



North Malaita IG Cluster*

Not Just Bits and Pieces

Paul, a local Scripture reviewer, reported that his level of Bible understanding has increased since he started using the Baegu translation. This is also true of the people he's leading in Bible studies. For example, they'd never before realized that Jesus' statement about forgiving people seventy times seven in Matthew 18:22 leads into the parable of the unforgiving servant that starts in verse 23.

Paul says he's embarrassed by his previous lack of Bible knowledge. He preached many messages that weren't right because he used the English and trade-language Scriptures. Now he only uses the Baegu translation to preach from, since he can understand it well. He says his teaching is much better because he understands the whole text, not just bits and pieces from here and there. He's much more confident in his teaching role.

- **Pray that many Baegu people will grow in their knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ through the Scriptures in their mother tongue.**

Scriptures Flooding the Community

The two language teams have been working steadily to provide more Scriptures for Baegu and Baelelea speakers. The month-long workshop in September helped them accomplish a number of translation goals. Mother-tongue translator Erastus finished his exegetical check of the Baegu Gospel of Mark. The team then checked the book and 50 printouts were made for future community testing. The four-man committee of Baegu reviewers tested and used Matthew's Gospel in their villages, as planned.

Mother-tongue translator Aloysius completed his accuracy check of the Baelelea Gospel of John, and a consultant checked the book in September. The team printed 52 copies of a trial edition. The four-man Baelelea reviewers' committee did more testing, usage and circulation of Mark. Heavy rains slowed the work some, as there was no power from the solar panel. The gardens didn't produce well and time had to be given to food gathering.

- **Praise God that Aloysius' computer was replaced and he received a generator to supplement his solar power on cloudy days.**
- **Pray that the computer software Paratext, used for editing Scripture texts, will function properly.**



- **Location: Solomon Islands**
- **Number of Speakers: 16,700**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2010**

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Sweet Success

September 30 marked the end of the first two-year phase of the North Malaita Cluster project. The four Gospels have been the focus. The Baegu and Baelelea translation efforts have proven very successful. Both teams formed a strong committee of reviewers and have worked productively in a format of two workshops per year. And, most importantly, the translated Scriptures are being used and helpful to the Baegu and Baelelea churches.

Field Coordinator Pat met with project partners. They were pleased with the project and agreed to continue it for another three years (2011-13), enough time for the Baegu and Baelelea teams to finish the New Testament in each language and start working on some Old Testament portions. The new phase started on October 1.

Wielding the Sword

“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Ephesians 6:17).



A Saber MP3 player

Sybil of Gospel Recordings produced an audio recording of the book of Luke in Baegu and Baelelea in Honiara. The translators and several local church members did a great job of reading the Scripture text. Peter was the best reader. It took four days to record Luke in each language.

Sybil is now editing the recordings, and the finished products will be downloaded to Saber MP3 players. Gospels Recordings is sending ten more Saber MP3s to make a total of 14 Sabers for use in Baegu and Baelelea.

A New Team Joins the Work

During the September workshop George of the newly formed Fataleka team received training in translation principles in preparation to join the North Malaita Cluster project. Trainer John found him to be such a fast learner that they covered 16 units in the training manual instead of the planned ten.

- **Pray that the Fataleka team will make good progress and that the translation will be used by local churches and transform lives.**

- **Pray that God will continue to guide and empower the translators as He has in the past, giving them wisdom and insight to communicate the Scriptures accurately, clearly and naturally in the Baegu and Baelelea languages.**



Peter reads Luke for Sybil

- **Pray that the spoken Word of God will pierce the hearts of many Baegu and Baelelea people, convicting them of sin and bringing them into a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.**



George with trainer John

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