FINISH LINE

AMERICAS

Americas

ABUAHOI*; Americas

The translation team has focused on finishing an audio recording of the Scriptures, which is key in reaching the Abuahoi.

- Praise God, people's prayers have been effective

 the audio recordings have been completed, and
 the files are ready to be put on MegaVoice players
 (hand-held, solar-powered digital audio players). Ask

 Jehovah-jireh to raise up funds for the players.
- » *Lift up* a team that is working on technical details of a Scripture app for both Android and iOS that includes the New Testament in print and audio. They need to synchronize a highlight in the app that moves with the text and audio.
- » **Pray** that interest and support will grow for a printed New Testament. Previously the community only supported an audio version.
- » **Pray** for people to make time in their busy schedules to complete these projects.

CREVICE*; Americas

Over the years, our spiritual enemy has discouraged this project with repeated obstacles. Through prayer, God will have the final victory!

- » Thank the Lord for his grace and strength the team completed an audio recording of the New Testament and a portion of Genesis last year. Improvements discovered during the recording process were implemented into the text and typesetting can now begin.
- » *Lift up* the woman doing the typesetting, that she'll have good health and strength. It's an intense process with numerous details. *Pray* for stamina for the entire team as well.
- » **Ask God** to strengthen the man and technical team who are editing the audio recordings. **Pray** that the equipment will work well, resulting in an excellent recording.
- » Above all, *pray* that Crevice hearts will be prepared to receive the Scriptures in their own language and that God will touch many people through his Word.

UNABEL*; Americas (1,800)

Two Unabel villages have been reading through the New Testament a final time to make sure the text sounds natural and is understood correctly.

- » **Pray** for feedback so the translation team can make any modifications necessary before the New Testament is typeset.
- » Key community leaders, both believers and unbelievers, are meeting to work through alphabet issues that need to be resolved before the New Testament can be published. *Pray* for good, productive meetings and openness among the participants so that a consensus can be reached. *Pray* that discussions will result in an alphabet that is easy for people to use.
- » Ask the Lord to renew the team's strength and keep them alert as they prepare the final text, maps, a glossary of terms, footnotes, illustrations and cross references for typesetting. Pray that their families will be healthy so they can stay focused. The team would like to be ready to typeset the New Testament by the end of this year.

Brazil

BORÔRO; Brazil (1,390)

The Borôro translation program has been a challenging one, with very few Christians to take the lead. God has the victory though!

- » **Praise God** that by his hand and through the prayers of many an audio edition of the New Testament was dedicated from August 9-11, 2019, in the village area. The Borôro are primarily an oral society. As they listen to God's Word, **pray** for great fruit among non-believers and for spiritual growth among believers.
- » *Pray* that Borôro believers, challenged by the dedication festival, will actively share the gospel with others.
- » Pastor Josué, a Brazilian Baptist minister who was going to be an integral part of developing and implementing a distribution strategy for the New Testament, passed away suddenly last year from pancreatic cancer. *Ask the Lord* to raise up others to take his place.
- » **Pray** that some of the Borôro Christians will be able to attend the National Council of Indigenous Evangelical Pastors and Leaders conference this year. It would be a tremendous encouragement to fellowship with other indigenous Christian leaders from across Brazil.

SIL

JARAWARA; Brazil (210)

Give thanks that no one is hidden from God. He saw each person before they were born, including those in isolated, small groups. Each day of their lives is recorded in his book.

- » **Praise God** for the perseverance he has granted this team through the years. They are now typesetting the New Testament! **Lift up** one member of the team who is in the U.S. and working with a typesetter while on furlough. **Pray** for wisdom in decisions they make and for good progress. He plans to make some trips back to the village to work further with the team members there.
- » *Lift up* the local translators drafting Old Testament portions. *Ask the Holy Spirit* to encourage their hearts as they learn about the history of God's love for his people.
- » **Pray** that the New Testament 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

PACAAS NOVOS; Brazil (4,000)

Completing a New Testament translation involves thousands of details from initial rough draft translations to numerous checks — all to ensure that the final manuscript is accurate, clear and communicates naturally.

- » *Thank the Lord* for strengthening the Pacaas Novos team; they turned six books of the New Testament in to print last year. The team also worked on revising Hebrews and did a final comprehension check on 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John and Jude.
- » Ask the Lord to give the team good health and to keep them alert and wise as they press on to complete the revision of Hebrews and 2 Corinthians. Lift up the team too as they check these two books in the community to make sure they are clear and sound natural. Pray for helpful feedback from those they check with.
- » **Pray** that during all these steps and details, the team will "... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10, NLT).

