



Language: Abouré

Speakers: 60,000



Dates: 2019-2022

Project Goal: New Testament portions

ABOURÉ 2 (ah-BOO-ray)

AFRICA — CÔTE D'IVOIRE

THE PEOPLE

The Abouré people of Côte d'Ivoire highly value tradition.

In their culture, each generation has a specific role to play. The *Attiblé*, or elders, act as community leaders and advisers. Younger people might serve as spokespeople or even drummers.

Livelihoods depend mainly on agriculture. Farmers grow pineapples, yams, coffee and more recently, trees for rubber. Others earn income through fishing, working all night and returning home at dawn.

Due to rapid urbanization in the region, some aspects of daily life are changing. Rainforests are being cleared for fields and timber. Businesses are moving in, and tourism is growing.

Although more than 90% of the population identify as Christian, traditional beliefs heavily influence their culture. Some people go to local training centers so they can learn how to carry on the religious practices of their ancestors.

To clearly understand the gospel message, the Abouré need God's Word in a language that speaks to their hearts.

THE PLAN

Abouré translators recently completed the Gospel of Luke.

But to meet their next goals, they need your help.

Your partnership will fuel the team's efforts in this three-year project, which will see the three remaining Gospel accounts translated, along with Acts and Romans.

Matthew, John and Acts will be made available in print, and Acts will be produced in audio format as well.

"The local churches have expressed their desire for the Gospels," a project coordinator said. "They see Matthew as a high priority to have for use in liturgy in 2020."

Local pastors are also eager to have the "JESUS" film in Abouré. Based on the book of Luke, the drama provides a compelling introduction to the person and work of Christ.

Staff will continue an existing literacy program, equipping new readers and teachers through regular training workshops.

THE IMPACT

Abouré Christians are hearing the Word of God in their language for the first time.

The Gospel of Luke is now being used in worship services, opening the door for believers to better grasp what it means to follow Jesus.

Having Scripture in their own language is also motivating some church members to learn how to read and write. "Literacy courses have been very successful," a team member said. "Very soon many will be able to read fluently — and receive training so that they can teach others."

As translation work continues, project leaders expect to see transformation in the broader community as well.

"The greatest anticipated impact," the coordinator said, "is that there will be a progressive abandonment of traditional practices as the gospel takes root in the hearts of the Abouré people."

Your prayers and gifts will help this community gain access to more of the New Testament in their language!