



Isles of the Sea Cluster

IG-NT-OT*

NOVEMBER 2011

Chosen To Be a Pilgrim

“The Christian is called by God to leave his earthly father’s home. The call makes him a pilgrim. Henceforth he journeys by slow stages, through many dangers, towards the far-off promised rest. The pilgrim is sustained by faith in the unseen, by hope, godly fear and the love of Christ. He tastes of joy, but only as the wanderer drinks of the brook by the way. This is the conception of the Christian life in 1 Peter.” (Commentator Charles Bigg)

- Pray that the teaching of 1 Peter will resonate with many speakers of the Isles of the Sea Cluster languages.

A Lineup of the Translation Teams

The publication of the **Carolinian** New Testament is now set for 2012. The current task of this team in the Northern Mariana Islands is to prepare the text for that final stage. Lately, they’ve produced a second draft of Philemon, Hebrews and James and a third draft of Galatians and held a consultant check of 1 and 2 Corinthians and Galatians.

The **Satawal** team of Micronesia has translated Luke’s Gospel in first draft to join the previously drafted Gospels of Matthew and Mark, which are in second draft.

The **Woleai** team of Micronesia checked more of Mark to bring it closer to the finish line alongside the Gospel of John, which has been third drafted and consultant checked. Next, they’ll turn their attention to completing later steps for Matthew, Luke and Acts and translating the epistles of Romans through Ephesians in first draft.

The New Testament revision in the **Kapingamarangi** language of Micronesia is expected to be wrapped up this month. The team plans to celebrate with a big meal. Meanwhile, consultant checking of Old Testament books continues. A number of the Minor Prophets are presently in focus for that step.

The **Nukuoro** team of Micronesia reports that the first five Old Testament books have been fully checked by a consultant. They’re now getting Joshua and Judges ready for the consultant. The translation committee reviewed the rest of Romans. Some work is still needed on Acts.

A mid-2012 dedication of the **Paicî** New Testament in New Caledonia is in the planning phase. It’s expected to go to the printers next month. The typesetter’s mother is in her final illness, so he’s been working under a lot of pressure. The **Cemuhî** translators, also in New Caledonia, finished their second team check of Acts.

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- Location: Pacific Islands
- Number of Speakers: 34,150 in 12 languages
- Year Project Began: 2010
- Expected Completion Date: 2013

Note: The Isles of the Sea has a wonderful website with more details about the translation projects, the teams, and many great maps. (www.isles-of-the-sea.org) On their home page you can also sign up to be informed when the website has new news to report about the projects. Please have a look at this superb resource.

- Pray that the Lord will set snares before the enemy, who seeks to slow down or even stop the Paicî New Testament from going to the printers.





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The **Niuafo'ou** team of Tonga is polishing the four Gospels and Acts before publication. They've divided the remaining New Testament books to be translated among themselves. Then they'll work as a whole team to identify problems and make decisions.

The **Pa'umotu** team of French Polynesia is drafting the second half of the Psalms with the goal of completing the whole book. A visit by leaders to the **Rapa'iti** area, also in French Polynesia, is still planned for 2012.

Project director Nico is scheduled to pay a visit to the **Tikopia** team in the Solomon Islands next month.

- **Keep praying for the Rapa'iti and Tikopia translation teams. Pray for open lines of communication with them.**

There's a growing interest in Bible translation in the Polynesian Atolls of Papua New Guinea. The **Nukuria** team is comprised of five translators, whose work on two Gospels is ongoing. They'll attend a translation course next month to sharpen their skills along with the **Nukumanu** team, who are concentrating on the books of Luke and Acts. The **Takuu** team, who finished a New Testament, will be represented at the course as well. Eight new translators for all three Polynesian Atoll projects will be taking part in this course, mentored by experienced translators from two of the three groups.

- **Pray that there'll be enough accommodations available for all at this course.**

The new **Mwoakilloa** project in Micronesia is in the process of selecting qualified translators to be part of the team. This is a critical task, since the leaders want to discern the Lord's choice of the most suitable team members.

- **Pray for the main contact person of the Mwoakilloa group. He wrote: "I was medically referred to the Philippines with a heart condition. I've asked the doctors to defer the angioplasty operation until I find funding to cover the cost of stents."**

- **Pray for a good visit to the Solomon Islands and to Papua New Guinea by Nico and his wife Pam. Some very active projects are going on in these countries, and some are close to starting or restarting.**

- **Praise God that Nukumanu translator Edmond's eye problems seem to be on the mend.**

- **Pray for the Islanders joining this project. Pray that a sustainable support base can be worked out for these men and their families: Tevita and Luse in Tonga, David and Ribeka in the Solomon Islands and Tom and Sharon in Papua New Guinea.**

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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