ETHNOS360

Colombia

CHOCÓ CLUSTER PROJECT — Headwater* and Mountain* languages; Colombia (47,300)

As translation projects near the finish line, extra obstacles arise. Last year these two translation teams experienced deaths in their extended families, computer crashes, sickness and motorcycle accidents. Prayers are needed!

- » **Ask God** to protect the two teams. **Pray** also that the translations will be completed and demonstrate God's power over the forces of darkness in unmistakable ways.
- » **Pray** for three New Testament books with illustrations being distributed in the communities to generate enthusiasm and interest in the arrival of the entire New Testament. **Ask God** to use the books to draw people to himself.
- » *Lift up* the team that typesets the two New Testaments this year. They need good health, alert minds, wisdom for decisions and keen eyes for proofreading.
- » **Pray** for a mistake-free printing process that will result in quality books.

FOUNDATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARGINALIZED PEOPLE GROUPS; SIL

WOUNAAN MEU; Colombia (4,000)

A New Testament for the Wounaan in Panama was completed in 1988. However, the Wounaan in Colombia use a different alphabet, and believers and pastors there have been asking for the Scriptures in a version they can understand.

- » Give thanks that some Wounaan in Colombia have confirmed the alphabet so printing of the revised New Testament can proceed.
- » Praise the Lord that a group of displaced Wounaan in the capital city have already requested copies of Scripture!
- » **Pray** for the printers and that the finished product will be of the highest possible quality. **Pray** that the published books will be delivered safely, undamaged and in a timely manner.
- » *Lift up* the Wounaan of Colombia, that there will be wide acceptance of the New Testament and that the Wounaan church in Colombia and Panama will grow in numbers and in their love for God and his Word.

SIL

Guatemala

GUATEMALA CLUSTER PROJECT — Achi, Awakateko, Ixil, Jakalteko, K'iche', Mam, Pokomchi' and Tz'utujil languages; Guatemala (2,321,480)

The Guatemala Cluster Project serves eight Mayan language communities. Each community has the New Testament, but they are working toward having the full Bible! Team members travel to the capital city to work together.

- » **Pray** that God would keep the teams safe as they travel over mountainous roads. **Ask him** to fill them with energy, concentration and joy as they synchronize similar terms in the Old Testament and make final edits and revisions.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to protect the teams from disunity or other disruptions from the enemy.

- » *Lift up* the six teams (Achi, Awakateko, Ixil, K'iche', Mam, and Tz'utujil) who are beginning to revise the New Testaments that were completed years ago; they want to include the revised New Testaments in the complete Bible.
- » **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to prepare people in these communities to encounter the living God and be set free from fear and bondage to false beliefs. **Pray** for believers to be a testimony of love, peace and hope to their families and communities.

MAYAN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATION; SEED COMPANY; SIL

Mexico

GUERRERO AMUZGO; Mexico (30,000)

Most Amuzgo work in the fields. Their life isn't easy, so many seek help from magic and supernatural elements. The local church believes that the full Bible in Amuzgo will deliver people from traditional religion.

- » *Lift up* the translation team as they work through the final consultant checks of each Old Testament book and revise the existing New Testament. *Ask the Lord* to raise up more consultants so they are not delayed in the process.
- » **Pray** for good health for the team, especially for one member who has not been well. He is vital to the completion of the translation.
- » *Thank the Lord* that local churches are supporting the project, testing Scripture materials and assisting in practical ways. *Pray* for this help to continue.

SEED COMPANY; UNIÓN NACIONAL DE TRADUCTORES INDÍGENAS

SAN JUAN CHINANTEC*; Mexico (3,000)

Because the main translator in this project is diabetic, he experiences numbness in his fingertips and the light from his computer screen hurts his eyes. He and the other translator live in different locations and work together via Skype. Due to the main translator's health problems, they can only work limited hours.

- » **Pray** for improved health and spiritual encouragement for the main translator.
- » *Thank the Lord* that last year they could review the entire New Testament and make improvements on the books translated earlier.
- » **Ask the Lord** to raise up readers to record the New Testament who will read clearly and expressively, thinking of the meaning as they read.
- » **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to use the audio Scriptures to transform lives since there are many who cannot read or who learn better orally.

SIL

HUICHOL; Mexico (20,000)

The Huichol translation team is pressing on to complete the Old Testament and publish it together with a revision of the 1967 New Testament.

- » **Praise God**, the Old Testament has been uploaded to the Scripture Earth website and is available to Huichol speakers everywhere!
- » **Thank the Lord** for encouraging the typesetting team. They finished typesetting the full Bible late in 2019 and sent it for printing.
- » *Lift up* the printing firm, that the Bibles produced will be durable, clear and well-bound. *Pray* that the Bibles will arrive in Mexico for a dedication in 2020.
- » *Give thanks* that the Old Testament has been recorded. *Ask God* to provide finances and people to record the revised New Testament also.
- » Above all, **pray** for lasting spiritual fruit as God's full Word becomes available to the Huichol.

