



Alago New Testament

Philippians – the Epistle of Joy

“Philippians is the epistle of joy. It’s a spontaneous utterance of love called forth by a recent gift from the church in Philippi to Paul’s ministry. The epistle presents the essential substance of the gospel in such passages as 2:5-11 and 3:7-14. Joy is the distinctive mark of the believer in Christ Jesus.

“Believers are to ‘rejoice in the Lord always’ (4:4), because joy has not to do with one’s circumstances but with one’s relationship with the Lord; and they are to do so with each other (2:18). Whatever else, life in Christ is a life of joy” (Commentator Gordon Fee).

- **Pray that joy will become an integral part of the Alago believers’ lives in Jesus.**

Turbo Charged

All five Alago translators (Ayewa, Yunana, Mark, Onuku and Adi) have made good headway on a variety of New Testament books, especially in producing first drafts:¹

Ayewa drafted nine more chapters (5-13) of Luke. Mark finished drafting Acts. Project coordinator Ezekiel drafted Romans and continues drafting John. Onuku began drafting 2 Timothy. Shortly he’ll draft Jude. Adi drafted 1, 2 and 3 John, which Ayewa will back translate.⁴ Adi plans to draft Philippians. Keyboarding and testing³ of books is ongoing.

The back translation⁴ and consultant check⁵ of James are finished and the rest of the book has been community tested.³ The team has checked² all of Matthew and Luke chapters 1-5. Yunana was involved in this. The consultant also checked Matthew chapters 5-15 and Luke chapters 1-5. These were back translated beforehand. (Matthew chapters 1-4 had earlier been consultant checked and made into booklets.)

“Don’t Read That Book!”

Translators are no doubt biased, but they’re unanimous in their belief that Bible translation is one of the most important ministries in the world. One reason is because the Bible is the greatest evangelist the world has ever known — even greater than Billy Graham. It’s been said the book of Romans alone has won more souls to Christ than all Billy Graham Crusades put together.

One message Satan proclaims loud and clear is, “Don’t read that book!” Satan knows if people stay away from Scripture, he’s won a decisive victory in their hearts and lives.



- **Location: Nigeria, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 70,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2013**

- **Pray for the translators in their work. Pray for peaceful conditions in Nigeria.**

- **Pray for the Alago translators as they carry on this most urgent work.**

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.

ALAGO NT PROJECT UPDATE—1

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