



# Dela New Testament

## Freedom in Christ

As the team worked on Galatians, one member said she learned a lot about *freedom in Christ*. In the past she's had many questions about faith and the meaning of Scripture for her life. Other Christians had also been asking her questions. She said her involvement in the translation has helped her understand more deeply what it means to be saved by her faith in Jesus Christ.

- **Praise the Lord for Scripture and for this team member's deepening faith and increased understanding.**
- **Pray that she'll be able to communicate her new knowledge and understanding to others.**

## Team Achievements

**Thanks for praying.** The team traveled to Rote Island to test comprehension for the Gospel of Luke. They were pleased with the volunteers and the feedback they received to help improve the translation.

- **Pray for wisdom, insight and careful attention to detail as they make changes to the text of Luke.**

The translators worked together to read and revise their drafts of Philippians and Colossians. Now they're ready to travel to Rote to conduct the comprehension testing of these books. They also completed the back translation of Galatians and Ephesians from Dela into English. This is part of the preparation for a planned consultant check. The consultant needs to understand translation decisions in order to assess the quality and understandability of the material.

## What's Happening Next?

The team needs to complete the back translation of Luke from Dela back into English. And they plan to meet together to read and revise their drafts of Philemon, Hebrews and Jude. They hope to conduct community comprehension testing of these books in addition to Philippians and Colossians.

The translators find it challenging to schedule times together that suit both



- **Location: West Timor, Indonesia**
- **Number of Speakers: 7,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2006**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2015**

- **Praise God for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and for wisdom as the team worked together. Thank Him, too, for what they accomplished during the last few weeks.**

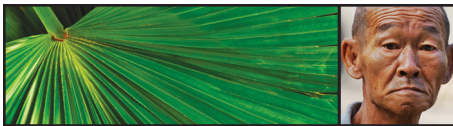
- **Pray for knowledge and diligence as translators revise Scripture and do the back translation of Luke.**

- **Pray that a consultant will be available to work with the team on the final check of the Gospel of Luke.**



*Thresia Tamelan, the primary translator, works on the back translation of Luke*





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the team coordinator who lives in Kupang and the other members who live in the Dela home area.

- **Pray that God will smooth the way for the scattered team members to meet and work together for a few days.**
- **Pray that community volunteers will give helpful and honest responses during the comprehension testing process.**

### Important Denominational Meetings

The largest Protestant denomination in Timor recently held their annual meetings over twelve days. Attendees included denominational leaders, pastors and representatives from every congregation in the region. The meetings were accompanied by booths selling various items of interest. The local translation organization hosted a booth and drew crowds by playing audio versions of local language Scripture. Many people were excited about buying Scripture publications in their own language.

- **Pray the Holy Spirit will use God's Word to bring growth in peoples' faith and understanding**



*Dela boys are excited to read books in their language at the translation booth*

### Teaching Reading

One team member recently said: *"I'm beginning to see how we need to help people learn all the special spelling characters so they can read more easily. We need to have some special sessions to teach them and then have a reading contest. It's also important that we don't just read these verses, but we need to pay attention and follow them so that we will be ready when the Lord comes. It won't be good if we continue on in sin and then end up getting thrown into hell."*

- **Thank the Lord that some church leaders use Dela Scriptures in church services. Others continue to encourage people to read the Scripture that has been published.**

#### 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.

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