



THE FINISH LINE

AFRICA

Africa

FLAME*; Africa

The Flame New Testament was dedicated with deep thankfulness to God in April 2020 in an intimate setting due to COVID-19 restrictions. The community awaits a larger, more public dedication when permitted.

Prayer points:

- » Production of a Scripture app so that the Flame can listen to the audio recording of the New Testament.
- » Effective distribution of the New Testament among the Flame, including to those who live in other countries.
- » Consistent use of the Scriptures in Flame churches, homes and by individuals.
- » The Holy Spirit to transform the lives of all who read or listen to the Flame New Testament. "It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it" (Isaiah 55:11, NLT).

KRAUN*; Africa (31,000)

The Kraun people have had the New Testament for over 10 years, but they wanted the whole Bible. Rejoice that a team has steadily worked on the Old Testament, and each book has been approved by a consultant! They are now reviewing the 39 books to make sure that key terms, punctuation, spelling and other features are consistent. After that, they will revise the New Testament and publish the whole Bible.

Prayer points:

- » Wisdom and alert minds for the team as they review each book. It's a detailed process, and they want to make sure the texts are accurate, clear and sound natural.
- » Spiritual refreshment as the team works closely with God's Word. "The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul" (Psalm 19:7a, NIV).
- » Continued peace after years of tension and conflict; a peace agreement was signed recently. This agreement has brought hope, but much prayer is still needed.

- » The Kraun people to grow and mature as they use the New Testament in their homes, churches and communities.

MARO*; Africa (129,000)

The majority of Maro speakers follow another world religion. Those who choose to follow Christ face persecution from their families and the greater community. Praise God for the translation of his Word into Maro to strengthen, comfort and grow his church.

Prayer points:

- » Strength and perseverance for the Maro team as they translate the New Testament. May the Holy Spirit guide the work and bring peace, unity and a deep love for the people.
- » Safety for the team and the Maro church as they navigate life in the midst of opposition.
- » In this sensitive area, claim Isaiah 9:29 for the Maro people: "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine" (NLT).

MEQA*; Africa (160,000)

Most of the Meqa people follow another majority religion. Believers in Christ often face opposition from family and neighbors. Praise the Lord that the translation team is working to bring the New Testament to Meqa speakers so they can know the one true God.

Prayer points:

- » Safety and protection for the translation team and their families as they work in a challenging and sometimes hostile environment opposed to Christianity.
- » Strength, clear minds and unity as the team works to translate the Meqa New Testament. May they remain committed to the task and reach their goal of publishing the New Testament by 2023.
- » God to draw many Meqa to himself through the translation project, resulting in church growth in the language communities.

QENA*; Africa (86,000)

Amid conflict with neighboring people groups and a community predominantly opposed to Christianity, the translation team works to bring God's Word to the Qena.

Prayer points:

- » God's anointing on the team as they translate the New Testament into Qena.
- » Protection and safety for the team and their families, especially from spiritual attacks. May they endure and remain committed to the task before them.
- » Qena hearts to be transformed through the Scriptures in their language as they read about Jesus Christ. "There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, NLT).

RUNBU*; Africa (48,000)

Praise God that the translation team has completed translating every New Testament book. They have two books left to check with a consultant and 20 books to run software checks on to ensure consistent use of key terms, spelling and other features. Give thanks that a peace accord was signed last year which has reduced tensions after years of civil unrest.

Prayer points:

- » Enduring peace. Pray that the Runbu people will heal and thrive after experiencing trauma and conflict for many years.
- » For the Runbu, who primarily follow another major religion, to know Christ. "... And he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge" (Isaiah 33:6a, ESV).
- » Successful completion of final checks on each New Testament book to meet the goal of typesetting the New Testament by the end of 2022.
- » Renewal of reading groups using available Scriptures; they were cancelled last year due to COVID-19.
- » Transformed lives as people hear Jesus' life-giving words in the "JESUS" film in Runbu communities and in refugee camps with Runbu speakers.

RUPAIQA*; Africa

For several years Finish Line prayer partners have prayed for a replacement to be found for the elderly Rupaïqa church leader who, among other roles, oversaw the translation project for almost 30 years. He was tired and ready to pass on his multiple responsibilities. Praise the Lord, his son has accepted the role. Thank you for praying!

Prayer points:

- » God's wisdom and strength for the new Rupaïqa church leader in all his responsibilities.

» The Holy Spirit to use the provisional version of the Bible that came out a year ago. Local leadership is using it for a couple of years and then will decide whether to revise it. Pray for the Bible to be well received and used.

» Creative ways to disseminate the Bible — through social media, websites, satellite TV broadcasts and personal contacts.

» Isaiah 9:29 to come true for the Rupaïqa people who live in a sensitive area: "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine" (NLT).

TIERFA*; Africa

Praise the Lord that thousands of copies of the Tierfa New Testament are being distributed in several countries in Europe and Africa to the more than one million people who speak Tierfa. A massive summer 2020 distribution could not take place due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, "But the word of God cannot be chained" (2 Timothy 2:9, NLT). Rejoice that an audio recording of the New Testament has also been produced!

Prayer points:

- » Boldness and protection for volunteers distributing the New Testament in countries where Tierfas live.
- » Open borders and travel so the previously planned mass distribution can take place in the summer of 2021.
- » Wide distribution of the audio version on small audio devices and for people to access the online version as well.
- » Wisdom and insight for the team as they translate the Psalms into a natural rhyming pattern.
- » That the stories based on Old Testament prophets that are already translated into Tierfa will attract the attention of those in the majority religion and they will encounter the one true God.

Angola

KIKONGO; Angola (2,000,000)

The Kikongo New Testament, originally published in 1926, was revised in 2019. Now the translation team is making good progress on the Old Testament so 2 million Kikongo speakers will have the entire Bible in their language by 2023!

Prayer points:

- » Health and endurance for the translation team as they draft the Old Testament in Kikongo.
- » Access to the language areas, allowing the team to review the translated materials within the community. The areas have been closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

- » God to open the hearts of the people as they learn about his promises and character through the Old Testament. “And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God’s promises to be fulfilled” (Romans 15:4b, NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ANGOLA

NYANEKA-MWILA; Angola (600,000)

The Nyaneka-Mwila community is a branch of one of Angola’s largest people groups. Decades of civil unrest disrupted previous plans for Bible translation, but in 2014 a group of translators began to translate the New Testament and portions of the Old Testament for their people. The growing church is eager for Scripture in a language that speaks to their hearts.

Prayer points:

- » The Holy Spirit to anoint the translators as they press forward to move each book through the steps of the translation process, including typesetting and printing the New Testament by the end of 2021.
- » Unity and perseverance for the Bible Society of Angola and local churches as they work together to encourage spiritual growth through available Scripture portions.
- » God’s blessing on the new translation office, which is located close to the office consultant.
- » Progress for the literacy program as Nyaneka speakers learn to read and write their language in preparation for the New Testament.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ANGOLA; SEED COMPANYY

SONGO; Angola (150,000)

Teresa, an 80-year-old Songo speaker, said, “We are Songo speakers, and we should have a Bible in our own language. I am very happy to hear that we will have a portion. Though I am tired in age, I have waited a long time for this to happen. God bless you.” Teresa’s dream became a reality at the end of last year when the New Testament was dedicated!

Prayer points:

- » Far reaching distribution of the New Testament among the Songo so many will call on the name of the Lord and be saved: “... everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved” (Acts 2:21, NLT).
- » Continued development of materials to increase literacy among the Songo who desire to read the Scriptures in their language.
- » God’s favor for everyone who has contributed financially to this project. May they have great joy and know that their gifts are producing eternal results.
- » Recruitment of a new translator for the Bible Society of Angola; success of the biannual translator training programs.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ANGOLA; SEED COMPANYY

UMBANGALA; Angola (400,000)

The Umbangala New Testament was typeset and printed in Brazil last year! This is a huge praise because the Brazil team only had half of their staff due to COVID-19. The translation team is working closely with local churches on literacy programs to encourage personal development and Scripture engagement for the Umbangala people.

Prayer points:

- » Health and safety of all donors, translators and consultants involved in ministry with Umbangala speakers.
- » Effective training sessions for translators at the Higher Institute of Theology in the Huíla province, and recruitment of a new translator.
- » More local churches to partner with the Bible Society of Angola to promote Scripture and help support the work financially.
- » The Holy Spirit to soften Umbangala hearts so they will know Christ and apply his Word to their lives. “... I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart” (Ezekiel 36:26, NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ANGOLA

UMBUNDU; Angola (6,000,000)

Umbundu, a trade language spoken by one-third of the population in Angola, was originally used for slave and ivory trade between Ovimbundu people and Portuguese settlers in the 1700s. With the arrival of Catholic missionaries in 1874, Umbundu also became a church language; now it’s the most widely spoken indigenous language in Angola! The Bible Society in Angola launched the Umbundu New Testament on Nov. 25, 2017, and the translation team is working hard to bring them the entire Bible in their language by 2023.

Prayer points:

- » Recruitment of a new translator to join the Umbundu team and receive training at the Higher Institute of Theology in Huíla Province.
- » God’s timing for the team to achieve their goals. Last year they were unable to perform vital checks on the Old Testament draft with reviewers and Umbundu speakers in the communities due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- » The Holy Spirit to stir people’s hearts to long for the entire Bible, and for lasting spiritual fruit as God’s full Word becomes available to Umbundu speakers.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ANGOLA

Benin

AJA; Benin (910,000)

Praise God that the New Testament texts were completed last year despite COVID-19. The team continues to prepare the manuscript for printing so it can reach the Aja people.

Prayer points:

- » Good health and protection from spiritual attacks for the staff and those who support the work as they approach the finish line. “So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up” (Galatians 6:9, NLT).
- » Efficient typesetting and printing process to produce quality books.
- » Motivated and committed volunteers who can be trained as literacy instructors to prepare the Aja church for the Scriptures.
- » Jehovah-jireh to provide funding from within and outside the community for remaining expenses of the project.
- » Good coordination by the dedication committee so that the celebration glorifies the Lord, is well attended and motivates many to read, study and meditate upon his Word.

ALLIANCE FOR THE TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE IN AJA; BIBLE SOCIETY OF BENIN; SIL

IDAASHA; Benin (101,000)

COVID-19 changed plans for many New Testament dedications last year due to travel and crowd restrictions, but it could not dampen the power of God’s Word nor people’s enthusiasm for it. Praise God that even though the Idaasha team could not have a large celebration as they had hoped for on April 4, 2020, a small group dedicated the Idaasha New Testament to the Lord that day and people enthusiastically received it. Of the 8,000 New Testaments printed, 4,000 sold in one month!

Prayer points:

- » Continued wide distribution of the New Testaments into all Idaasha communities. May the entire run of 8,000 sell out.
- » Broad use of the New Testament in homes, churches and communities.
- » Transformed lives as people experience the power of God’s Word. “And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God ... you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers” (1 Thessalonians 2:13, ESV).
- » Vision and perseverance for the translation team as they work on translating the Old Testament.

SEED COMPANY; WYCLIFFE BENIN; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MONKOLÉ; Benin (25,000)

The Monkolé team praises God for the completion of all checking sessions for the Monkolé Bible and that their consultant was healed from cancer! The manuscript will be typeset this year by the team’s coordinator in France and MiDi Bible, a Swiss mission.

Prayer points:

- » Good collaboration on the typesetting process of the Monkolé New Testament.
- » Health and protection for the Monkolé people, especially from COVID-19.
- » God to prepare the Monkolé church for the arrival of the Bible, so that they can grow and be a light to everyone around them. “No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. A lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house” (Luke 8:16, NLT).

SIM INTERNATIONAL

YOM; Benin (300,000)

Praise God that the Yom Bible launched for sale on Aug. 29, 2020, at an intimate ceremony due to COVID-19 regulations. The main translator, who has been living and working among the Yom for forty years, travelled to the U.S. when the manuscript went to the printers; COVID-19 travel restrictions prevented her from returning for the dedication. They plan to have a large community-wide celebration after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted; original plans before COVID-19 included preparations for 1,000 to attend.

Prayer points:

- » A strong desire to read the Bible in Yom by believers and non-believers alike. May each person who reads the Bible in Yom come to know Christ and grow in love for the Scriptures.
- » An increase in literacy classes, so more people can read God’s Word in their own language.
- » Pastors and church members to be faithful in teaching and reading God’s Word so that the Christians will be strengthened in their faith, and that more will be drawn to the Savior.
- » Plans for a community-wide dedication of the Yom Bible.

SIM INTERNATIONAL

Cameroon

AGHEM; Cameroon (60,000)

On May 28, 2020, Aghem pastors and community members held a small dedication of the New Testament in Yaoundé, the capital city. Excited to have the Scriptures, the Aghem did not want to wait for larger celebrations that could only occur after COVID-19 restrictions were lifted.

Prayer points:

- » God’s deliverance in bringing an end to the political crisis and COVID-19, which are causing untold suffering and fear. This will allow the Aghem language communities to gather for a larger and wider reaching dedication of the New Testament.

» Increased distribution of the New Testaments and inventive ideas for Scripture use to help the local community learn to draw their hope from God. Because of the political crisis and COVID-19, almost every family in Aghem has experienced a family death or the destruction of their homes or farms. Many are internally displaced or have family members who have been uprooted.

» God's Word to bring deep peace, hope and confidence as the Aghem people experience Scripture in their language! "But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence" (Jeremiah 17:7, NLT).

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

ALVARE* and ZAVAR*; Cameroon (8,500 and 10,500)

The Alvare and Zavar translation teams are nearing the finish line. This year, the teams will complete translating, typesetting and printing the New Testament. They hope to celebrate the arrival of God's Word in these communities in Cameroon with a dedication ceremony by the end of the year!

