



San Pedro New Testament

Unforgettable Visit

Translator Benito and his wife Juana met a young Mexican seminary student whom folks describe as highly motivated, mature and easy to work with. She has linguistics training, is interested in Bible translation and is absolutely convinced of the Lord's calling on her life. She wanted to observe a translation program firsthand, so Benito and Juana invited her to visit them during her summer vacation. She accepted.

Benito and Juana were in Mitla meeting with the Bible society consultant, and afterwards they brought the seminary student back to the San Pedro area for a couple of weeks. She joined in translation sessions and even contributed some background information that she'd learned in seminary.

A high point in the seminary student's visit was when Juana took her around to talk to people, and they led an influential woman and her two children to the Lord.

- **Praise God for this seminary student's beneficial time in the San Pedro area. Pray that the Lord will open all doors for her to minister in His chosen place for her.**

Hard Work Pays Off

Benito met with the SIL consultant to check the translation of Ephesians and Colossians, as planned. The San Pedro New Testament is now 86 percent consultant checked. The consultant is currently checking 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus.

The team recently went over translation issues in Hebrews and James with the consultant from the Bible society. In particular, Benito is grateful to have a better understanding now of how to translate the difficult concept of *perfect* in Hebrews 5:9.

Before the Bible society consultant left, he and the team began looking at 1 Peter together. He has also met with Benito on occasion to go over passages in the four Gospels.

- **Thank the Lord for what He's been accomplishing through the team's hard work.**
- **Pray that Benito will have good understanding of all difficult concepts in Scripture so that the San Pedro New Testament will be clear, accurate and natural sounding.**



For security reasons, pseudonyms have been used for the language name and names of individuals. .

- **Location: Southern Mexico**
- **Number of Speakers: 11,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2005**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2012**

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One Step Forward, Two Steps Back

Team member Gregorio decided to step away from the translation project. He's living with a young woman in an extramarital relationship and doesn't feel worthy to work on God's Word. Benito continues to be in touch with him, encouraging him to return to following the Lord.

The Bible society consultant is concerned for the project. Now that the translation is nearing completion, the publication process must be well thought-out. Benito will need direction and help.

Trusting God To Draw People to Jesus

A number of San Pedro speakers still have never heard God's Word in their language. Many of these communities are monolingual. Benito continues to distribute Scripture materials and show the video of Luke's Gospel, trusting that God will keep using these trips to draw San Pedro people to Himself.



Benito (in white) participates in his daughter's baptism

- **Pray that God will clearly guide Benito to the help he needs at this later stage in the translation task.**
- **Praise God for using the Luke video to reach many San Pedro communities.**
- **Pray that all San Pedro speakers will see and respond to the message of salvation as given in the book of Luke.**
- **Thank the Lord that Benito had the privilege recently of participating in baptizing his daughter. Pray that she'll grow strong in her 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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3030 Matlock Road, Suite 104
Arlington, Texas 76015

Toll Free: (877) 593-7333
www.theseedcompany.org

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