



Abakaliki Bible Cluster*

Looking Back

“Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits” (Psalm 103:2, NIV). Looking back on the year, the team praises the Lord for His many benefits to them, their families and the translation work.

The year 2011 began with robberies at two team members’ homes. John and Joseph are thankful that although the experience was traumatic for them and their families, God protected them.

The high demand for Bibles in the mother tongue is a delightful “problem” for the team, giving them even more motivation to finish the translation. All three languages — Ikwo, Ezaa and Izii — have made solid progress this year.

- Give thanks for God’s protection over the team, good project progress and high demand for Bibles in the mother tongue.
- The Ezaa team praises God for Pastor David, who joined the team recently. Please continue to pray for additional members for the Izii and Ikwo teams.

Looking Ahead

Grateful for what the Lord has enabled them to accomplish in the past year, the team looks ahead to the day when the entire Bible is in the peoples’ hands. They have energetic goals for the coming year — the completion target date is 2012.

The Izii team added revisions to the New Testament — published nearly 30 years ago — to their list of goals for this year. Pastor Samuel, main Izii translator, found several areas he wants to improve in the translation.

The “JESUS” film, literacy work and Scripture in use continue to move forward, along with Scripture translation. As 2011 ends and 2012 begins, eagerness to complete the Abakaliki Bible grows.

- Praise the Lord that soon the entire Bible in the mother tongue will be complete.
- Keep praying for the Abakaliki team as they look to God for strength, health and wisdom in the year ahead.



- Location: Nigeria
- Number of Speakers: 530,000 in 3 language groups
- Year Project Began: 2006
- Expected Completion Date: 2012



Pastor Samuel, main Izii translator

Six Steps of Translation

1. **First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
2. **Team Check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
3. **Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
4. **Back Translation:** translators translate the draft “back” into a major language for a non-native consultant.
5. **Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
6. **Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

ABAKALIKI BIBLE CLUSTER PROJECT UPDATE—1

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