Prayer points:

- » Ongoing protection from and eradication of the subversive group that is active in the area, especially as the translators travel to and from villages for checking sessions.
- » Timely completion of the New Testament, from typesetting to sending it for printing.
- » Successful script preparation and recording of a dubbed video of the Gospel of Luke before the New Testament dedication at the end of the year.
- » Good health for team members and their families as they press through to completion.

SIL

AWING; Cameroon (20,000)

Many people have left the Awing community to settle in safer areas of Cameroon due to political unrest. Praise God for several mini-dedications of the Awing New Testament, despite the difficulty in organizing them. Praise him also for successful distribution efforts to deliver the books to dispersed Awing speakers.

Prayer points:

- » Protection for Awing church leaders as they help their communities place their trust in God during civil unrest and COVID-19.
- » Wisdom regarding larger dedications, increased distribution of the New Testaments and plans for a digital version so more Awing can hear the Good News.
- » A speedy end to the political unrest which has caused many people to leave the community and settle in safer areas of the country.

» An outpouring of God's peace on the Awing people as they receive Scripture in their language for the first time. "I am leaving you with a gift — peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid" (John 14:27, NLT).

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

BAMUNKA; Cameroon (31,000)

The Bamunka translation team continues to work together via the internet from a Bamunka village, Ireland and the U.S. Praise the Lord that the New Testament pre-checks, book introductions and other pre-publication tasks are complete. The team also recorded five books — Galatians, Ephesians and 1-3 John — and made good progress testing the writing system which includes tone markers. Rejoice that literacy work is ongoing despite the sociopolitical unrest and COVID-19 restrictions in the country.

Prayer points:

- » That God will strengthen the translation team to finish the New Testament translation by the end of 2021.
- » Bamunka church leaders to develop an interest in trauma healing and create Scripture engagement opportunities, including trauma healing groups.
- » Because of COVID-19, travel has been limited to walking and bicycles. Pray that God will provide an easier way for travel to literacy and trauma healing classes in distant locations.

SIL

BUWAL; Cameroon (20,000)

Thank the Lord the New Testament draft is complete despite several changes to the translation team after the loss of two members. The newly formed team is determined to bring God's Word to the Buwal people.

Prayer points:

- » Harmony and a focus on God and his Word for the new translation team.
- » A swift end to insurgent activities that threaten the security of the whole region.
- » Transformation of Christians in the community as they interact with God's Word in their language to be so evident that many who do not know the Lord will be attracted to the Christian faith.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

ESIMBI; Cameroon (20,000)

The Esimbi people live in 10 isolated villages scattered across a landscape of hills and valleys. True Christians are few; most Esimbi follow a traditional African religion, and churchgoers hesitate to disturb a God they believe is far away. Access to Scripture in Esimbi will draw them to their loving Father. The Esimbi translation team is working diligently to provide the New Testament for their communities during a time of severe civil unrest. Many people have been displaced, and progress on the translation is difficult due to COVID-19.

Prayer points:

- » The Esimbi put their trust in God as they face the challenges of COVID-19 and intense civil unrest. May they have the same peace as the psalmist: “The LORD is for me, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me? (Psalm 118:6, NLT).
- » A quick end to both insurgent activity and COVID-19 in Esimbi communities.
- » Protection and vitality for the translation team as they work in unity to provide an excellent translation of God’s Word.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY;
SEED COMPANY

KARANG; Cameroon (18,000)

Praise the Lord for allowing the translation team to complete the New Testament and distribute 33 large print, easy-to-read copies to each congregation that uses the Karang language and to other key individuals. The team also completed an audio recording of the New Testament, which is vital to reaching the Karang because the majority do not read.

Prayer points:

- » Timely shipping of 25 more copies of the Karang large print New Testament to Cameroon so every village in the language community will have at least one copy.
- » Development of an internet site, Kusol Karang (which means, “the voice of the Karang”), where Karang who have access to the internet will have digital versions of audio Scriptures.
- » Successful transportation of 150 micro SD cards with the audio New Testament to Cameroon.
- » The listening ears of the Karang to gain God’s wisdom and understanding as they hear his Word in their language! “Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding” (Proverbs 2:2, NLT).

SIL

MISAJE CLUSTER PROJECT — *Chung, Kemedzung, Mungog, Naami, Nchane and Saari languages*; Cameroon (46,200)

More than half of northwestern Cameroon’s Misaje people are Christians, but few have separated themselves from traditions involving spirit worship. Translators are working hard to provide the New Testament, portions of the Old Testament and the “JESUS” film for these six languages. The Misaje Cluster has a total of 23 translators and 15 staff members. Give thanks that despite sociopolitical unrest, God has protected the translators and the work has not stopped!

Prayer points:

- » Wisdom and perseverance for the translation teams.
- » Provision for funding of a nine month extension for the team so they can complete their goals.
- » God’s continued protection of the translators and their families.

SEED COMPANY; SIL

MOGHAMO; Cameroon (183,000)

Located in rural western Cameroon, Moghamo language communities are already experiencing transformation through the New Testament translation project. One translator shared, “Every time I’m at the translation table with the team, I find comfort, peace and hope.” As the local people apply Scripture to their lives, they are questioning traditional religious practices that have caused harm.

Prayer points:

- » Health, strength and safety for the Moghamo translation team and their families so they can focus and continue to make timely progress on the New Testament.
- » God’s supernatural peace over the language communities as they are greatly affected by civil unrest and COVID-19.
- » God’s Word to continue to transform Moghamo speakers during the translation process. “All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right” (2 Timothy 3:16, NLT).
- » Unity in the community as they begin to organize a dedication for late 2021 or early 2022.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY;
SEED COMPANY

MOKPWE; Cameroon (20,000)

Amidst intense civil conflict, God continues to move among the Mokpwe! Church and community leaders are highly involved in the translation project because they want the Scriptures in their language. The team has been checking with a consultant, and together they are in the process of thoroughly reviewing the translation, checking for accuracy, clarity and naturalness, and looking for omissions, extraneous thoughts or possible misconceptions.

Prayer points:

- » Endurance for the translation team and the consultant — physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually — for the lengthy and detailed process of consultant checking.
- » Continued zeal from the Mokpwe church and community leaders to see the entire New Testament translated into their language.
- » An end to COVID-19 and the social and political unrest in the area.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

MPUMPONG; Cameroon (45,000)

Praise the Lord for the completion of the Gospels and the book of Acts in Mpumpong! These portions have been dedicated and are in the hands of the local churches. The team continues to work on translating the remaining books of the New Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Churches to use the translated portions and people to testify with the prophet Jeremiah: “When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight” (Jeremiah 15:16a, NIV).
- » God’s Spirit to enlighten the minds of the translation team as they complete the remaining books and clearly convey the meaning of these valuable Scriptures to Mpumpong speakers.
- » Continuous availability of translation consultants until the end of the project.
- » Protection over the team and their families and that they will “... be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power” (Ephesians 6:10, NLT).

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

NULIBIE; Cameroon (6,400)

The Nulibie translation team continues to make good progress on the New Testament. To accomplish important consultant checking sessions, the translation team in Bafia and the consultant in Yaoundé, the capital, are collaborating via the internet.

Prayer points:

- » Alertness and attention to detail as the team works with the consultant to ensure the Nulibie understand the text and the translation accurately reflects the original Greek.

- » An increase in literacy activities within the community so more people can read the Word of God in Nulibie.
- » Hearts prepared to receive his Word as the work gets closer to the end. “And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God’s word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest” (Luke 8:15, NLT).
- » God’s provision for donors to the project so it can proceed smoothly through to completion. “But Jesus looked at them and said to them, ‘With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible’” (Matthew 19:26, NLT).

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

PANA; Cameroon (100,000)

Pana speakers live on the border of Central African Republic, Cameroon and Chad, but translators are working on this project in Cameroon. Travel restrictions due to COVID-19 reduced in-person contact and greatly affected progress on the New Testament. However, consultants made some progress with online checking.

Prayer points:

- » More translation consultants to help check the Scriptures.
- » Protection of the translators as they travel to work for checking sessions. Last year some suffered car and motorbike accidents.
- » Stable power and internet connections since most of the work is now online.
- » A deep spiritual awakening of the community as the New Testament translation nears completion.
- » Use of available portions of the Scriptures by church leaders and local believers in anticipation of the coming of the entire New Testament.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

PINYIN; Cameroon (24,600)

Praise the Lord, the Pinyin community dedicated their New Testament on Aug. 30, 2020, in Yaoundé. The translation team also produced a Scripture app to accompany the books which will serve as a tool to reach Pinyin people all over the world.

Prayer points:

- » God’s Word to bring peace, hope and comfort to the hearts of the Pinyin; many have lost hope because the intensity of the political crisis in their communities has not reduced.
- » Use of the Pinyin New Testament and Scripture app by churches, families and individuals for spiritual growth and strengthening communities.
- » An end to the political crisis and a return to peace in the area.

» Some Pinyin people have moved from their villages to towns for safety. Others battle ongoing insecurity. As they use God's Word, may they come to know Christ. "... And he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge ..." (Isaiah 33:6, ESV).

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

TCHOUVOK; Cameroon (15,000)

The Tchouvok area experienced an increase in security issues when the team began New Testament consultant checks and revisions for clarity and accuracy. In spite of attacks by insurgents and slower progress due to travel restrictions from COVID-19, consultant checks were completed in late 2020 and the New Testament is now being typeset.

Prayer points:

- » Concentration and focus for the team as they work with a typesetter to format the New Testament. Renewed strength to keep them alert in their decisions about columns, fonts and page layout, and as they proofread the manuscript multiple times.
- » Health and safety for the Tchouvok people, and an end to the insurgent activity in their communities.
- » Planning for a dedication of the Tchouvok New Testament in late 2021 or early 2022 that will launch a new era of excitement, renewal and revival among the people so the kingdom of God may be strengthened and spread.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

TUNEN; Cameroon (79,700)

On March 14, 2020, just three days before a government-issued ban on gatherings due to COVID-19, a heavily attended dedication took place in NdiKinimeki, one of three areas planning events to welcome the New Testament in Tunen. These new restrictions hindered the language communities in Yengui and Nitoukou from celebrating corporately. Praise God that many in all three locations have received the books and can now say with the psalmist, "How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey" (Psalm 119:103, NLT).

Prayer points:

- » Transformation of churches, families and individuals as they use God's Word in a language and format that speaks to their hearts.
- » Continued distribution of the New Testament in Tunen communities and Scripture engagement efforts to help people interact with and effectively use the treasure that is God's Word.

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

WEH; Cameroon (8,000)

The Weh live in the Anglophone region of Cameroon where civil unrest makes daily life difficult. With the spread of COVID-19, the situation has grown worse. The Weh translation team has a goal of completing the consultant checks and submitting the New Testament for typesetting this year! They hope to have a dedication early in 2022.

Prayer points:

- » Diligence and fortitude for the meticulous consultant checking of the remaining books of the New Testament.
- » Weh churches and community leaders to collaborate and make preparations for a culturally meaningful dedication of the New Testament.
- » God's peace in the area, and specifically an end to the insurgency and COVID-19 crises.
- » Prepared Weh hearts to receive God's Word and be transformed. "... When you received his message from us, you didn't think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as the very word of God — which, of course, it is. And this word continues to work in you who believe" (1 Thessalonians 2:13, NLT).

CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

Central African Republic

BANDA-LINDA; Central African Republic (183,000)

On Feb. 25, 2020, a translator on the Banda-Linda team lost his older sister. Members of the team supported him morally, spiritually and financially. The translator and his family were amazed at the outpouring of love. The "JESUS" film was shown in Banda-Linda at the memorial service, and some attendees made a commitment to walk with Jesus. The place of mourning was transformed into a place of evangelism.

Prayer points:

- » More consultants to work on the five books waiting to be consultant checked before the New Testament layout is prepared.
- » Accuracy in the Banda-Linda New Testament typesetting process scheduled for the end of 2021; it is a tedious and meticulous job.
- » Health and safety for the translation team. One translator had a serious motorcycle accident and a coordinator underwent surgery last year.
- » Finances and health for two translators as they complete training in specialized areas.
- » Wisdom for authorities in the region so peace will be restored and the team can return to work closely with the Banda-Linda community.

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SEED COMPANY; SIL

BHOGOTO; Central African Republic (130,000)

The Bhogoto translation team made good progress last year while using remote translation consulting for the first time! With a phone and remote desktop in two locations, SIL IT specialists trained team members on Skype and Paratext Live. Team verification checks and read-throughs of several books were completed in preparation for consultant checking.

Prayer points:

- » Good communication and feedback as the team checks Psalms with the community.
- » Endurance for the team and the consultant as they check Psalms, Galatians, Philippians, Colossians, James and Revelation. They hope to send the Bhogoto New Testament to the typesetter by the end of 2021.
- » Creative and meaningful Scripture engagement and literacy activities in 17 locations, especially among religious leaders and women.
- » Successful recording of the film “Walking with Jesus” as the team works with technicians and 16 local Bhogoto who have been selected as voice actors.
- » A new funding source and stable financial partnership to be found for this established and successful project.

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SIL; WYCLIFFE SWITZERLAND

GBAYA-BOSSANGO; Central African Republic (200,000)

The Gbaya-Bossango New Testament manuscript was approved for publication on July 28, 2020, despite delays due to COVID-19. The team worked with a consultant in Pennsylvania and a remote typesetter in Switzerland to prepare the manuscript for printing. The Gbaya New Testament will be dedicated early 2021! Due to unrest in their region, the translation team has been based in the capital city for several years. Praise the Lord that it is now safe for the team and their families to move back to the area to promote the Scriptures and help distribute them when a dedication takes place.

