

Nigerian Pidgin NT*

Jesus' Passion at the Center

The four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) can be viewed as passion (death) narratives with extended introductions. The cross of Jesus dominated the Gospel writers' purpose. Everything they wrote pointed ahead to the climax of the death and resurrection of Christ. This formed the spearhead of early Christian preaching.

The events and teaching that led up to the cross were preparatory. In all the accounts of the mission of Jesus the cross stands out as the most important feature, and its significance is carried over into the rest of the New Testament. No understanding of the work of Jesus can be reached without coming to terms with His death.

- **Pray that many Nigerian Pidgin speakers will come into intimate knowledge of the crucified and risen Christ through reading or listening to the Gospels in their mother tongue.**

Final Leg of the Journey

The translators are excited as they push towards the completion of the New Testament in Nigerian Pidgin. The team is re-reading all the New Testament books to ensure that all necessary corrections are done. Then they will have all the texts typed and properly formatted. So far they have completed the four Gospels. They anticipate more testing of the Scriptures in the community and making an audio recording later in the year.

The team continues to be plagued by computer trouble, which keeps them from working for hours at a time.

- **Pray that the computers will function properly and not delay the work.**

A Humanly Impossible Task

Translating is a painstaking task that requires not only initially drafting a New Testament book, but also constantly checking, revising, editing and re-editing it to ensure that it communicates accurately, clearly and naturally to mother-tongue speakers. That's why it takes special wisdom on the part of the translation team to convey the Scripture message to villagers correctly, uncompromisingly and yet in a culturally relevant manner.



- **Location: Nigeria, Africa**
- **Number of Speakers: 1 million**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2012**

- **Pray for the team to root out errors in the Nigerian Pidgin New Testament as they continue with the read through of all the books.**

- **Pray for the translation team as they tackle the humanly impossible task of making God's Word available to their fellow Nigerian Pidgin speakers.**

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.

NIGERIAN PIDGIN NT PROJECT UPDATE—1

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