

INFOCUS

United By a Calling

By Katie Kuykendall



Have you ever been asked to participate in something you knew nothing about?

That's how it was for many of the people God has raised up to join him in reaching local minority language groups in Indonesia through translated Scriptures. They received an invitation to something unknown, but they felt his leading and obeyed.

Each of them made a choice to step out in faith. As a result God has helped them find community with each other while deepening their relationship with him. Today he's weaving their individual stories together to become part of his greater story — reaching Indonesia's minority language groups with his Word.

Here's how two women — Yuli and Yanti — became part of the team.

"When I first started working ... I was called a Christian. But I didn't really know who Jesus is," said Yuli Sapulette, a translator on the Manado Malay team.

"When my parents divorced, I felt that I had no meaning in life," she recalled. "But when the Lord called me to come and work at the translation center, he helped me understand that I have meaning. I began to understand Jesus loved me when I began translating and putting it into my language."

"I feel the Manado Malay translation is very important, first of all for me, because it has had a big impact on my life," she stressed. "When I first read the translation in the Manado language, I felt like the Lord was speaking directly

to my heart. I came to realize that what I have experienced — knowing God in a closer way and having meaning in my life — now I want others to experience."

Yuli's colleague, Yanti Karundeng, thought she'd found her life's work when she became a pastor.

Then she met Ron — a translation adviser working in Indonesia with Wycliffe USA — when she showed up to preach at his daughter's birthday party, a common practice when believers have parties in Indonesia. When Ron offered for her to join the team, she initially turned him down before reconsidering.

"I didn't realize how the Lord was going to work in my heart and change my way of thinking about this," Yanti said. "The very first time I had a computer in front me ... and I could see on the screen all these Bible versions and helps, God was speaking to me at that time in a special way. Now I realize how important it is, and I can't be separated from this work."

Yanti also recalled that, although they didn't know each other before joining the team together, the teammates now consider themselves family. "We're brothers and sisters. We always support each other; we always pray for each other," Yanti said.

Serving in God's global mission is a calling, and you never know who might be called — or when. Whether God is calling you to join us in Bible translation or he's leading you to serve him for another purpose, you have a specific role to play in his story.

"GOD IN FULL VIEW": A GLOBAL TRAVEL JOURNAL

If you travel around the world, you'll encounter beautiful examples of God's creation. You'll also meet incredible people who are bringing the kingdom of heaven to earth. They're pastors, writers, teachers, Bible translators and more.

In "God in Full View," you'll get a chance to meet a few of these people and explore the beauty of their cultures, countries and languages.

Begin your journey at wycliffe.org/travel.

A GLIMPSE INTO INDONESIA

Stretching across the Indian and Pacific Oceans, Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous nation. The country is made up of more than 17,000 unique, complex and diverse islands and is home to more than 700 distinct people groups, each with their own languages and cultures.

The church in Indonesia is growing, but many people haven't yet heard about the hope found in the Bible. Local translators like Yuli and Yanti are helping to change that!

You can make a difference in countries like Indonesia by joining our prayer team. Sign up at wycliffe.org/prayer to receive prayer emails on different countries, people groups and more to help you pray about what God is doing around the world.



WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE WORLD

- » Pray that communities across Indonesia and around the world would recognize God's love for their language and culture.
- » As Scripture is translated and distributed, pray that people would engage with it and be transformed by the power of the gospel in their language.
- » Pray that God would use local translators and organizations to further the work of Bible translation in Indonesia and around the world.

INDONESIA

FAST FACTS



POPULATION: **248,818,000**

TOTAL NUMBER OF LANGUAGES:
701

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES WITH ...

No Scripture: **518**

Scripture Portions: **68**

New Testaments: **80**

Bibles: **34**

*Statistics are from wycliffe.net.