Prayer points:

- » Logistics, including timing and finances, for the team to relocate from Bangui, the capital city, to the language region.
- » Wisdom for church and community leaders as they prepare for the dedication of the New Testament in Gbaya, and wide distribution of the New Testament.
- » Strategic community mobilization and successful Scripture engagement workshops and literacy courses.
- » Endurance for a translator, Nezoufei, who is training to become a translation consultant in addition to his role on the Gbaya team.

- » Timely production of the Gbeya New Testament audio recording with Faith Comes By Hearing planned for April 2021.

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SEED COMPANY; SIL

KABA; Central African Republic (83,000)

Praise God that the Kaba New Testament was typeset last year in Yaoundé, Cameroon, and the files sent to the printer in South Korea. The New Testament will be dedicated early this year!

Prayer points:

- » Production of an excellent audio recording of the New Testament in Kaba that will clearly communicate with listeners by partner organization, Faith Comes By Hearing, scheduled for April 2021.
- » Expansion of literacy classes and Scripture engagement workshops in the Kaba region so that many will learn to read and interact with the Kaba New Testament.
- » Successful relocation of the team from Bangui, the capital city, to the language region after many years of absence due to civil unrest. The move is scheduled to take place in early 2021 in preparation for the arrival of the New Testament!
- » Discernment for church and community leaders as they prepare for the dedication and develop a distribution strategy.
- » Open doors for the Kaba community who live across the border in southern Chad to participate in the celebration. They have also been waiting for the New Testament!

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SEED COMPANY; SIL

MPYEMO; Central African Republic (29,000)

The Mpyemo translation team is rejoicing in the completion of the New Testament draft and is working with consultants to check the manuscript. In addition to the need for translation consultants, this project is in a funding crisis.

Prayer points:

- » Provision of more translation consultants for this area. The Gospel of John, Hebrews and Revelation are scheduled to be checked the first half of 2021.
- » The Lord to raise up finances for the project until the New Testament is published. Last year when previous funding fell through, he provided two unexpected sources to cover needs for 2020.
- » Beneficial additional training for translator Kilo as he strengthens his skills, and team coordinator Pastor Mathurin as he prepares to help other translation projects in Scripture engagement.

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SEED COMPANY; SIL

NGBUGU; Central African Republic (95,000)

Give thanks that remote typesetting of the Ngbugu New Testament with MiDi Bible in Switzerland went smoothly last year despite fears that the internet would be insufficient. This was a “first-ever” experience for any Central African Association for Bible Translation and Literacy based project! The Ngbugu are planning a dedication for early 2021.

Prayer points:

- » Strengthening of collaborative relationships between the translation team and the Catholic Church in the area to widen the audience for the New Testament.
- » Peace in the Ngbugu region, and for the communities to return to their churches and villages. Some Ngbugu live in refugee camps due to rebel activity in the area.
- » Endurance for a Faith Comes By Hearing team as they record the New Testament. Pray that the equipment will work well, resulting in an excellent recording.
- » Safety and wisdom for the translation team as they relocate to their home area in the Ngbugu language region to hold Scripture engagement activities and prepare the Ngbugu community to receive the New Testament.
- » God’s guidance for the committee planning the dedication to choose the best date and place when the most people can attend.

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SIL; WYCLIFFE UK

NZAKARA; Central African Republic (50,000)

The last translation consultant visit to the Central African Republic before COVID-19 was in February 2020. During this month-long consultant visit, the Nzakara team was able to work with the consultant through the Gospel of Matthew and 2-3 John, including the book introductions, and portions of Acts. God gave amazing progress! The team has prepared nine more books for checking, but there is a lack of translation consultants in the area.

Prayer points:

- » Successful completion of consultant checks of nine remaining books. They would like to typeset the New Testament in 2022.
- » God to call more people to the work of translation consulting to meet the great need for this important job.
- » Successful literacy efforts, including publishing literacy guides, primers and level one books for literacy classes. They plan to train literacy leaders and establish literacy groups in multiple towns.
- » Prosperous Scripture engagement efforts. They want to establish and train a distribution committee to effectively present the New Testaments, the audio Scriptures and the “JESUS” film to a greater area.

- » Insurgents to leave the Nzakara region so people can enjoy peace and there is freedom for the translation team to return there to live.

CENTRAL AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SIL

Chad

GABRI MAJA; Chad (73,000)

Mysticism and animism have a stronghold over this region, and people live in fear of spirits. Churches are actively working toward the day when they will see everyone impacted through Scripture in their language. Praise the Lord for provision of a new office. Although the team is slightly behind schedule because of COVID-19, they rest in the Lord’s perfect timing.

Prayer points:

- » Lifting of travel restrictions due to COVID-19 so that translated portions may be tested within the Gabri Maja language communities.
- » Efficient completion of the remaining consultant checks.
- » God’s Word to bring peace to the Gabri Maja so they can live without the fears that come from mysticism and animism. “Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine” (Isaiah 43:1, NLT).
- » Health and safety for the translation team members and their families so they can focus on translation tasks.

SEED COMPANY; SIL

GUERGUIKO; Chad (25,500)

Praise God, the printed New Testaments arrived in Chad in February 2020! The dedication ceremony, which was scheduled for April 2020, was delayed due to COVID-19. The team also developed a smartphone app for the Guerguiko New Testament which allows users to read text and listen to the audio recording at the same time. This helps early readers improve their ability to read Scripture!

Prayer points:

- » Wisdom for the Guerguiko community to know when and how to schedule a dedication and begin distributing the New Testaments and the audio version to language communities.
- » God to prepare “good soil” so that when the Guerguiko read and listen to God’s Word, they will “hear God’s word, cling to it, and ... produce a huge harvest” (Luke 8:15b, NLT).
- » Many Guerguiko Christians to faithfully read their New Testaments and grow spiritually.

COORDINATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION IN THE GUERA; SIL

KERA; Chad (98,900)

Since the Kera New Testament dedication in February 2006, the church has tripled! Enthusiasm is high for literacy and Scripture engagement activities. An Old Testament team began their work in 2008. The team consists of two Kera exegetes/translators (who ensure faithfulness of the translation to the Biblical texts) and another Kera translator. Praise God for the good progress they made last year when funding was reduced during COVID-19. They hope to complete the Old Testament by the end of this year.

Prayer points:

- » Perseverance, strength and unity for the translation team as they work step by step to complete the Old Testament translation.
- » Travel restrictions to be lifted so the Bible Society of Chad will be able to complete their final checks.
- » Production of an app for the Kera New Testament and continued development of the Kera website so dispersed people can have access to Kera Scripture, literacy and booklets.
- » Impactful Scripture engagement workshops planned for a number of regions. The workshops deal with cultural experiences in light of Scripture and really touch people's lives.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF CHAD; SEED COMPANY; SIL

MANGO; Chad (154,000)

The Mango people live in more than 100 villages. Travel between villages is extremely difficult in the rainy season, and during the dry season, temperatures regularly reach 120 degrees. Mango Christians try to make an influence, but it's very difficult because most people are animists who follow traditional religions. Praise God, the printed New Testaments arrived in Chad in February 2020! But the dedication ceremony scheduled for April 2020 was delayed due to COVID-19.

Prayer points:

- » Wisdom for community leaders to know when and how to schedule a dedication and begin distribution of the Mango New Testaments.
- » Consultant checking opportunities for the main exegete, Miclo, so he can gain experience to also serve as a translation consultant.
- » God's Spirit to anoint the upcoming dedication celebration and cause churches and believers to accept and use the Scriptures so that people's hearts will be transformed through Scripture in their language.

CHADIAN ASSOCIATION OF LINGUISTICS, LITERACY AND BIBLE TRANSLATION; SEED COMPANY

MIGAAMA; Chad (45,000)

Praise the Lord for completion of the pre-publication checks of parallel passages, key terms, a glossary and an introduction to the New Testament. The translation team is working with a typesetter in the capital city of N'Djamena, which is the last step before printing.

Prayer points:

- » Good concentration and wisdom as they typeset the New Testament, a process involving many formatting decisions.
- » Wisdom in choosing a print shop, and a mistake-free printing process that results in quality books.
- » Migaama hearts to hunger spiritually for God and his Word. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled" (Matthew 5:6, NIV).

COORDINATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION IN THE GUERA; SIL

Côte d'Ivoire

KRU CLUSTER PROJECT — Gagnoa Bété, Godié and Guéré languages; Côte d'Ivoire (706,000)

Two of the language groups in the Kru Cluster are preparing their communities for the arrival of the New Testament! The complete New Testaments in Guéré and in Godié have been sent for printing. The teams are encouraging local churches and communities to come together to organize a God-honoring dedication in 2021. The Gagnoa Bété New Testament team is in the process of doing the final checks for clarity, accuracy and consistency in spelling and punctuation.

Prayer points:

- » Healing for one of the Guéré translators who has faced many difficulties, including eye surgery.
- » Many more people to learn to read in Guéré, Godié and Bété Gagnoa in preparation for receiving the New Testament.
- » Resolution of orthography issues in the Bété Gagnoa language and application to the manuscript so that final checks will go well and typesetting will be completed in 2021.
- » Strong communication skills for Scripture engagement committees as they prepare the communities to receive the New Testaments.
- » An excitement and growing interest among the language communities to dedicate their New Testaments, and increased church involvement in planning the dedications.

SIL

LORON; Côte d'Ivoire/Burkina Faso (10,000)

Praise the Lord for the completion of Galatians and Ephesians last year. Both books were approved for printing by a translation consultant. The final consultant check on 2 Corinthians had to be postponed because of COVID-19. Translators also completed several more sets of literacy teaching materials. The Loron believers are enthusiastic about learning to read their language and eagerly await the arrival of the New Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Preparation of Philippians, Colossians and 1-2 Thessalonians for final consultant checks.
- » Strong leadership skills for Pastor Donald as he heads up the translation project.
- » Successful literacy classes in 15 different Loron language communities.
- » Many to know the God who created them and grow in their faith through the Scriptures.

ETHNOS360

NYARAFOLO; Côte d'Ivoire (60,000)

The Nyarafolo team praises the Lord for the completion of the typesetting process! New Testament and Old Testament portions (the Pentateuch and Psalms) were sent for printing last year. During COVID-19 travel restrictions, the team put their energies into preparing new literature to complement the primer and the Bible to help readers make progress. As restrictions were lifted, the team diligently taught Nyarafolo believers in various churches and villages to read so that when the Scriptures arrive, the Nyarafolo will be ready to read them.

Prayer points:

- » Permission from the publisher to translate a Sunday school curriculum used in some churches from French into Nyarafolo. This would meet a huge need as most Nyarafolo do not speak French.
- » Wise scheduling, organization and funding for the dedication of the Nyarafolo New Testament and Old Testament portions so the event will be a powerful testimony in the wider community.
- » Scripture engagement activities and literacy training to be fully funded so the language communities can read and understand God's Word.

SEED COMPANY; WORLD VENTURE

PALAKA; Côte d'Ivoire (9,000)

The Palaka translation team faced many obstacles in completing the final read-through of the New Testament: potential advancing threats from insurgents in the north, COVID-19 travel restrictions and volatile elections. Two team members on furlough in the U.S. were not able to return to Africa due to COVID-19. They plan to focus on developing a functioning literacy program and completing the final public read-through in several villages when they are able to return.

Prayer points:

- » Provision for a typesetter and recording technicians to provide God's Word in written and audio formats as soon as possible. Development of a functioning literacy program so that the Palaka will be able to read and engage with the Scriptures in their language.
- » Peace and stability in the country so the team is able to teach and disciple the Palaka, and if needed, wisdom for how to do this remotely.
- » For teachers to disciple others to become teachers, for many to share the gospel and for hundreds to enter into the family of God through the believers' witness.

ETHNOS360

Democratic Republic of Congo

BUDU-KOYA; Democratic Republic of the Congo (96,000)

The Budu-Koya translation team achieved their goals for last year even though COVID-19 travel restrictions forced them to work remotely. They are thankful for successful technical checks and typesetting of the New Testament, and they anticipate printing, dedicating and distributing the New Testament this year!

Prayer points:

- » Quality printing and safe transportation of the New Testament to the Budu-Koya language communities this year.
- » Far-reaching distribution of the New Testaments so many Budu-Koya will hear the Good News in their language and grow in their faith and unbelievers will turn to God.
- » Creativity for the translation team and the local churches as they work together to encourage spiritual growth through the use of the Budu-Koya Scriptures, especially during COVID-19.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL CENTER FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

BUDU-NITA; Democratic Republic of the Congo (169,700)

The Budu-Nita translation team had a productive year in 2020; they completed final checks, worked remotely with a typesetter and sent the New Testament for printing. They are looking forward to a dedication this year and hope to find creative ways to distribute the New Testaments in light of COVID-19 restrictions.

Prayer points:

- » Quality printing, binding, and safe and timely delivery of the New Testament to the Budu-Nita communities to be used by churches, families and individuals.
- » Discernment for local church and community leaders regarding the timing and style of the upcoming New Testament dedication.

- » Extensive and safe distribution of the Budu-Nlita New Testaments. May believers grow and be strengthened in their faith and many unbelievers submit their hearts and lives to Jesus Christ.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL CENTER FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

BUNGOFU CLUSTER PROJECT — Budja, Fulu, NGOMBE North and Ngombe South languages; Democratic Republic of the Congo (677,000)

Praise the Lord for the completion of the “JESUS” film scripts in the four languages of the BuNgoFu Cluster project last year! The production of the film, however, was postponed due to COVID-19. The BuNgoFu team hopes to complete a New Testament in each of these languages by the end of 2022. The translation teams face challenges, but they have hope: “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible” (Matthew 5:18, NLT).

