



Jesus Film Premieres The First Nations Bible Translation Short Film Series

Retelling the Good Story

Jesus Film has been working with The First Nations Bible Translation author Terry Wildman to produce an animated series based on the book of Luke. Presently four of the series is completed.

Cru Nations Co-Founder, Donny Begay has waited a long time for our newest Jesus Film animated short film series. ([See "back story" Here](#)) From one of our behind the scenes video's Donny shares: My wife and I started as college students when we were working with Cru. We noticed there was hardly any outreach or even recognition of the Native American people even on the campus, but especially in ministry. Now we want them to know the story of Jesus, told in a relevant way using our cultural heritage language that makes sense to us. Terry Wildman's First Nations Translation of the Book of Luke was the bridge that allowed this series to be available.

Animation allows us to tell the story of Jesus to our own people and to other Native American people who have heard it as a child or adult, but heard it in a way that didn't make sense to them or was presented in a forceful way. Our desire is to tell people the same story that affected my wife's and my life, which is following Jesus in our own cultural authentic way. This short story film series brings everyone into the conversation of what it means to be a follower of Jesus' way, and as an indigenous person at the same time.

With my audience, I know we speak a different language because we understand things from a different perspective. Stories resonate in any culture and any time period. This is how we teach children and adults. Since media is everywhere, this animated series gives us a starting point to engage with our First Nations people. What a great privilege to show them a story that has affected our lives so much! To me the best part is we get to share this in a way that is not forceful, but delights their hearts though the telling of The Good Story with this beautiful and thoughtful animation.

For more information, you can see Jesus Film's press release (next page) on this outreach. Please be praying for the outreach to our First Nations. We hope to share more with you as they are now using this film with their people. We hope you enjoy it and it can give help to anyone who is seeking to help someone or dealing with an addiction of their own. It is featured here on the JesusFilm App as well. ■



Retelling the Good Story

Jesus Film Press Release on this animation.

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Introducing *Retelling the Good Story* **A Collection of Short Films for North American Native People**

We're pleased to announce new Jesus Film Project® short films—coming soon!

Retelling the Good Story is a collection of three short animated films based on the First Nations Version, an Indigenous translation of the New Testament. These films feature a storyteller, Mishomis, retelling stories of Jesus' life and ministry in beautiful animation inspired by Native American art. We believe the films will touch the hearts of North American Native people.

Retelling the Good Story was born in partnership with Terry Wildman, author of the First Nations Version to be published and released by InterVarsity Press in August 2021. *Retelling the Good Story* films use text from the English-language First Nations Version for their scripts.

Today English-speaking North American Native people number seven million, and very few have access to biblical resources. We believe these films will connect North American Native people with the hope of Jesus at a heart level—a pursuit that's at the core of everything we do. Jesus Film Project strives to reach people wherever they are, using gospel-centered media to connect them with the story of Jesus in their heart language and in a medium that speaks to their hearts.

Global Executive leaders from Cru® are equally excited about Jesus Film Project's involvement, noting that with it we push toward innovation. We reach people with the gospel in new ways that resonate visually with their cultures.

The *Retelling the Good Story* project followed the same process as projects we've previously completed in partnership. We rely on our trusted network of Bible translators to ensure proper translation into the languages and contexts of those we are reaching. We also rely on partners in the field to help ensure we provide tools that can reach specific audiences.

In this case, the First Nations Version translation on which the films are based was created in collaboration with OneBook Canada, a member of the Wycliffe Global Alliance.

"This is an exciting project," says Wayne Johnson, CEO of OneBook. "The Board of OneBook unanimously gave their approval for the partnership with Rain Ministries, in our first North American Bible translation project. As with our projects in Africa and Asia, we aim to maintain church and local community ownership of the project and the final translated First Nations Version."

First Nations Version author Terry Wildman highlights the universal appeal of the translation. "The First Nations Version is intended to present the Scriptures with phrases and word choices that relate in a general way to Native Americans and other First Nations English-speaking people, because of the great diversity of our people."

Terry Wildman led the First Nations Version translation project. A group of reputable Bible scholars, pastors and lay people from across North America—many of them Indigenous—also lent their invaluable support. This competent team worked arduously to ensure a contextual translation process completed with biblical excellence.

It's our hope that North American Native people encounter the love of God as they watch the life-changing story of Jesus in a language and medium that speaks to their hearts. Join us in praying for these new films and the people who will be drawn to the Lord through them.



[Link to the First Nation's New Testament](#)