



Language: Neyo

Speakers: 9,200



Dates: 2018-2021

Project Goal: New Testament portions

NEYO (NAY-oh)

AFRICA — CÔTE D'IVOIRE

THE PEOPLE

The Neyo people live alongside the Sassandra River and the Gulf of Guinea on the Atlantic Ocean.

In the past, the Neyo fished these bodies of water, but they shifted to farming as neighboring people groups began to dominate the industry. Today most Neyo grow cocoa, coffee and other food products to sell. Some of their crops are grown in areas far from their rural communities.

Although they no longer work as fishermen, they still enjoy eating a lot of fish, as well as *attiéké*, a staple dish made from cassava.

Low income is a common struggle, and as a result some people turn to alcohol to forget their troubles. The majority of Neyo follow traditional beliefs, and it's routine for people to revel in funeral events that can last for weeks.

To grow their faith and reach out to others, Neyo Christians greatly desire God's Word in their language.

THE PLAN

We're partnering with a local team to produce New Testament portions in the Neyo language!

Team members are adapting the translated Scripture text of Godié, a related language, into Neyo. Specialized software speeds the work by giving staff an initial draft to work from.

During a previous project, the four Gospels and Acts were drafted. Moving forward in this three-year project, team members will complete 1-2 Thessalonians, and make progress on 1-2 Timothy and Titus.

However before any Scripture can be published, the Neyo writing system needs to be finalized. So one of the team's goals is to establish a system that people will find easy to use. Once that's done, the Gospels, Acts, and 1-2 Thessalonians will be printed.

Recordings of Mark and Luke will also be produced and distributed. Having these books in audio format will encourage the formation of listening groups where Neyo people can meet together to hear and study God's Word.

THE IMPACT

A large number of Neyo speakers live in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire's commercial capital. Among the diaspora are some vibrant Christians with a vision for reaching the rural community with the Good News.

These individuals have been heavily involved in the planning of the Neyo translation project, trusting God's Word will challenge and transform their people's thinking and beliefs.

"Having the Scriptures in Neyo will incarnate the gospel in this culture," a local church leader said.

With the New Testament portions produced in this project, the Neyo people will have the opportunity to understand God better — and apply what they learn to everyday life.

"The Scriptures will give them a fresh perspective on many of life's issues, such as death, conflict, money and more," a project adviser said.

Your prayers and gifts will help the Neyo people gain access to God's Word in a language they clearly understand!

Amended 6/2020