Prayer points:

- » Adequate funds for the translation project.
- » Uninterrupted internet in the main translation office, which is essential for timely communication.
- » Completion of the “JESUS” film when COVID-19 travel restrictions allow the production team to enter the country.
- » Local churches and communities to actively engage with and promote the translated Scriptures.
- » The Holy Spirit to stir the hearts of the Budja, Fulu, Ngombe North and Ngombe South speakers with a deep longing for the truth of God’s Word. “Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth” (John 17:17, NLT).

CONGOLESE ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY; SEED COMPANY

FULIIRU; Democratic Republic of the Congo (400,000)

Although the Fuliiru churches were disappointed to postpone their April 2020 dedication of the entire Bible due to COVID-19, they are thankful to have the Word of God in their language. Local pastors are using the Scriptures in small groups and broadcasting Scripture readings over the radio to encourage Christians. The Fuliiru community is enthusiastically using the translated Word of God!

Prayer points:

- » The good seed of the Scriptures to be planted widely and watered well so it will bear much fruit as it is distributed and broadcast on the radio in language communities.
- » A stable security situation in the Fuliiru region; may God spare the Fuliiru community from the insurgent attacks.

- » Holistic transformation of the Fuliiru community as they apply the Word of God to their lives.
- » Wisdom for church and community leaders in rescheduling the Fuliiru Bible dedication after COVID-19 travel restrictions are lifted.

SIL

KOMO; Democratic Republic of the Congo (614,000)

Praise the Lord, the Komo translation team worked virtually with a typesetter in Holland last year to complete the typesetting of the New Testament! As the Komo language communities look forward to receiving God’s Word this year, the team is seeking creative ways to promote Scripture use in Komo communities in light of COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Prayer points:

- » A good print job and seamless transportation of the New Testaments to Komo communities; wide distribution of the Komo New Testament.
- » Wisdom for church and community leaders in planning a dedication ceremony to honor the Lord and celebrate the New Testament in Komo.
- » The safe return of translators to the language communities, which are more than 400 miles away, so they can increase awareness of the Scriptures and promote their use in churches, homes and communities.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL CENTER FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

LIKA; Democratic Republic of the Congo (80,000)

The Lika community postponed the dedication of their newly published New Testament due to COVID-19 last year. They are waiting to hold the celebration until COVID-19 travel restrictions are lifted and life begins to return to normal. Praise God the team completed the New Testament without serious obstacles, and the pastor, who is director of the Lika project, was healed from COVID-19!

Prayer points:

- » Wisdom and insight for the planning and timing of the Lika New Testament dedication.
- » A new and effective distribution strategy for the New Testaments in light of COVID-19.
- » The community to remain thirsty to receive the Bible while waiting for a public dedication ceremony.
- » For God to prepare the hearts of people to integrate the use and study of Scripture into their daily lives and their churches.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL CENTER FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY

OMI; Democratic Republic of the Congo (155,000)

Praise the Lord the Omi translation team completed the final edits of the New Testament, largely due to receiving new computers. A lack of stable internet in language communities hindered plans for typesetting. The team is hoping to secure Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) equipment to provide two-way communication and enable them to proceed with typesetting the Omi New Testament remotely.

Prayer points:

- » Provision of VSAT kits and ample internet bandwidth to support the work of typesetting the Omi New Testament.
- » Good communication skills for the rigorous typesetting process as the translation team works with a remote typesetter on size and style of print and overall layout and design of the New Testament.
- » God's grace for the printing process and transportation of the Omi New Testament so it can be published and dedicated this year! "... The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results" (James 5:16, NLT).

SIL

UBANGI CLUSTER PROJECT — Mono, Ngbandi-Ngiri and Pagabete languages; Democratic Republic of the Congo (354,000)

The Ubangi Cluster includes three language groups: Mono, Ngbandi-Ngiri and Pagabete. Praise the Lord for the completion and printing of the New Testament for each of these languages last year! They hope to dedicate the books this year if COVID-19 restrictions decrease.

Prayer points:

- » Approval of customs documents for shipping the New Testaments from South Korea to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to each language community.
- » Perseverance and attention to detail as the team works on scripting the "JESUS" film in nine Democratic Republic of the Congo languages.
- » Successful planning of the New Testament dedications in the midst of COVID-19 restrictions.
- » Health and well-being of the translation teams. The Ngbandi-Ngiri project coordinator suffers from very high blood pressure, the Mono team is grieving the loss of one of their translators who passed away and each translator is trusting God for future employment when the projects are completed.
- » Peace in the country and substantial distribution of New Testaments in the language communities; that the Lord would "... accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20, NLT).

CONGOLESE ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY;
SEED COMPANY

East Africa

DEKAMO*; East Africa (980,000)

Ninety percent of the Dekamo adhere to another majority religion, but acceptance of the Scripture translation project is growing as the people relate to stories in the Old Testament. They are enthusiastic about having the Scripture in Dekamo. Praise the Lord for the completion of the "JESUS" film and the typesetting of the New Testament, which has been sent for printing.

Prayer points:

- » Timely approval of all necessary documents for the Dekamo translation team members from other countries to work in the country.
- » For God to redeem time lost due to COVID-19 and make a way for consultations to be rescheduled.
- » A deep thankfulness and understanding of God and his great love for the Dekamo as they view the "JESUS" film and hear and read Scripture in their language! "Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness" (Colossians 2:7, NLT).

PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS

MOROGORO CLUSTER PROJECT — Arew* and Omaraz* languages; East Africa (1,126,000)

Over half of the Arew people and 95% of the Omaraz people follow a major world religion. Many inherited an affiliation with ancestral spirits from their grandparents. Praise the Lord that the New Testament in both languages has been typeset and sent to the printer. The "JESUS" film has also been completed in Arew and Omaraz!

Prayer points:

- » Rescheduling consultations that were unable to take place last year due to COVID-19.
- » Translation team members from other countries to be granted access to live in the country so they can continue working in the Arew and Omaraz language communities.
- » The Holy Spirit to work in Arew and Omaraz lives so they will declare with the psalmist, "The very essence of your words is truth ..." (Psalm 119:160, NLT).

PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS

Equatorial Guinea

FA D'AMBU; Equatorial Guinea (9,500)

Praise the Lord that the Fa D'ambu translation team finalized and prepared the New Testament for typesetting and printing last year! Despite computer problems which affected the quality of the initial audio recording, translator Bernardino is committed to completing a high quality audio recording of the New Testament. They would like to have the recording available with the printed New Testament at the dedication in 2021, as having the Scriptures in audio form will be critical for the Fa d'Ambu community.

Prayer points:

- » Health, strength and anointing for translator Bernardino while he fulfills many responsibilities, including plans for the dedication and completion of the audio version of the New Testament, Lord willing, by the end of March 2021.
- » Community involvement in planning the Fa D'ambu New Testament dedication.
- » Many Fa d'Ambu people to be transformed by God's power and grace as they receive the Good News in their language.

PROMOTORA ESPAÑOLA DE LINGÜÍSTICA; SEED COMPANY; SIL

Ethiopia

AARI; Ethiopia (290,000)

The Aari received the New Testament in their language in 1997. Soon they will also receive the Old Testament and a revised New Testament!

Prayer points:

- » A smooth print job that results in clear print and strong binding for the Latin and Ethiopic script editions.
- » The community to find creative ways to raise funds for printing and shipping costs.
- » Wisdom for the committee planning a dedication as God guides them to a location and time when many can attend.
- » Wide and effective distribution so all Aari people will have access to God's life-transforming Word. Pray that the Aari people will "write [his words] deep within [their] heart" (Proverbs 7:3, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

AMHARIC; Ethiopia (17,418,000)

Amharic speakers have had access to Scripture for many years, but older versions are often difficult to understand. The newly published modern Amharic Bible and an online version will be dedicated this year!

Prayer points:

- » Timely completion of the printing process for the Amharic Scriptures and preparations for a Bible dedication this year.

» Many to access the Bible and be drawn by the Holy Spirit to know Christ personally. With over 17 million speakers, it is particularly important that this new Bible is available online.

» The Bible to be well received by the Catholic community in Ethiopia. That it will be promoted and used in homes and churches all across the country, resulting in transformed lives committed to Christ.

» Peace and stability in Ethiopia. Praise God for his mercy as COVID-19 was not as widespread as predicted in the country.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; SEED COMPANY

AWNGI; Ethiopia (788,576)

Claim the truth of Ephesians 3:20 for the Awngi translation team: "Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think" (NLT).

Prayer points:

- » Opportunity for the team to work with a typesetter to prepare the manuscript for publication. Last year COVID-19 did not allow the team to work with the typesetter as planned.
- » A smooth publication process resulting in quality books.
- » Far reaching distribution of the Awngi New Testament. May the Word of the Lord be read diligently and result in transformed lives. "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think" (Romans 12:2a, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES FELLOWSHIP; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

BAISO; Ethiopia (10,350)

Although exposed to Christianity for many years, the Baiso have never had Scripture in their language. COVID-19, flooding of Lake Abaya and a plant disease which damaged banana crops all impacted their communities last year. The translation process, although slowed by these unavoidable situations, continued, and the team finished their New Testament manuscript checks.

Prayer points:

- » Energy for the typesetting team to complete this detailed process where many formatting decisions are made.
- » God's blessing on the printing process and that the equipment will work well.
- » May God surprise the team with his abundant provision as they look to him for funds to publish and distribute the New Testament.

» Protection for the Baiso communities from COVID-19 and other unforeseen events. May the Baiso say with the psalmist, “Though I am surrounded by troubles, you will protect me from the anger of my enemies. You reach out your hand, and the power of your right hand saves me” (Psalm 138:7, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

BENCH; Ethiopia (370,600)

The Bench New Testament was published in 1990, but people still longed to have the rich history and deep truths of God taught and experienced by the patriarchs and prophets in the Old Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of the typesetting for the entire Bench Bible. The process was delayed due to COVID-19 last year.
- » God to provide the funds for the publication of the Bible and delivery to Bench communities.
- » Discernment for church and community leaders as they plan a dedication for the Bible that honors the Lord and encourages use of the Scriptures.

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

DIRAYTA; Ethiopia (142,750)

The Dirayta New Testament, the book of Genesis and a children’s Bible are getting closer to publication! The translation team has completed their editing and checks, and the Scriptures are ready for printing.

Prayer points:

- » A seamless printing process for the Dirayta New Testament and Genesis and for the safe arrival of the new books in Ethiopia.
- » Literacy classes to resume so that Dirayta people who participated can continue their learning, which was postponed due to COVID-19.
- » Health, resilience and provision of new jobs for the translation team as they transition to new roles upon completion of the translation work.
- » Completion of the Lion Children’s Bible and adequate funding for printing 2,000 copies in Latin script and 2,000 copies in Ethiopic script.

DELK-NORWAY; ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-SOUTH WEST SYNOD; FINNISH LUTHERAN MISSION; SIL

DIZIN; Ethiopia (52,000)

The Dizin people live in southwestern Ethiopia. Most are farmers and follow animism, living in fear of evil spirits. Last year, audio recordings and “LUMO” videos (visual translations of the four Gospels developed to engage people with Scripture) were completed for Luke and John. The Dizin Bible app, which is available for Android on Google Play Store, was updated with a number of books; several of the books also have the audio version!

Rejoice that a consultant completed checks on 2 Corinthians and 1 Thessalonians; however, the dedication of Acts was postponed due to COVID-19.

Prayer points:

- » Efficient consultant checking processes despite COVID-19 restrictions.
- » Strength and health for the reviewers who are checking several books, especially during COVID-19.
- » Eradication of COVID-19 so the adviser can travel to Ethiopia to meet with the translation team.
- » The Dizin to use the Scripture portions they already have and “write [his words] deep within [their] heart” (Proverbs 7:3, NLT). Pray that they will become mature believers in Christ.

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-SOUTHWEST BETHEL SYNOD; SEED COMPANY

ETHIOPIA CLUSTER PROJECT — Dawro, Gamo and Gofa languages; Ethiopia (1,960,370)

These three complete Bible projects are at the finish line! The teams have persevered through obstacles, illnesses and other challenges. Praise the Lord the three full Bible translations were typeset last year and are fully funded for publication!

Prayer points:

- » Production of high-quality books that will stand up well to use. Timely and safe delivery of the books to the language area.
- » Wisdom, creativity and provision for deeply moving dedications. May each language community find ways to glorify God that reflect their distinct culture, and may many in attendance, including government and church leaders, be inspired to read the Scriptures in their language.
- » Widespread distribution of the Bibles and productive Scripture engagement activities that encourage the Dawro, Gamo and Gofa churches and communities to read, study and memorize God’s Word in their languages and experience transformation. “So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord — who is the Spirit — makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image” (2 Corinthians 3:18, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

GAYIL; Ethiopia (85,000)

COVID-19 and poor infrastructure with ongoing road construction made it difficult to travel to Gayil language communities for the second phase of manuscript checks last year. The team hopes to complete the final checks and send the New Testament manuscript to the typesetter early this year.

Prayer points:

- » Protection for the team and the Gayil from COVID-19.
- » Keen eyes for those who proofread the New Testament, a smooth typesetting process and formatting decisions that will result in a book that is easy to read.
- » Provision of funds from within and outside the community to cover publication costs.
- » God's grace for the team during all the steps and details leading up to a dedication; may they "... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN FULL GOSPEL CHURCH; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

GEDEO; Ethiopia (986,977)

To reach the finish line in athletics, an athlete must persevere through hard training, consistent work and a focus on the goal. The Gedeo team endured setbacks due to COVID-19 but is pressing hard to complete the pre-publication process and cross the finish line to deliver the full Bible to the Gedeo.