SEED COMPANY; SIL

MECHOACÁN MIXTEC; Mexico (8,500)

A dream became a reality on May 25, 2019, when the Mechoacán Mixtec churches and community received the New Testament in their language. As the emcee quoted Jesus in Matthew 4:4 saying, "People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (NLT), he pulled out a copy of the New Testament from a bag normally used to hold large quantities of food. He demonstrated that the Mixtecs now have spiritual food for the rest of their lives!

- » *Thank the Lord* for each person who faithfully worked at the translation desk or traveled to communities to check the drafts. *Praise God* for providing consultants, finances, prayer partners and equipment.
- » **Pray** that every Mixtec family in this area of the state of Oaxaca will come to know the God who created them and will grow in their faith through the Scriptures.

SEED COMPANY; UNIÓN NACIONAL DE TRADUCTORES INDÍGENAS

SANTA ROSA MIXTEC*; Mexico (26,000)

Give praise — the Santa Rosa Mixtec New Testament was presented to the community July 20, 2019, in a festive celebration! The book of Genesis is also now available, along with more literacy materials.

- » *Thank the Lord* for his faithfulness through the years to each person on the translation team.
- » **Pray** for effective distribution of the New Testament and Genesis in audio and print forms.
- » *Lift up* the Mixtec people, that they will hunger and thirst for God's Word and apply its message.
- » **Pray** that groups of believers will form in outlying villages so they can experience the joy and encouragement of community. "But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other ... " (1 John 1:7, NLT).

SIL

SOUTHWESTERN TLAXIACO MIXTEC; Mexico (7,340)

Checking the New Testament texts to prepare them for publication is a detailed, time-consuming task. Balancing that with personally ministering to the Mixtec is a constant challenge. Thank the Lord for his hand on the team each day.

- » *Lift up* the team as they prepare the New Testament for printing. They need to make sure there are no errors and that it is clear and sounds natural. *Ask the Lord* to keep them alert and fill them with wisdom.
- » **Pray** for the believers to take active roles in promoting the use of the Scriptures in Mixtec as well as actively using it themselves.
- » Ask the Holy Spirit to fill the team with creative ideas for helping people gain fluency in Scripture reading. Pray too for the Holy Spirit to supply readers for recording the New Testament. Pray that the recording process will result in a deeper awareness of the power of God's Word in their language.

SIL

EASTERN HIGHLAND OTOMÍ; Mexico (100,000)

Many Eastern Highland Otomí revere the spirit world but don't know that the one, true God of the Bible has ultimate authority in both the natural and the spirit world. The New Testament was published in 1974 and a team is working hard to provide the Old Testament too.

- » A major step in the translation process is for a trained consultant to review each book and make sure it is accurate, sounds natural and is easy to understand. There is a shortage of consultants, however. Please *pray* for God to provide consultants for this project.
- » The team is revising the New Testament so they can publish it with the Old Testament as a full Bible. *Ask God* to help them discern what parts can be improved and to ensure that key biblical terms are consistently translated.
- » **Pray** that God will "... accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20, NLT) through God's Word in Eastern Highland Otomí.

UNIÓN NACIONAL DE TRADUCTORES INDÍGENAS

NORTHERN TEPEHUAN; Mexico (6,200)

November 24, 2019, was a historic day for Northern Tepehuan speakers in the northwest states of Chihuahua and Sinoloa, Mexico — they received the New Testament in their language!

- » Give praise to God for his hand on the team through years of challenges, joys, discouragements and setbacks. God has the victory!
- » **Pray** that those who attended the dedication will enthusiastically and tirelessly promote God's Word to others. **Pray** for the Word to take root and produce much fruit in the hearts and lives of the Tepehuan.

- » **Bring** the leaders of the Tepehuan church to the Lord and **ask** for them to be established in their faith and have inner strength, courage and boldness.
- » **Pray** for Tepehuan believers to grow, as the family of God, in their love for one another.

ETHNOS360

TREE*; Mexico (10,000)

The translation team is distributing an audio edition of the Tree New Testament on MegaVoice players, handheld, solar-powered digital audio players. These allow people to listen to the Scriptures wherever they are.

- » *Thank the Lord* for these tools that give people greater access to the Scriptures. *Pray* for listening groups to be formed all over the mountains of the Tree area
- » The New Testament manuscript is ready to be published but the team lacks funding. *Pray* for God to provide creativity to the community as they look for resources and means to print the books.
- » **Pray** for a smooth and careful printing job so that copies will be durable and have clear print.

