



Nigerian Pidgin NT*

Philippians – the Epistle of Joy

Philippians is the epistle of joy. It's a spontaneous utterance of love called forth by a recent gift from the church in Philippi to the Apostle Paul's ministry. The epistle presents the essential substance of the gospel in such passages as 2:5-11 and 3:7-14. Joy is the distinctive mark of the believer in Jesus.

"Believers are to 'rejoice in the Lord always' (4:4), because joy has not to do with one's circumstances but with one's relationship with the Lord; and they are to do so both on their own and together with others (2:18). Whatever else, life in Christ is a life of joy" (Commentator Gordon Fee).

- **Pray that the message of joy in Philippians will become an integral part of the Nigerian believers' individual and corporate lives in Jesus.**

A Thrilling Time

The team's last read-through and testing of the Nigerian Pidgin New Testament are nearly done. Production of an audio version is also in process; the readers' preparation will be finished and actual recording begun in January and February 2012. It's an exciting time for the translators as most of their work is now behind them. They look forward to a thrilling New Year when the project's completion is anticipated.

- **Pray for the final review work on the New Testament and preparation for audio recording. Pray for the technical arrangements and that all will go smoothly.**
- **Pray that the right readers will be identified. Pray that they'll learn to read clearly and with expression. This recording will reach millions in southern Nigeria.**

Great Expectations

The New Testament translation is expected to be used by local pastors, evangelists, teachers and other church workers as they share the Good News of Jesus and disciple new converts. When the audio recording is done, the Scriptures will become available in the language of Nigerian men and women in their daily language.

The team has plans for the recording to be aired on radio stations and from loudspeakers located in various neighborhood churches around the country. Cross-cultural rural evangelists will also have a ready tool that will speak directly to their audiences without depending on local language interpreters.



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

- **Pray for consultant Mark and his family. Pray for their good health. Pray for the energy and wisdom Mark needs at this critical stage of the work.**

- **Pray that God will mightily use the Nigerian Pidgin New Testament in audio form.**



Nigerian Pidgin

Fighting a Formidable Foe!

Our Enemy, Satan, is a determined and devious foe. In Luke 8:12 we're told that as the seed of God's Word is sown in the hearts of people, "the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts so they may not believe and be saved." Nothing is more harmful than when this life-giving truth is prevented from taking root in people's hearts.

Or is there something even worse than that? What if the Bible isn't available in the first place and the seeds of God's Word are never sown? This would certainly hinder any hope of a relationship with God, as the truth of His plan of salvation remains hidden. It's no wonder Bible translation projects so frequently face attacks from the powers of darkness.

- **Pray that Satan's efforts will be thwarted so God's love can be communicated to Nigerian Pidgin speakers and their hearts drawn to Him in faith.**

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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