Prayer points:

- » Endurance for the typesetting team and proofreaders as they prepare the manuscript for printing. They need to decide on the font, columns, pictures and supplementary materials.
- » God to watch over the printing firm in South Korea that will print the Bible so their equipment will work well and produce Bibles with clear print and sturdy binding.
- » Protection for the Bibles as they are shipped to Ethiopia. Creative provision inside and outside the community for costs involved.
- » Wisdom and discernment for those planning the dedication. May the day and everything leading up to it be "all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31b, NLT).
- » Transformation of Gedeo hearts as they read the Bible in their language for the first time.

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

GUJI OROMO; Ethiopia (2,000,000)

The monumental task of translating the entire Bible is almost complete for the Guji Oromo translation team. Praise the Lord for his love and goodness to the Guji Oromo in providing them his Word.

Prayer points:

- » Time lost to COVID-19 to be redeemed and the translation team to accomplish their goals this year.
- » Provision of funds for the publication of the Bibles and discernment for the typesetting team as they make many formatting decisions and complete multiple proofreadings of the manuscripts.

- » Protection over the printing presses, the binding machines and the finished Guji Oromo Bibles as they are transported from South Korea back to Ethiopia.
- » God's guidance for the dedication committee as they prepare for the arrival of the Bible in Guji Oromo and its distribution. May an excitement spread across the language community and draw many into his kingdom. "... I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb ..." (Revelation 7:9, NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

HADIYYA; Ethiopia (1,200,000)

A revision of the Hadiyya New Testament, which had been in use for over 20 years, is almost complete and will be printed in 2021 with the newly translated Old Testament, all in one book!

Prayer points:

- » Completion of final community checks. COVID-19 delayed these due to travel and crowd size restrictions.
- » Effective cooperation as the Bible Society of Ethiopia, the translators and the Bible Society of Korea work together to typeset the Bible and have it printed. Pray for a safe and timely shipment back to Ethiopia.
- » God's anointing as the translators and local church encourage people to engage with the Scriptures and plan a dedication this year. May the Holy Spirit fill them with wisdom and joy.
- » The Holy Spirit to powerfully work through his Word in Hadiyya to bring many into a relationship with Christ that will impact families, churches and communities.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-SOUTH CENTRAL SYNOD

HALABA; Ethiopia (287,282)

Although the typesetting process was hindered by COVID-19, the Halaba completed the translation of their Bible last year! The translation team looks forward to printing, dedicating and distributing the Bibles this year. Rejoice that the team already has funds to cover publication expenses.

Prayer points:

- » A smooth and expeditious printing process, and the books to arrive safely in Ethiopia and the language area.
- » The Holy Spirit to anoint the dedication and draw many people to Christ as they read about him in the Scriptures. Pray that people will use the Bibles in their homes and churches and that everyone will have access to copies.

» The gospel to take root in the Halaba, resulting in changed hearts and lives. “Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness” (Colossians 2:7, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

KAFA; Ethiopia (870,000)

The Kafa team rejoices in the completion of typesetting, proofreading and printing of the entire Bible last year! Team members worked remotely from Ethiopia, Florida and Wisconsin, enduring frequent electricity outages, weak internet connections and other technical issues to accomplish their task. They are also now recording the Bible in an audio version and plan to make the Kafa Bible available on micro-SD cards to widen the reach of the Scriptures.

Prayer points:

- » God’s anointing on the Bible as it is dedicated in early 2021. May the Holy Spirit draw many people to Christ through the Scriptures; 10,000 copies were printed.
- » God to provide people who read well and with expression to make an audio recording of the Kafa Bible.
- » Stable electricity and reliable equipment so the audio version of the Kafa Bible will be available on micro-SD cards at the dedication this spring.
- » Church leaders to enthusiastically embrace, read and preach from the Kafa Bible in their regular services so their congregations will also want to own and read the Bible.

SIM INTERNATIONAL

KAMBAATA; Ethiopia (570,000)

The Kambaata full Bible project is nearing completion! The translation team is focusing on harmonizing the language of the earlier New Testament version with the newly completed Old Testament to enable those learning modern Kambaata to fully understand and use the new Bible. Rejoice that several organizations are partnering to finish this project.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of the harmonization of the language in the New and Old Testament. Once this occurs, the Bible will be sent for typesetting.
- » God’s grace for skill and good, functioning equipment for the Korean Bible Society as they typeset and print the Bible. It is an immense and exacting responsibility to format, proofread and print a complete Bible, but they have years of experience.

» Safe shipment of the books back to Ethiopia. Bible shipments have been greatly delayed due to an increased volume of shipping containers coming through the main port into Ethiopia and the port’s new COVID-19 work environment. Ask our powerful God to open up channels so that Bible shipments can get through in a timely manner.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-AMBARICHO BILATE SYNOD; LUTHERAN BIBLE TRANSLATORS

KISTANE; Ethiopia (24,000)

The Christian church thrives in the Kistane area — in fact, a local leader says it’s the strongest community of Christ followers in the region! Each of the three distinct church groups among Kistane speakers have worked on this project. The current goal is to complete the New Testament translation and checking work by the end of 2021 and publish it in 2022.

Prayer points:

- » Strong relationships as the community, the translation team and leadership work together.
- » Sustained motivation, health and unity as the team presses forward to have the New Testament checked by reviewers, community members and consultants.
- » Peace to reign in the area and COVID-19 transmission to cease so translation work can move forward unhindered. Last year, unrest in the area and COVID-19 made travel impossible.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; SIL

KOM CLUSTER PROJECT — Konta, Oyda and Melo languages; Ethiopia (156,200)

Praise God! The Konta, Oyda and Melo people look forward to reading this verse in their languages: “After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. ... And they were shouting with a great roar, ‘Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!’” (Revelation 7:9-10, NLT)

Prayer points:

- » The Holy Spirit to watch over the printing process and shipment of the books to Ethiopia and their respective language areas, and that COVID-19 will not delay the printing and shipment.
- » Wisdom for those planning the dedications so their celebrations will magnify the Lord and create a hunger and thirst for God’s Word in those who attend.
- » Creative and effective ideas for distribution of the Scriptures so all the people have access to them.
- » Protection, especially from COVID-19, and provision for the translators, their families and the Ethiopian churches.

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

KONSO; Ethiopia (242,000)

Give thanks for God's faithfulness to the translation team as they completed many detailed checks with the Bible Society of Ethiopia. The whole Bible is ready for printing!

Prayer points:

- » Printing equipment to work well and result in books with clear print and good binding. The Bible (Old Testament and revised New Testament) will be printed in two scripts: Ethiopic and Latin.
- » Safe national elections this year.
- » The Konso community and the world to look to God for answers and protection from COVID-19.
- » Church and community leaders as they plan a dedication for the arrival of the entire Bible in Konso this year!

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-SOUTH WEST SYNOD; LUTHERAN BIBLE TRANSLATORS

ME'EN; Ethiopia (151,500)

Me'en language communities expectantly await the arrival of the New Testament in 2021! With the New Testament at the printers, the Me'en translation team has already begun working on the Old Testament.

Prayer points:

- » A seamless printing process and safe shipment of the New Testament to Me'en language communities.
- » Strength and good health for the translators as they work on the Old Testament. May they experience unity and joy as they work closely with God's Word.
- » Strong desire for the Me'en Christians to faithfully read the Scriptures, grow in their knowledge of the Lord and share their faith within their communities. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere ..." (Acts 1:8, NLT).
- » Eradication of COVID-19 and restored peace and stability in Ethiopia.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; SEED COMPANY; SIL

NORTH GUMUZ; Ethiopia (160,000)

With great excitement, the North Gumuz community will dedicate the New Testament in their language this year! They have also requested a translation of the Old Testament, as their desire is to have the entire Bible in North Gumuz.

Prayer points:

- » Planning and preparation for a New Testament dedication that honors God and draws many, by the Holy Spirit, to read his Word in their language.
- » Provision for the translation team to begin work on the Old Testament, equipping the North Gumuz communities with the full counsel of God.

- » The Word to take root and produce much fruit in the hearts and lives of the North Gumuz people. "They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do" (Psalm 1:3, NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; SEED COMPANY

SAHO; Ethiopia (230,000)

While virtually all of Ethiopia's Saho people claim to be Christians, the Saho who live across the border in another country follow a different world religion. Church and denominational leaders hope that having the Scriptures in Saho will be a source of inspiration and discipleship and a resource for evangelism.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of the printing process and safe arrival of the New Testament in Saho communities this year.
- » Creative ideas for Saho church and community leaders for a dedication that inspires the Saho to engage with the Scriptures daily.
- » The translation team to be fully funded and begin work on the Old Testament in Saho. The community desires the entire Word of God!
- » Growth and transformation of believers as they interact with the Scriptures in their language and become an even stronger light in their communities to Saho unbelievers. "No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house" (Matthew 5:15, NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; SEED COMPANY

SEBAT CLUSTER PROJECT — Bilen, Komo and Seize languages; Ethiopia (132,000)

Praise the Lord that a local adviser was able to enter Seize and Komo language areas to perform advisory checks with the team when both phone communication and internet connections were disrupted. Due to strict COVID-19 regulations in the Bilen communities, consultant checking was accomplished remotely by phone.

Prayer points:

- » God's protection and provision for the Seize, Komo and Bilen translation teams as they press forward through each step of the translation process to bring God's Word to underserved communities.
- » Unrest in Komo and Seize communities to end quickly and lead to a season of peace and restoration.
- » God's hope for Ethiopians, especially in light of COVID-19. "But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence" (Jeremiah 17:7, NLT).

WYCLIFFE ETHIOPIA

SEBAT CLUSTER PROJECT — Gwama and Kara languages; Ethiopia (22,000)

The Gwama live in an area where unrest has prompted the disruption of phone and internet services. Consultant checking occurred last year remotely by telephone. In contrast, a local adviser was able to conduct checks in person for the Kara because their area is relatively stable. “The churches ... are motivated to have Scripture in these languages,” a project adviser said. “They are convinced it will enable them to evangelize and disciple more effectively. They will turn from traditional beliefs and find solutions to life’s challenges in Scripture.”

Prayer points:

- » Continued progress in the Bible translation process and traveling mercies in spite of unrest in Gwama communities.
- » Peaceful elections, both locally and throughout Ethiopia.
- » For God’s Word to permeate Gwama and Kara lives and communities so they all forsake old ways, turn to the living God and value his Word. “Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions” (Psalm 119:18, NLT).

WYCLIFFE ETHIOPIA

SEBAT CLUSTER PROJECT — Inor and Zay languages; Ethiopia (295,000)

The Zay translation team successfully worked with an adviser amid unrest and COVID-19. The Inor New Testament draft and the script for the “JESUS” film were completed and checked last year. This year, they will work with a consultant to check the manuscript and complete the production of the “JESUS” film in Inor.

Prayer points:

- » Strength and perseverance as the Zay and Inor teams continue with various checks prior to publication of the New Testament.
- » Health and safety for the translators and their families. One translator’s wife was hospitalized for two weeks last year, and another translator’s wife passed away from cancer.
- » Travel mercies and protection from COVID-19 and unrest as various checks are taking place in language areas.
- » The Holy Spirit to stir Zay and Inor hearts to desire and value God’s Word in their languages so they can declare, “When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God of Heaven’s Armies” (Jeremiah 15:16, NLT).

WYCLIFFE ETHIOPIA

SURI; Ethiopia (26,900)

Praise God the Suri team completed consultant checks for John and Mark chapters 1-5 last year, with Mark’s checks occurring over the internet. With the consultant in Chicago, the team in Ethiopia and the adviser in Vanuatu, they worked together despite a 16-hour time difference! They also completed team checks of John, Mark and drafts of 1-2 Timothy, John’s epistles, Jude and Revelation.

Prayer points:

- » Team unity and completion of one translator’s adviser internship.
- » COVID-19 restrictions to be lifted so the adviser can travel to Ethiopia and meet with the team a few times during the year. The team needs to be able to work together in one location regularly even though they reside in different parts of Ethiopia.
- » Strong internet connections so the adviser can work with the team on a regular basis and the team can meet their goal of consultant checking the remaining chapters of Matthew, Mark, Romans, 1-2 Timothy and John’s epistles.
- » The Holy Spirit to work in Suri hearts so they will treasure God’s Word and be a people “... whose God is the Lord” (Psalm 144:15, NLT).

ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-SOUTHWEST BETHEL SYNOD; SEED COMPANY

YEMSA; Ethiopia (197,506)

God’s Word is a light that leads people to salvation and bread that provides food for spiritual growth. Rejoice that the typesetting is complete and the funding came in for the publication of the New Testament last year! The Yemsa will soon have the Scriptures in their language to feed on and share with others.

Prayer points:

- » Quality printing and binding and safe delivery of the books to Ethiopia.
- » The Holy Spirit to guide plans for a dedication that draws many people to attend and want to know the Scriptures and the Christ they talk about.
- » The Yemsa to know God’s Word as both a light unto their feet and bread for the journey. “Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105, NLT); “Give us today our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11, NIV).

ETHIOPIAN FULL GOSPEL CHURCH; ETHIOPIAN KALE HIWOT CHURCH; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

ZAYSE; Ethiopia (18,500)

The Zayse translation team is rejoicing that all consultant, review and technical checks for the New Testament were completed last year, and that the Bible Society of Ethiopia is preparing the New Testament for printing!

