



Maya New Testament

God's Word Hitting the Streets

A great evangelistic work is happening. Maya Scriptures are hitting the streets and market squares — and people are receiving it. Understanding dawns on faces as they hear the translated Word of God in their own mother tongue. Pastor Joel exuberantly reports there's a great revival taking place right now in the Maya community.

- **Praise God that His Word in the Maya language is transforming people's lives.**

Buzzing with Activity

The Maya team finished drafting¹ Galatians and Colossians and then translated Titus, 1 and 2 John and part of 3 John. They also began drafting Romans, 1 Corinthians and 1 and 2 Timothy. A team check² of all those books has either commenced or will start soon.

The team proofread⁶ John's Gospel, making corrections for a trial publication. A CD recording of the book is still on the agenda. Two of the translators attended a two-week consultant-checking⁵ session and covered four more chapters (11–14) of Luke's Gospel.

This and That

Floods minimally affected the Maya area. The team reports that translation work stopped for a few days due to flooding in part of their town, but it wasn't much of a problem.

A new translation office site has been located and building plans are in hand. The team is grateful for your prayers.

Project coordinator Joel's wife is having kidney problems.

Straight Talk

Titus 2:7 looks like this in the Maya language:

“Ba kopere, ye ku wen biya ni ye abla pe biya ze mene. Ba abla dei, I able myal I tongne nisuwa ba abla dei. Ba wal dei, be kpi swa ni lo be singnge, da nwana lu se be ni la menbere, swa ni nya da ore pe biya ka ni ga b ba ui biya nya zengnge.”

“And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching” (NLT).

Can you imagine what it will mean for local pastors and leaders to be able to instruct new believers with this clear admonition, right from God's own Word? Maya Christians are serious about their walk with the Lord and they're mentoring each other with Scripture.



- **Location: Nigeria, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 50,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2013**

- **Pray that God will continue to give the translators the strength, concentration and understanding they need to produce a top-quality New Testament.**
- **Pray for plans to organize Christmas caroling. Pray that many people will hear the carols and understand the depth of God's personal love for them.**
- **Thank the Lord that the book of James has been printed. Pray for its distribution in the Maya community.**
- **Pray that God will give Joel's wife a quick and complete recovery.**
- **Pray that Maya believers will continue to hold tightly to God's straight talk.**

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.

MAYA NT PROJECT UPDATE—1

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