



**Language:** Tunia

**Speakers:** 2,260



**Dates:** 2017-2020

**Total Project Cost:** \$181,260

**Project Goals:** Old and New Testament portions, oral Bible storytelling

## TUNIA (TOO-nee-yah)

## AFRICA — CHAD

### THE PEOPLE

The Tun people of Chad live in communities along several rivers. The climate there is very hot in the dry season and cold in the rainy season.

Most Tun people make their living by fishing, or breeding goats and poultry. Many also sell cotton, pottery or granite, which enables them to purchase goods like soap, sugar and salt.

Their language, Tunia, is often seen as secondary to other languages in the region that are more dominant. But Tunia speakers are motivated to see their mother tongue used and appreciated.

Some Tun people have chosen to follow Christ, but most practice traditional religion or follow a major world religion that is prevalent in the area. Many have not heard the gospel message in a language they clearly understand.

Having God's Word in their own language will give the Tun people opportunities for both spiritual and social renewal.

### THE PLAN

We are working in partnership with a team of local translators to continue the translation of the New Testament into the Tunia language!

In this three-year project, the translation team will complete significant portions of the New Testament, most of which has already been drafted. Seven books — Joshua, Ruth, Luke, John, Acts, Philemon and James — will be published.

By the end of this project, staff will be almost ready to start the typesetting process for the publication of the entire New Testament.

At the request of local church leaders, the team will also craft oral Bible stories based on Old Testament passages. This will aid believers with evangelism and outreach.

In addition, literacy classes will be held throughout the region to teach people to read and write in their mother tongue. A Scripture engagement workshop will be held, as well as meetings focused on women and youth.

### THE IMPACT

“We did not expect to have the Word of God in our own tongue,” said a Tun woman. “We enjoy having this good news available now in some Bible portions.”

Historically, the Tun have been resistant to the gospel message. But this is changing!

In one city, a small group of believers now meets together regularly. They are eager to have God's Word in their language, and they are using the portions of Tunia Scripture that are already available.

“The ongoing translation of the Tunia New Testament has already been a blessing and encouragement to the small community of believers,” said a project adviser. “As progress on the translation of the New Testament continues, it will increasingly be the foundation for the ongoing development of the church.”

**Your prayers and investment** will help bring God's Word to the Tun people in the language that speaks to their hearts!