Prayer points:

- » Stamina for the team as they work with a typesetter to format the Zayse New Testament. It's an intense and detailed process.
- » Health and safety for the translation team and the Zayse community, especially from COVID-19.
- » The rainy season to pass without causing damage. Last year flooding destroyed the translators' homes and properties.
- » The Holy Spirit to anoint each copy of the Zayse New Testament and use the Word to draw many Zayse into his kingdom and mature those who are already believers.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS-SOUTH WEST SYNOD; SIL; WYCLIFFE POLAND

Ghana

KAAYKE; Ghana (80,000)

Every New Testament translation goes through multiple checks to ensure excellent quality. With the completion of the translation, the Kaayke New Testament is ready for the rigorous process of proofreading and typesetting. The team is making final changes to each book to improve accuracy and readability and to check for consistent use of key terms, punctuation and spelling.

Prayer points:

- » Strength for the translation team as they work on final revisions and keen eyes to catch any parts needing improvement before publication. Unity and clarity for the team as they make decisions about formatting and spelling.
- » Divine appointments during Scripture engagement activities in Kaayke language communities.
- » A desire in the Kaayke people to know God personally and love his precepts "And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments" (1 John 2:3, NLT).

GHANA INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS, LITERACY AND BIBLE TRANSLATION

KOMA; Ghana (8,500)

The Koma translation team was unable to hold literacy classes or show the "JESUS" film last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, the team completed translating and checking the entire Old Testament and is now revising the New Testament to include in a new complete Bible!

Prayer points:

- » Strength and alertness for the typesetting team as they prepare the manuscript for printing. This is a detailed process involving many decisions.
- » Special wisdom, good health and perseverance for the translation team and those supporting this work as they press forward to deliver the New Testament to Koma language communities. Sufficient finances to complete project goals.
- » May the Koma testify with the prophet Jeremiah: "When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight" (15:16a, NIV).

GHANA INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS, LITERACY AND BIBLE TRANSLATION

NYALOTA CLUSTER PROJECT — Logba, Nyangbo and Tafi languages; Ghana (18,300)

2020 was a successful year for the Nyalota Cluster translation teams! The three New Testaments were successfully typeset and printed. An audio recording of the Gospel of Mark in each language was aired on the community's radio information center as a prelude to the New Testament dedications.

Prayer points:

- » Complete healing of Forson Gborti, the translator for Logba, who had a mild stroke shortly after completing typesetting one of the New Testaments.
- » Successful arrival of the New Testaments to Ghana and the three language areas.
- » The Holy Spirit to prepare the Logba, Nyangbo and Tafi language communities to receive and widely use the translated New Testaments.
- » Protection from COVID-19 for these vulnerable communities.

GHANA INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS, LITERACY AND BIBLE TRANSLATION; SEED COMPANY

SAFALIBA; Ghana (10,000)

As the Safaliba translation team reviews key terms and performs consistency checks for the New Testament, they are challenged by working during COVID-19 restrictions without the important face-to-face conversations desirable for this highly interactive process.

Prayer points:

- » Health and safety for translation team members and their families.
- » Technology resources to conduct long-distance meetings via the internet.
- » Completion of all consistency checks for the rest of the New Testament and Old Testament portions in order to proceed to typesetting.
- » Spiritual fruit among the Safaliba and a deep hunger for God's Word.

GHANA INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS, LITERACY AND BIBLE TRANSLATION

Kenya

CHONYI; Kenya (184,000)

The Chonyi translation team shifted last year to working remotely due to COVID-19. They completed the team check and consultant check of Revelation and published Sunday school and Bible study materials in Chonyi.

Prayer points:

- » Good health and unity for the team as they do the final checks of the Chonyi New Testament.
- » Completion of a Chonyi hymn book so language communities can worship God together in their language.
- » Successful recording of “Walking with Jesus,” a “JESUS” film miniseries depicting common African life scenarios and modeling committed Christian discipleship.
- » Many Chonyi to be drawn by the Holy Spirit to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior. “... When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself” (John 12:32, NLT).

BIBLE TRANSLATION & LITERACY

DIGO; Kenya (315,000)

When the Digo translation project began approximately three decades ago, only a handful of families proclaimed Christ. Today, more than 2,000 Christians live in this language area where most practice another world religion. The Digo Bible is in its final stages of preparation and will be published in South Korea.

Prayer points:

- » A smooth and easy printing process resulting in quality books delivered in God’s timing. May his Word in Digo have a great impact on people and local churches.
- » Wisdom for a dedication ceremony spearheaded by the Bible Translation & Literacy leadership and the Digo translation team that both honors God and celebrates the Digo culture.
- » God’s Word to penetrate the hearts of the Digo so they can proclaim with the psalmist, “Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long” (Psalm 119:97, NLT).

BIBLE TRANSLATION & LITERACY; SEED COMPANY

DURUMA; Kenya (400,000)

Although the Duruma translation team steadily works toward their goal of presenting the complete Bible to the people, poor internet and COVID-19 have slowed their progress. Remote typesetting is difficult because of unstable internet in the community, and COVID-19 restrictions have not allowed for a community read-through of the books.

Prayer points:

- » Strong internet connections to allow for the completion of the detailed typesetting process.

- » COVID-19 restrictions to be lifted and a community read-through of the Bible in Duruma to occur.
- » Preparations for a dedication ceremony that honors God and reflects the Duruma culture. Hearts prepared to receive his Word with great joy.
- » God to surprise the team with his abundant provision as they look to him for funds to publish and distribute the New Testament.

BIBLE TRANSLATION & LITERACY; SEED COMPANY

ILCHAMUS; Kenya (30,000)

Praise God for successful completion of the New Testament final checks and for enthusiasm among the Ilchamus people to have the Scriptures in their language. The Ilchamus project officer reports that Bible translation in their language has enhanced relationships among different denominations within the community. The team is grateful for prevailing peace in the region and a decline in cattle rustling.

Prayer points:

- » Successful printing of the Ilchamus New Testament and safe delivery to Kenya.
- » Safety of the Ilchamus people from diseases that spread as a result of flooding, especially around Lake Baringo.
- » Inventive church engagement activities despite COVID-19 restrictions.
- » Construction of a local translation facility. May it be used for the glory of God as many come to know him through the translated Word.

BIBLE TRANSLATION & LITERACY; SEED COMPANY

POKOMO; Kenya (95,000)

The Pokomo, who have a keen interest and love for their language, have had the New Testament since 2005. Working diligently to complete the Old Testament, the translation team hopes to deliver the entire Bible to the Pokomo this year.

Prayer points:

- » Creative ideas for the Pokomo church and community to raise funds to cover 50% of the printing costs for the New Testament.
- » Health, safety and comfort for the Pokomo translation team and their families.
- » Peace in the Tana River area. May the Pokomo New Testament dedication bring an increased excitement to believers and draw many unbelievers to learn about God.

BIBLE TRANSLATION & LITERACY; SEED COMPANY

Malawi

LAMBYA; Malawi (60,000)

The Lambya people have the “JESUS” film in their language and a New Testament that was completed in 2016. They longed for more and asked for the Old Testament so they can have the complete Bible in their language. Leaders hope the reading and discussion of the Old Testament will lead to increased numbers of believers and deeper maturity among existing believers. Wide transformation has not yet come, and many are still clinging to superstitions.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of remaining consultant checks. The team needs God’s wisdom to make sure that each book is accurate, clear and sounds natural. COVID-19 delayed most checks that were scheduled for last year.
- » God’s strength and timing for each step of preparing the Old Testament. The team would like to have the manuscript ready for typesetting by the end of 2021.
- » Good health and safety for the team and their families.
- » That Jesus’ words in Matthew 4:4 will be a reality for the Lambya people: “... ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God’” (NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MALAWI; SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

Mozambique

AKOTI; Mozambique (97,000)

Praise God that Bible translation work, together with the work of another ministry, has produced tremendous results among the Akoti over the past 20 years. Missiologists say what has happened in Akoti is among the most outstanding examples of the gospel transforming people’s lives and communities; thousands have been baptized and follow Jesus.

Prayer points:

- » Smooth and efficient printing of the New Testament in South Korea; God’s protection over the books as they are shipped to Mozambique and the language area.
- » Guidance from the Lord for Koti leaders as they plan a dedication service. Believers want to be respectful of the sensitive local religious context as they promote the event.
- » People to be gripped by the Word so they study it and apply it to their lives, resulting in whole communities being transformed.
- » Wisdom for Koti leaders as they evaluate the published Scripture and consider the appropriateness of beginning a new project to complete the Old Testament.

SEED COMPANY; SIL

MEETTO; Mozambique (1,200,000)

Praise God that the Meetto translation team’s work is done! They completed final consistency and formatting checks last year and also typeset the New Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Smooth printing process so the Bibles can be delivered in time for a Scripture dedication this year.
- » Literacy initiatives to resume in local communities following the COVID-19 crisis; good attendance and effective communication of the material.
- » The Holy Spirit to fill the Meetto people with a hunger and excitement for his Word in their language. “I rejoice in your word like one who discovers a great treasure” (Psalm 119:162, NLT).

SEED COMPANY; SIL

NYUNGWE; Mozambique (490,200)

Praise God that the Nyungwe people dedicated the New Testament along with Genesis and Exodus in their language on Feb. 22, 2020! Almost half a million people can now read, preach and study God’s Word for the first time. More than 50 children who learned to read Nyungwe in reading clubs launched the dedication ceremony, holding the New Testaments high and singing, “Let the little children come to me.” Others joyously followed with singing, band music, dancing, Scripture readings and speeches by government officials and church leaders.

Prayer points:

- » Transformation of many Nyungwe as they use the New Testament. “Be good to your servant, that I may live and obey your word. Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions” (Psalm 119:17-18, NLT).
- » Financial stability and good health for the translation team and their families as they await approval for a new project to translate the rest of the Old Testament.

SEED COMPANY; SIL

Namibia

KHOEKHOEGOWAB; Namibia (251,200)

Praise God that amid COVID-19 challenges, the Khoekhoegowab New Translation Bibles arrived in Namibia last year! The Bible Society of Namibia planned to hold a big celebration in October, but due to state-of-emergency regulations, the Bibles had to be temporarily stored in a warehouse.

Prayer points:

- » Wide and effective distribution of the Khoekhoegowab Bible.

- » Many Khoekhoegowab speakers to eagerly seek out copies of the New Translation Bible and understand God's Word in new, transforming ways. May they testify with the prophet Jeremiah: "When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight" (Jeremiah 15:16a, NIV).

- » Health and protection over the people of Namibia.

NAMIBIA BIBLE SOCIETY; SEED COMPANY

Nigeria

ANIOMA-GHUTUO CLUSTER PROJECT — Enuani, Ghotuo, Ndokwa and Ulukwumi languages; Nigeria (1,041,700)

The goal of this cluster project is to publish a New Testament and the "JESUS" film in each of the four languages. Each team has several translators, literacy workers and six reviewers, but all staff are cross-trained so that project delays are minimized. Rejoice that demand for Scripture is strong in each group. Many have turned to Christ, but traditional religion still has a great influence.

Prayer points:

- » Effective distribution of the Gospel of Luke and the "JESUS" film in each language and that many will come to a saving knowledge of Christ.
- » Grace and God's anointing for the teams and consultants as they meet for a week each month to complete consultant checks of the four New Testaments by March 2021.
- » Discipline and dedication for each member of the four teams as they press to complete the New Testaments. "No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening — it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way" (Hebrews 12:11, NLT).
- » For many in each community to learn to read as a result of literacy efforts.

MISSION FOR LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

BWAATYE; Nigeria (477,000)

The Bwaatye language project will communicate God's Word to the Bwaatye people who speak Bachama and Bata, the two dominant dialects. Praise God that in answer to people's prayers last year, the project chairman's health improved and the team worked hard. Unfortunately key workshops and the release of the audio version of Mark were delayed by COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of typesetting and printing of the New Testament so it can be available in the language area by the end of 2021.
- » Increased excitement and motivation among the people to use the Scriptures in church and in their homes.

- » God's provision for and protection of the team as they hope to translate the Old Testament. It's an immense undertaking, but, by faith, they are making plans.

SEED COMPANY; SIL

C'LELA; Nigeria (90,000)

Last year, people using The Finish Line prayed for a smooth printing process and safe shipment of the C'Lela New Testaments from South Korea to Nigeria and then to the language area. God answered! The books reached the community by September, and the team scheduled a dedication for Dec. 30. Praise the Lord!

Prayer points:

- » Wide distribution of the New Testament among all the C'Lela communities.
- » A hunger and thirst for God's Word among the people. May people read it in their homes, their churches and their communities, and may they experience God's transforming grace.
- » That the C'Lela people will "write [his words] deep within [their] heart" (Proverbs 7:3, NLT).

DADIYA; Nigeria (30,000)

The Dadiya translation team is closer to the finish line. Praise God that in spite of COVID-19 travel restrictions last year, the team completed many of the reviews needed to finalize the New Testament manuscript by working virtually with one another via the internet.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of all changes found during the reviews so the manuscript can be typeset and printed this year.
- » Provision of funds for printing from within the community and from other sources.
- » Travel to open up for effective literacy and Scripture promotion activities.
- » Ability to hold a safe and public dedication of the New Testament when it arrives.
- » For the Dadiya to "... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18, NLT) as they use the Scriptures.

LUKE INITIATIVE FOR SCRIPTURE TRANSLATION; SEED COMPANY

DUYA; Nigeria (78,000)

The Duya people live in Kaduna State in northwest Nigeria. Twelve percent of the population claim Christianity as their faith, and the rest adhere to their own religions. Give praise that God sustained the translation program last year through some difficult challenges: two Duya translators went to be with the Lord, and COVID-19 impacted the community.

