

The Vidunda People



Vidunda Vignettes

A Vidunda man with six wives was helping test the Bible translation. He was neither a Christian nor a follower of the majority religion, but now he has changed. He wasn't allowing his children to participate in any religion, but now he's letting his Christian wives take their children to church. This is apparently because of the Vidunda Scriptures.

Churches continue to read the Vidunda translation aloud in their services. Many people have obtained copies of the published Luke and John and are using them. Even children are happy to receive copies because these have been given out at some schools.

- **Praise God for giving the Vidunda translators discernment. The phrase "flowing with milk and honey" in Deuteronomy 27:3 was especially difficult to render.**
- **Thank the Lord for the team's local partners who help them in lots of ways, such as testing the translation and giving support when they're sick or computers break.**

Hard Work Pays Off

By way of summary, the entire Vidunda New Testament has been drafted and team checked. A dozen books have been village tested: the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), Acts, Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians and 1 and 2 Thessalonians. Additionally, 10 of these books (not 1 and 2 Thessalonians) have been back translated into English and consultant checked. Next up for the consultant are 1 and 2 Timothy, which have also been back translated.

An exegetical check of the book of Titus is underway by the project advisor to ensure that it's faithful to the original language. Testing of Titus along with Philemon is in process too. The challenge is to make certain this testing is done in the right season so as not to interfere with farming. The local Scripture reviewers' committee could use some additional training as well. Meanwhile, the team is getting the book of Revelation ready for an exegetical check.

The team carries on with their Old Testament work. Eight books have been drafted in rough form: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Judges, 1 Samuel and 1 Kings. A draft of Joshua is partly finished and drafts of Ruth and 1 Chronicles have just been started. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers have been team checked.



- **Location: East Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 56,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2009**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2014**

- **Please ask the Lord to empower the Vidunda translators. Pray that He'll protect their health and equipment so they can move forward and complete their goals.**

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.

VIDUNDA PROJECT UPDATE—1

3030 Matlock Road, Suite 104, Arlington, Texas 76015
Toll Free: 866-One-Verse (866-663-8377) OneVerse.org

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