SIL; UNIÓN NACIONAL DE TRADUCTORES INDÍGENAS

ALOÁPAM ZAPOTEC; Mexico (3,400)

In Ephesians 2:10 Paul said, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (NLT). Give thanks for Pedro, a translator who is blind. God raised him up to record the New Testament for Aloápam Zapotec speakers!

- » **Pray** that God will use this recording mightily among those who learn best orally or cannot read.
- » **Ask God** to provide good female readers with strong, clear voices to record the books of Ruth and Esther and attach them to an Old Testament summary that is already recorded.
- » *Give thanks*, the New Testament was typeset last year and sent for printing. *Pray* for God to oversee the printing process and for safe shipment of the books to the language area.
- » **Ask the Holy Spirit** to guide preparations for a dedication and to draw many to attend and hear God's life-giving Word. **Pray** that they will "hunger and thirst for righteousness" so they can be filled (Matthew 5:6, NIV).

SIL

Paraguay

TOBA; Paraguay (900)

Toba people live in the semidesert of Paraguay's western Chaco region. Most Toba people claim Christianity, but animism is deeply rooted in their culture. They need Scripture to understand and know the God who loves them.

- » Praise God that all consultant checks of the New Testament were completed last year! Fifty Bible lessons were also printed and are available for people
- » Lift up the team as they typeset the New Testament from January-March. They would like to print it in April but need God's strength and help to keep this schedule.
- » Ask God to fill Marcial, one of the Toba translators, with his Spirit as Marcial teaches the 50 Bible lessons. **Pray** that God will use them to mature believers and to draw non-believers to Christ.

LATINOAMERICANOS EN TRADUCCIÓN Y ALFABETIZACIÓN; SEED **COMPANY**

Peru

QUECHUA CLUSTER PROJECT — Margos, Huamalies, Huaylas, North Conchucos, South Conchucos and Huacaybamba languages; Peru (950,000)

This project, involving six Quechua language communities, is halfway across the finish line!

- » **Thank the Lord** that three of the six Bibles Huaylas Quechua, Margos Quechua and Huamalies Quechua were joyfully dedicated in 2019.
- » Pray for the North and South Conchucos Bibles to make it safely through the publication process and for God-honoring celebrations to take place when they're presented. The Huacaybamba Bible will be available electronically.
- » Intercede for local Quechua speakers so they might creatively and diligently distribute the Bibles, reaching the furthest villages in each mountainous language
- » Ask God to work in the hearts of Quechua authorities, religious leaders, church members, teachers and students so they will use and treasure their copies of God's Word.

TICUNA; Peru/Brazil/Colombia (51,000)

The Ticuna New Testament was first published in 1986 in two versions: one for the Ticunas in the Spanishspeaking countries of Colombia and Peru and another for those in the Portuguese-speaking country of Brazil. It has been reprinted twice. A translation team is now nearing completion of the Old Testament along with a revised New Testament. This Bible will serve Ticunas in more than 160 communities.

» **Pray** for the team, who works part of the year remotely in Peru and the other part in Arizona, as they enter changes received from the read-through committee and run systematic checks on the Bible to ensure consistent spelling, punctuation and other details.

- » Praise the Lord for advanced computer software and internet connections that make this work possible!
- » Ask the Lord to give the team good health and alert minds so they can turn the Bible in for typesetting by the end of the year.

United States

CROW; United States (4,280)

The main translator on the Crow New Testament had to leave the project to care for his wife, who suffered a stroke several years ago and whose health continues to deteriorate.

- » **Pray** that this translator can complete the final editing of a few remaining New Testament books so these Scriptures will be accessible to the Crow community.
- » Ask God to raise up new people to complete the New Testament.
- » **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to move leaders in the Crow community to value the idea of a New Testament in Crow and make it happen. Pray specifically that God would raise up people to complete the translation, record books in audio formats and produce Biblebased materials for Crow immersion classes.

HAWAII PIDGIN; United States (600,000)

Joe, one of the team's translators, is 91 years old and has served on the Hawaii Pidgin translation team since the project began in 1987. While finishing translating the New Testament (which was published in 2000), the team began work on the Old Testament.

- » Praise God, the team sent the complete Bible to South Korea for printing last year! *Thank the Lord* for granting the team strength for extensive proofreading work during the typesetting stage. From Oklahoma, Joe connected with two proofreaders in Hawaii, one in Arizona and two typesetters in Texas.
- » **Pray** for an excellent print job, resulting in quality books with strong binding.
- » The team would like to produce a smartphone version of the Scriptures. **Pray** for God to arrange the logistics. This would greatly increase access to the Bible for Hawaii Pidgin speakers.
- » Above all, ask the Holy Spirit to impact and transform lives with the full Scriptures, now available in digital and print forms. There is a great hunger for God's Word; over 95,000 copies of the New Testament have sold.

SIL



