:1-6</i>
<i>Luke 22:47 to 24:53</i>	<i>Hebrews 4:14-16 and 10:11-18</i>
<i>John 1:1-18 and 14:6-11</i>	<i>1 John 3:4-8</i>
<i>Acts 4:12</i>	<i>Revelation 5:8-14</i>



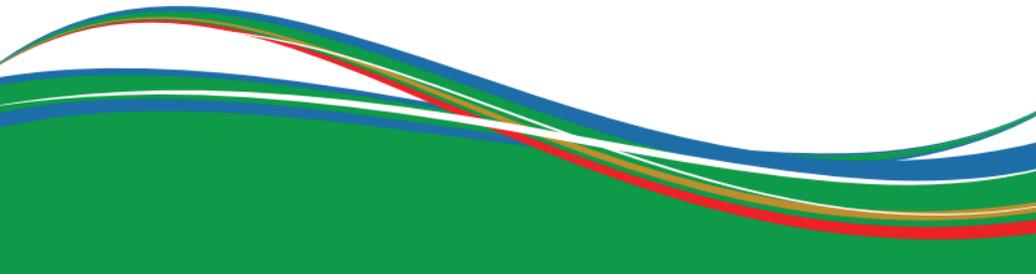
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