



Kru NT Cluster*

The Cross at the Center

“Christ’s death and resurrection constituted the central part of God’s saving acts, and the New Testament writers all express it in one way or another. Paul spoke of “a new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17), which the book of Acts shows plainly had happened in Paul’s own case. Then Acts and the writings of John and Paul emphasize the importance of believing in Jesus and living in newness of life.

“The four Gospels lead up to the cross as their climax, and the other books look back to it as their basis. Christianity challenges us to embrace salvation, which means abandoning an old way of life and proceeding in a new one.” (Leon Morris)

- **Praise God that the four Kru Cluster teams are seeking to make the cross-centered message of the entire New Testament accessible to the speakers of their languages.**

A New Goal

Each of the four teams (Bete Guiberoua, Bete Gagnoa, Godie and We Southern) recently transitioned to an eight-year full-scale project from the previous initial-goal project. They’re now working toward the goal of a whole New Testament. A new language team (Neyo) has joined the work as well. They’re adapting their translation from that of the Godie team. They plan to do selected New Testament passages.

During the initial-goal phase, the four teams focused on the Gospels. They’re currently aiming to wrap up their work on those four books. John’s Gospel has the most work still needed. Afterwards, they’ll move on to Acts and then the rest of the New Testament.

Checking and testing of the book of John are presently occupying the teams. The local reviewers’ committees are involved in this process. This allows churches to participate in the translation process and promotes wider acceptability of the translation. The teams continue to work on the supplementary helps to be included in the final publication of the four Gospels, such as book introductions, footnotes and glossaries.

- **Pray for the brother of one of the translators. He’s gravely sick and hospitalized.**
- **Keep praying that mother-tongue literacy will help prepare people to read the vernacular Scriptures for themselves.**
- **Pray that the reviewers’ committees and testing assistants will offer helpful suggestions for improving the translations.**



- **Location: Côte d'Ivoire, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 608,200 in 5 language groups**
- **Year Project Began: 2010**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2018**



*The Bete Gagnoa team
(also called Gbadi)*

- **Pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen the translation teams for this work. Pray for the spiritual life of every team member.**



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Stretching their Endurance

Though the teams are continuing to translate, the political situation is very difficult and often stretches their endurance. The We Southern team has had to leave their village and move to a town for security reasons. The country has been split in a post-election crisis since the end of November.

“My Hour Has Not Yet Come”

In John’s Gospel, the humiliations, sufferings and death of the Lord Jesus are paradoxically presented as a manifestation of His Messianic glory. On a number of occasions throughout the book, Jesus said, “My hour has not yet come.” He was referring to His death—not as a failure and bitter end but rather as the sovereign means His Father would use to glorify His name (John 2:4; 7:6, 8, 30; 8:20; 12:23, 27; 13:1; 16:32; 17:1).

The translation teams are ambitious in their desire to get the Gospel of John into the hands and hearts of their people. As the book is taking shape like a precious sculpture in each language, the teams’ appreciation of the sacred treasure it contains grows.

- Please Google news on the Ivory Coast and pray for a resolution to the crisis.
- Pray that God will be with the translators each step of the way as they move John’s Gospel steadily toward the finish line.

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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