

Kibaku



God's Word within Easy Reach

Imagine what it would be like not to have the stories of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark or the inspiring account of Acts in your own mother tongue. What if you had to read or hear them in a language that you had little familiarity with or one that didn't resonate in your heart as the words came into contact with your eyes or ears? For generations that's exactly what it's been like for the Kibaku people. Now that the mother-tongue Scriptures are coming, God's Word will soon be easily within reach.

- **Thank the Lord for remembering the Kibaku people and for bringing the eternal Scriptures to them in the language that speaks best to their hearts.**

Translation—A Monumental Undertaking

The team adapted the weighty book of 1 Corinthians from the related Bura language to prepare a preliminary draft in the Kibaku language. Then it was checked for accuracy and clarity to produce a second draft. So now that book, along with Galatians most recently, has joined the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke as second-drafted books in the mother tongue.

Still in different phases of the drafting and reviewing process are John's Gospel, Acts, Romans, Philippians and Philemon. The team is pleased to report that significant headway has been made on this front to ensure a worthy end product.

The books of Matthew, Mark and Luke are close to being printed in a trial edition for testing with other native speakers in the local community. All the particulars involved in finalizing the early steps on lengthy books such as these, which include harmonizing the parallel Gospel accounts, make for a time-consuming task. Matthew has yet to be approved by the consultant, who so far has reviewed a number of chapters. Up next for the consultant are Mark and Luke.

Local Support of the Work

On some holidays the team has been able to organize freewill donations to help with various aspects of the translation work.



- **Location: Nigeria, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 100,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2012**

- **Pray for special grace from God as the team labors to bring all these New Testament books through the translation steps to the finished product.**

- **Pray that the Lord will meet all the material needs of the team and their families.**



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Biblical Greek Course

Project coordinator Rev. Nuhu attended an advanced Biblical Greek grammar course at the Nigeria Bible Translation Trust.

- **Pray that the Lord will use to maximal effect the training and resources Rev. Nuhu received at this course as he coordinates the translation of God's Word in Kibaku.**

Other Prayer Matters

- **Pray that the local government will fully support Kibaku mother-tongue instruction in schools.**
- **Pray for the problem of AIDS/HIV; it's still pandemic in the area.**

"Don't Read That Book!"

Translators are no doubt biased, but they're nearly 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 that the book of Romans alone has won more souls to Christ than all Billy Graham Crusades put together. One message that Satan proclaims loud and clear is, "*Don't read that book!*" Because Satan knows that if people stay away from the Scriptures, he's already won a decisive victory in their hearts and lives.

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

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