Prayer points:

- » God's protection over the team and diligence for the consultants, community reviewers and translator as they make final checks of the New Testament.

- » Strong collaboration with the Duya community as team members expand the Scripture engagement program and that many Duya speakers will hunger for God's Word.
- » God to raise up visionary and committed literacy teachers among the Duya.

SIL; WYCLIFFE-UK

EHUGBO; Nigeria (40,000)

Praise the Lord for significant local involvement by Ehugbo speakers in testing and reviewing the Scriptures last year to ensure they were clear and sounded natural. They completed all consultant checks and prepared the New Testament for typesetting!

Prayer points:

- » Alertness and God's strength and wisdom for the typesetting team as they lay out the New Testament in a format that will be easy to use.
- » Excellent printing quality when the manuscript goes to press.
- » Local financial support to rebound following the economic impact of COVID-19.
- » Eager hearts among the Ehugbo to use and embrace God's transforming Word.

SEED COMPANY

ETULO; Nigeria (10,000)

Thank the Lord that this project, previously delayed when establishing new partnerships, restarted last year, and the team completed the consultant check of the New Testament!

Prayer points:

- » Effective community testing and review of the New Testament to make sure it is clear and sounds natural.
- » Clarity and insight for the team as they make multiple checks of the manuscript before it is typeset.
- » Good communication and wisdom for the typesetter and translation team as they decide on format, size and style of print, supplementary materials to include and overall layout and design.
- » Good health and joy for each one involved as they anticipate being able to deliver God's Word to Etulo speakers next year. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13, NIV).

SEED COMPANY

GBARI; Nigeria (350,000)

The COVID-19 pandemic arrived just before the Gbari Scripture app for smartphones was finalized for release last year, bringing the work to a standstill. The team worked hard later in the year to complete production.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of consultant checks of the final New Testament books.
- » A successful recording of the dubbed video of Acts.
- » God's blessing on final checks leading up to typesetting. This includes checks for spelling, consistent use of key terms, pictures and supplementary materials. It also includes a final read-through of the entire New Testament text.
- » The Holy Spirit to anoint the Scripture app on smartphones so many Gbari speakers will listen to the audio Scriptures and be drawn to Christ.
- » Increased ability and interest among people in reading as they use the Scripture app to see the text and hear it at the same time.

SIL

HOHUMONO; Nigeria (30,000)

In Genesis 50:20 Joseph comforts his brothers who had previously tried to kill him, saying, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives" (NIV). The lead Hohumono translator in the New Testament project was shot by another community member last year who hoped to incite further communal battles. God had other plans. Not only did God miraculously save the translator's life, but he also brought about a peace that the language community had not seen for many years. Praise God!

Prayer points:

- » Peace to prevail in the community.
- » The translation consultant to make up time lost last year due to COVID-19 and the shooting of the lead translator.
- » Wide participation in community reviews of New Testament books ready for that stage. Because of greater peace in the communities now, the translation team can make these visits.
- » Successful scripting and recording of the "JESUS" film in Hohumono.

INITIATIVE ON MOTHER TONGUE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT;
SEED COMPANY

KWOMA*; Nigeria (100,000)

COVID-19 prevented the translation team from completing the New Testament project last year, but praise God that they made progress, including preparation of supplementary materials that will help people understand the New Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Jehovah-jireh to provide the resources needed to finish the project. Securing funding has been difficult the last few years.
- » Good health for the translators and their families.
- » The entire Kwoma community to support the work and anticipate God's Word in their language.

» For people to know the importance of Scripture in their lives and meditate on it, memorize it and hide it in their hearts. “Study this book of instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do” (Joshua 1:8, NLT).

MWAGHAVUL; Nigeria (700,000)

Praise God for the hunger for his Word among the Mwaghavul people. They have reprinted the New Testament three times! Over 100 enthusiastic Bible study groups, using a combination of audio and printed Scriptures, regularly meet to listen to and apply God’s Word. In addition, more than 800 Sunday school teachers have been trained to use a bilingual Sunday school manual in their classes.

Prayer points:

- » Peace and freedom from bloodshed. Last year, 11 people were killed by outsiders in a village where many believers live.
- » Protection over the people from contracting COVID-19.
- » Consultants to have time to check the remaining 11 books of the Old Testament. Pray that God will work through them to produce a translation that is accurate, clear and sounds natural.
- » The Lord to open doors and strengthen relationships within the Mwaghavul community so people will embrace the importance of Scripture in their language.

SEED COMPANY

NIGERIAN PIDGIN; Nigeria (30,000,000)

In 2013, the Nigerian Pidgin audio New Testament was joyously received, and the translation team has worked diligently since then to complete the Old Testament. Praise God the complete Bible is available online!

Prayer points:

- » Sufficient funding to print the Bible. Although it has been typeset and is ready for printing, funding is incomplete. “And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19, NLT).
- » For the 30 million speakers of Nigerian Pidgin to use and be transformed by God’s Word online, in book form and via the audio New Testament.

OKPHELA; Nigeria (100,000)

About 85% of the Okphela population profess Jesus as savior. All 3,000 copies of the New Testament have been distributed to the 10 Okphela villages. Traditional religion, however, continues to hold a grip on the community. As a result, Okphela church leaders are eager for the rest of the Bible to be completed so they can more effectively combat the influence of false teachings.

Prayer points:

- » Grace and strength for three consultants as they simultaneously check the complete draft of the Okphela Old Testament, which was finished last year.
- » Good health and wisdom for the project coordinator as he helps facilitate other projects in the region.
- » God to sustain the community’s great interest in Scripture and extend that interest to a mass literacy program. May people be equipped to use the Scriptures and apply them to their lives.
- » Successful publication of three “Wonderful Plan of God” books in print and audio formats. These resources will provide a way for local Christians to engage with Old Testament excerpts prior to the completion of the full Bible.

MISSION FOR LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

Senegal

NDUT; Senegal (43,000)

Last year people prayed for enthusiastic volunteers to take part in the audio recordings of Genesis and the New Testament. God answered! The team is grateful for all who prayed.

Prayer points:

- » God’s timing and provision for a dedication of the Ndut New Testament and Genesis.
- » The development of new initiatives (including a new app) to help people who are keen to learn to read Ndut so they can read the translated Scriptures for themselves.
- » For groups listening to the audio version of the Scriptures to apply the words they hear to their own lives.
- » A deeper understanding among the Ndut of who God is and a desire for Ndut from all backgrounds to wholeheartedly follow the Lord Jesus s as they read these Scriptures.

SIL

SAAFI-SAAFI; Senegal (200,000)

Praise the Lord that just before COVID-19, internet connections improved, allowing translation work to continue between Saafi team members in the community and one who is in Norway during the pandemic. The team constructed a Saafi Scripture website this past year, and local Christians will begin managing and promoting it to many Saafi.

Prayer points:

- » Effective time management to stay on schedule and maintain the quality of work on the New Testament translation.
- » Creative ways to involve the Saafi-Saafi language communities in Scripture engagement through the Saafi Scripture website, and God’s provision of people to run the website and promote it.

- » Removal of barriers to producing the “JESUS” film in Saafi-Saafi.
- » Continued internet access to produce quality materials over long distances.
- » The opening of Saafi minds and hearts so they will hunger and thirst for God’s Word and respond to him as they read Scripture in their language. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled” (Matthew 5:6, NIV).

SIL

South Sudan

DINKA CAM; South Sudan (1,000,000)

Dinka Cam team members finished translating the Old Testament and are revising an older translation of the New Testament. They’ll finalize key biblical terms and harmonize the Old and New Testaments. Christian leaders are looking forward to having all of God’s Word in their language. They believe they’ll be able to communicate biblical truths more clearly and be better equipped to tackle societal issues, such as theft and fighting. Moreover, the complete Bible — in both print and audio formats — will be invaluable as they share the Good News with those who don’t yet follow Jesus.

Prayer points:

- » Health and safety for the translation team. Comfort for the team leader and his family; his wife died last year.
- » Energy, alertness and wisdom as the team thoroughly revises a 1950s version of the New Testament to include with the new translation of the Old Testament in a complete Bible. They plan to typeset the Bible next year.
- » An increased sense of excitement for receiving the entire Bible and increased use of available Scripture portions in local Dinka Cam churches. “I pant with expectation, longing for your commands” (Psalm 119:131, NLT).

SIL

GBAYA; South Sudan (16,000)

Several different language communities live in Wau, the principal town of Western Bahr el Ghazal state. A colorful and joyful dedication of the Gbaya New Testament books and audio recordings took place in February 2020 in Wau, but a dedication in the home area of Raga was delayed because of COVID-19. Many enjoyed new songs in Gbaya composed especially for the service.

Prayer points:

- » God to make a way for the dedication of the Gbaya New Testament in the home area of Raga.
- » Use of newly distributed Gbaya Scriptures in local Wau churches to revive interest in Scriptures which are available in other local languages.
- » Stability for the South Sudan government and peace among communities.

- » Plans for local languages to be used during the first few years of elementary school education to prosper. SIL South Sudan is partnering with the government to prepare materials and training courses.
- » Encounters with Jesus for the Gbaya people as they read and listen to his Word in their language.

SIL

LAARIM; South Sudan (3620)

Translation team members have completed Genesis, Exodus, the four Gospels, Acts and several epistles. They are now working on Ruth, Psalms, Jonah and the remaining seven books of the New Testament. Scripture will also be made available in audio format. In the past, community members who don’t read have received recordings and other media well. The materials produced by the team will be used in worship services, Sunday school classes and small group Bible studies.

Prayer points:

- » Focus, strength and perseverance for the Laarim translation team as they continue to translate the Scriptures.
- » Anointing on a small new evangelical church forming among the Laarim.
- » Wisdom, health and perseverance for other missionaries working within the community.
- » Safety for the translation team; a brother of the team leader was killed last year on a road trip.

SIL

TENNET; South Sudan (10,000)

The Tennet people are waiting for the arrival of the New Testament that was printed in South Korea and shipped to Juba, South Sudan, but the dedication scheduled for April 4, 2020, was postponed due to COVID-19 and travel restrictions. Thank the Lord for the excitement the people have about the Scriptures.

Prayer points:

- » God’s encouragement, strength and wisdom for the Tennet people as they use the Scriptures.
- » People to allow the Scriptures to mold their relationships with God and with one another. May a deep love grow between believers and may traumas of the past be healed.
- » Mercies for a stable government in South Sudan and peace among communities.
- » Local language education in the first few years of elementary school to prosper as SIL South Sudan partners with the government to prepare materials and training courses.

SIL

Tanzania

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT – Ikizu language; Tanzania (92,000)

Ikizu is one of the eight languages in the Mara Cluster located in the Northwest area of Tanzania where Bible translation work began in 2009. Last year, the Ikizu team worked remotely from Tanzania and Switzerland with consultants and translation advisers. Most of their time on Zoom was voice-only in order to save bandwidth, but the team turned on their cameras to greet one another. Praise God that later in the year, offices began to open up and daily life and work began to return to normal.

Prayer points:

- » Health, stamina and clear communication for the translation team as they work remotely with advisers and consultants. One of the translators worked from home part of last year due to health problems.
- » Steady progress toward the goal of finishing the Ikizu New Testament.
- » An end to COVID-19 restrictions and resumption of normal activities.

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT – Ikoma language; Tanzania (36,000)

The Mara Region is in the northwest area of Tanzania, bordering Lake Victoria and Kenya. It is the most densely populated area of Tanzania, but it has the fewest churches. Last year the Ikoma team made good progress toward finishing the New Testament in spite of the local office closing for part of the year and team members from other countries returning home due to COVID-19. Give thanks that in late 2020 offices began to open up and life began to return to normal.

Prayer points:

- » God's grace for the team to be able to complete New Testament checks remotely.
- » Health and safety for the translation team and their families.
- » A deep longing for God's Word to increase in the Ikoma community as they anticipate the arrival of the New Testament. "I pant with expectation, longing for your commands" (Psalm 119:131, NLT).

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT – Jita language; Tanzania (205,000)

Due to COVID-19, government regulations closed businesses, including the local translation office, and required all foreign staff members to return to their home countries. Praise God for continued work and progress made on the Jita translation while team members worked remotely from Tanzania and the members' home countries. Rejoice that later in the year, offices began to open up and daily life and work began to return to normal.

Prayer points:

- » Good communication and internet for the translation team as they work remotely from different continents to meet their goals. God's blessings for the translation team and their families.
- » Protection and health for the Jita language communities.
- » God to prepare Jita hearts to joyfully receive God's Word and grow in their knowledge and love of God.

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLAND

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT – Kabwa language; Tanzania (14,000)

Despite travel restrictions and displacement of staff members from other countries, the Kabwa translation team made continual progress on the New Testament last year. When the offices in Tanzania closed, national staff members worked from their homes and communicated with team members in other countries via the internet. Praise God that later in the year, offices began to open up and daily life and work began to return to normal.

Prayer points:

- » Tanzania to open its borders again, allowing all staff members to return.
- » Strong internet connection and good communication skills for the translation team as they work remotely.
- » God's protection, safety and health for the translation team and their families.
- » The Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of those who will receive the Kabwa New Testaments so they will grasp the message of God's love for them.

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT – Kwaya language; Tanzania (70,000)

Makunja, a 25-year-old Kwaya man, purchased a copy of the Gospel of Luke in his language. Three other Kwaya people heard him reading and wanted to learn more. Praise the Lord that he taught them how to read, and now they read Scriptures together in Kwaya!

Prayer points:

- » God to draw more and more Kwaya to Christ and enable them to read and listen to the Scriptures in Kwaya.
- » Strength, stamina and health for the translation team and their families so they can continue to bring glory to God through their work.
- » Good internet connection as the team works remotely due to COVID-19 restrictions.

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT — Simbiti language; Tanzania (113,000)

Praise God the team received funding last year for the printing of the Simbiti New Testament! COVID-19 travel restrictions caused some delays, but the team is excited to get closer to the New Testament celebration.

Prayer points:

- » God to prepare “good soil” so that when the Simbiti receive God’s Word, they will “hear God’s word, cling to it, and ... produce a huge harvest” (Luke 8:15b, NLT).
- » God’s guidance for the Simbiti translation team, language committee and community as they actively promote the Scriptures and develop strategies to engage the community with God’s Word.

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MARA CLUSTER PROJECT — Zanaki language; Tanzania (100,000)

Zanaki, one of the eight languages in the Mara Cluster, is in northwest Tanzania on the border of Lake Victoria and Kenya. It is a densely populated area without many churches. Praise the Lord for the completion of consultant checks for the Gospel of John and 2 Corinthians despite challenges from COVID-19.

Prayer points:

- » Team unity and strong communication as they work remotely throughout the world due to COVID-19. May the team continue to make progress and work efficiently.
- » God to meet needs in the Zanaki language communities as they deal with COVID-19 challenges in their country and the world.
- » The Holy Spirit to plant a deep hunger for God’s transforming Word in Zanaki hearts.

SIL; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MBEYA C CLUSTER PROJECT — Safwa language; Tanzania (158,000)

The Safwa people live in the highlands of southwestern Tanzania. Approximately half the population follow local beliefs and others follow occultic groups whom they fear. However, the translation team is making progress in providing a Safwa New Testament that will tell them about Jesus Christ!

Prayer points:

- » Perseverance for the team and protection from discouragement as they continue to push forward and finish the New Testament. COVID-19 slowed or postponed some of last year’s plans.
- » Health, safety and resilience for the translation teams and their families as they adjust to working remotely.

- » Growing excitement in the Mbeya language community as they look forward to new Scripture in their language and, ultimately, the complete New Testament!

SEED COMPANY

MBEYA D CLUSTER PROJECT — Kinga and Vwanji languages; Tanzania (168,000)

The Mbeya D Cluster project is made up of several languages of the Bantu language family. Praise the Lord that the Kinga and Vwanji communities dedicated their New Testaments last year and God’s Word is in the hands of the people! One pastor said, “I was preparing a sermon from the Swahili Bible and I didn’t get it well [the meaning]. I took my English Bible, and I didn’t get it well. But when I took the book which you have translated in Vwanji, it was very clear.”

Prayer points:

- » Kinga and Vwanji communities, churches, families and individuals to value God’s Word and implement it in their everyday lives and church services.
- » Growth of local language committees in their roles and responsibilities as they know their communities’ needs and focus Scripture engagement activities in those directions.
- » Widespread distribution of the New Testament to reach every home. God to prepare “good soil” so that when the people receive his Word, they will “... hear God’s word, cling to it and ... produce a huge harvest” (Luke 8:15b, NLT).

SIL; WYCLIFFE GERMANY; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MBEYA D CLUSTER PROJECT — Malila, Ndali and Sangu languages; Tanzania (360,000)

The Mbeya D Cluster project is made up of several languages of the Bantu language family. Praise the Lord that the Malila, Ndali and Sangu New Testaments arrived safely in Tanzania last year. After initial postponement of the dedication ceremonies due to COVID-19, public celebrations took place on Sept. 5 (Malila), Nov. 5 (Ndali) and Nov. 24 (Sangu)! The translation teams are beginning work on the Old Testament because the communities desire the complete Bible.

Prayer points:

- » Churches, communities and families to use and promote the New Testament in their languages.
- » The Malila, Ndali and Sangu communities to take increased ownership of translation and Scripture engagement projects as they see their lives and communities transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit through reading the Word.

» God's grace for the language committees and their continued partnership with SIL Tanzania to support and encourage each other in the ongoing work of Bible translation. "How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!" (Psalm 133:1, NLT)

SIL; WYCLIFFE GERMANY; WYCLIFFE NETHERLANDS

MBEYA PROJECT — Bena and Nyiha languages; Tanzania (920,000)

Local office closures and the relocation of some staff to their home countries greatly challenged both of these translation teams last year. COVID-19 also slowed or postponed some final New Testament checks because local travel was put on hold.

Prayer points:

- » Unity and strong communication skills for the Bena and Nyiha translation teams as they work together and with remote advisers and consultants on the two New Testaments.
- » Health, safety and peace for the teams, their families and communities.
- » Wisdom for the literacy and Scripture engagement teams as they find ways to engage the local communities during these difficult times.
- » An increase in literacy and a growing excitement among the Bena and Nyiha language communities as they prepare to receive the New Testament in their languages.

SIL

NGONI; Tanzania (312,000)

Praise the Lord the Ngoni New Testament arrived in Tanzania and was dedicated in late 2020! Since first being introduced to Christianity between the late 1800s and the early 1900s, the Ngoni people have desired God's Word in their language; thank the Lord their wait for his Word is over.

Prayer points:

- » Consultants to be allowed to enter Tanzania to check the book of Genesis (last year travel was limited due to COVID-19). Health and safety of the translation team and their families.
- » Funding issues to stabilize so that Scripture promotion and other project goals can continue in Ngoni communities.
- » People to open their hearts and use the Scriptures for spiritual growth and nourishment. "Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment" (1 Peter 2:2, NLT).

SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

RANGI; Tanzania (650,000)

The Rangi are mostly farmers and live in the Dodoma area, a hilly region of north central Tanzania. They predominantly follow another major religion, but a small, growing percentage of people are being influenced by Christianity. Due to COVID-19, the Rangi team primarily worked remotely on final linguistic and consultant checks of the New Testament before moving to the typesetting stage.

Prayer points:

- » Healing for the linguist who has worked with the Rangi for many years and now has medical issues that reduce the amount of time he can work with them.
- » Strength and adaptability for a new linguist to learn about the language before doing the linguistic check. Creativity and ability to complete a linguistic check remotely from the United Kingdom. Completing these tasks, which are usually done in person, while working remotely due to travel restrictions creates a challenge!
- » Health for the Rangi translation team and their families.
- » An end to COVID-19 and its challenges that impact the work; the team longs to finish the New Testament.
- » Increased hunger for the Scriptures in the Rangi community; lives to be changed by the power of the Word.

SIL

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CLUSTER PROJECT — Matengo, Mpoto and Ludenda* languages; Tanzania (910,000)

The translation team for this cluster, which is made up of three language groups, is working on a New Testament for each group with the goal of completing the full Bible. Praise the Lord that the final checks were completed last year and the manuscript is ready for typesetting despite some funding shortfalls and challenges arising from COVID-19.

Prayer points:

- » Provision of a typesetter to format the three New Testaments. It's a detailed process, and there are not enough typesetters available to meet demand.
- » Global economies to stabilize after COVID-19 challenges so translation funding needs can be met.
- » Hunger for God's Word in these three languages and communities. "God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied" (Matthew 5:6, NLT).
- » Good health and safety for the translation team, as well as diligence to stay on schedule and meet their goals.

SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

YAO; Tanzania (500,000)

Only 14% of the Yao consider themselves Christian, and many mix traditions with their faith. Most Yao practice another major religion that is gaining strength. This makes the arrival of the New Testament last year all the more important in Yao communities. Praise God the Yao believers can now proclaim with the psalmist, “Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105, NLT).

Prayer points:

- » Consistent use of the Yao New Testament in churches, homes and evangelism so many Yao people will come to Christ and grow spiritually.
- » Open doors for consultants to visit Yao villages to do checks on Old Testament books.
- » Spiritual covering over the translation team and all involved in the work.
- » Provision for funding needs following COVID-19-induced economic shortfalls.

SEED COMPANY; THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

Togo

AKEBU; Togo (70,300)

The Akebu translation team plans to complete the New Testament by the end of 2022. They are working hard to make sure each book is accurate, clear and sounds natural. They want to publish all books on a mobile Scripture app and some selections in print, record nine New Testament books in audio format, and produce Scripture-based radio plays and songs. Having some Scriptures in their language has already had spiritual impact. One pastor commented, “Now we have many more churches in the Akebu region. And the people better understand spiritual concepts — such as who God is and the kind of relationship he wants to have with us.”

Prayer points:

- » Successful gathering of the local Akebu association and God’s wisdom as they elect new members. Many members are elderly or weak and unable to help the translation team. The general assembly planned for May 2020 had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.
- » Health and strength for each member of the translation team and their families.
- » Increased impact of the Scriptures in the Akebu community so more people are transformed as they read and listen to God’s Word in their language. “The unfolding of your words gives light ...” (Psalm 119:130, NIV).

ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE AKEBU LANGUAGE; SIL

KABIYÈ; Togo (1,200,000)

While the translation team is hard at work on the Old Testament, the Kabiye people continue to use the New Testament and the published portions of the Old Testament. People’s lives are being transformed! A reprint of 12,000 copies of the Kabiye New Testament arrived in 2019 and will soon be sold out before the entire Bible is published.

Prayer points:

- » Health for the translation team and their families as they press hard to complete the Kabiye Bible.
- » God to provide an excellent team of readers to review the remaining books of the Bible.
- » Unity and strong collaboration between the project partners, and sufficient provision to see the translation through to completion.
- » Wisdom for the team and church leaders as they prepare the language community to receive the Bible through Scripture engagement and literacy efforts.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCRIPTURES IN KABIYÈ; BIBLE SOCIETY OF TOGO; SIL

LAMA; Togo (258,000)

The translation team completed the consultant checks of Psalms and Job last year, a major step in finishing the Lama Old Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Good health for the translation team and their families. Last year many were sick.
- » The Lord to raise up good readers to help revise the New Testament so it can be included with the Old Testament in a complete Bible.
- » Strong teamwork between the partner organizations as they work in unity to bring God’s Word to the Lama people.
- » Provision of funds from both within and outside the community for Scripture engagement efforts and the publication of the Bible.
- » Insight and creativity for the team and Lama church leaders as they prepare the community to receive the Bible in their language.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF TOGO; CULTURAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE LAMA LANGUAGE; SIL

Uganda

KUPSAPIINY; Uganda (250,000)

Praise the Lord that the Kupsapiiny New Testament and Psalms were dedicated during an intimate ceremony on Sept. 18, 2020, so that the Scriptures could be in the hands of the people as soon as possible! The community hopes to hold a larger dedication after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Prayer points:

- » A joyous corporate dedication of the New Testament and Psalms in the Sapiiny community when it is safe to have large gatherings in Uganda.

- » Transformed lives and communities as the Kupsapiiny New Testament and Psalms are used by churches, families and individuals.
- » God's direction and blessing for further translation of the Old Testament in Kupsapiiny as the Sapiiny desire to have the entire Bible in their language.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF UGANDA; SEED COMPANY

West Africa

NKENISO*; West Africa (2,000,000)

The Nkeniso team is translating the Bible into two dialects spoken by over 2 million people. COVID-19 travel restrictions halted in-person consultant sessions for both dialects last year. The team adjusted to remote checking through Zoom, and they were able to finish checking the Western Nkeniso dialect translation of the Pentateuch. A consultant and an exegete in the U.S., a trainee consultant in the United Kingdom and the team in a village checked Hebrews in Nkeniso in June. The Eastern dialect team consultant checked Exodus and prepared introductions for several books. The team also distributed Scripture portions and related materials at two large events to Nkeniso speakers from around the world.

Prayer points:

- » Seamless publication and distribution of the Pentateuch in Nkeniso West across West Africa and to speakers in other countries.
- » Continued grace to work remotely with consultants and advisers.
- » Open doors for the Nkeniso translators, exegetes and some other national translators to visit Israel in August 2021 to experience where the Bible narratives occurred; this will help in future translation.
- » The Nkeniso community across the world to seek God and find him; God to use available Scripture portions and related materials to bring light and truth to all who use them.

YIBE*; West Africa (15,000)

After completion of the written and audio versions of the New Testament in 2019, the Yibe translation team worked with a typesetter last year to prepare the manuscript for printing. This detailed work, including going through the New Testament text to add orthography corrections discovered during recording, was long and meticulous. COVID-19 delayed choosing pictures and reading through the full New Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Endurance for the Yibe translation team as they work with a typesetter to complete this detailed process and send the Yibe New Testament to the printer.
- » A seamless printing process resulting in a finished product of the highest possible quality. Pray that the published books will be delivered safely, undamaged and in a timely manner.
- » Wisdom for timing and planning of the Yibe New Testament dedication. The team needs to consider several factors, including the completion of the typesetting, printing and the rainy season, which would hinder the ability to hold a large event.
- » The Yibe people to develop a growing relationship with God and healthy relationships with one another through reading and listening to the New Testament as individuals, families and churches.

Zambia

NKOYA; Zambia (146,000)

Give thanks that the Nkoya Bible was printed last year and arrived safely in Kaoma, Zambia. Although the dedication ceremony scheduled for April 24, 2020, had to be postponed indefinitely due to COVID-19, sales of the Nkoya Bible began right away. The Nkoya were ready to receive God's Word in their language!

Prayer points:

- » A blessed dedication of the Bible that reflects God's love for the Nkoya when COVID-19 restrictions subside. The Nkoya community desires to corporately celebrate this historical arrival of their long-awaited Bible!
- » Provision for every person to purchase a Bible. The local economy has suffered from the effects of COVID-19.
- » Through the Scriptures many Nkoya will "... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18, NLT).

BIBLE SOCIETY OF ZAMBIA; INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD; SEED COMPANY