



Yambetta New Testament

God's Word Ends a Feud

In the village of Begui, a feud between two families had been going on for years. No one could remember how it began or what they were angry about, but members of the two families were so hostile that they wouldn't even greet each other in passing. Sadly, Christian family members also fell prey to hatred.

But one Sunday at church, a man from one of the families heard Matthew 5:43-47 in Yambetta:

“Love those who hate you. Pray to God for those who persecute you. Thus you will really be the children of your Father who is in heaven. If you only love those who love you, what have you done that you expect a reward? If you only talk with those you get along with, don't think that you are doing something that others don't do, because even those who don't know God do the same thing.”

He understood those verses like he never had before, and they touched him deeply — it was as if he heard Jesus' words for the first time. That very day, he decided to put the message into practice. Translator Lazare remarks, “When he got home, he went to the house of some of the family members with whom he had been fighting and greeted them with a smile. These people remained silent, totally surprised by this visit from their enemy. He explained the reason for his visit and how the Word of God had touched him that day at church.”

But his own family members treated him as a traitor. He couldn't remember the exact Scripture quote he had heard in church, so he tried to explain his sudden change of heart by paraphrasing the passage to his family.

He was threatened for quite a while — some even said he'd “thrown himself into the lion's mouth.” People speculated that he'd be poisoned or killed by family members he'd reached out to. But he remained strong in his resolve.

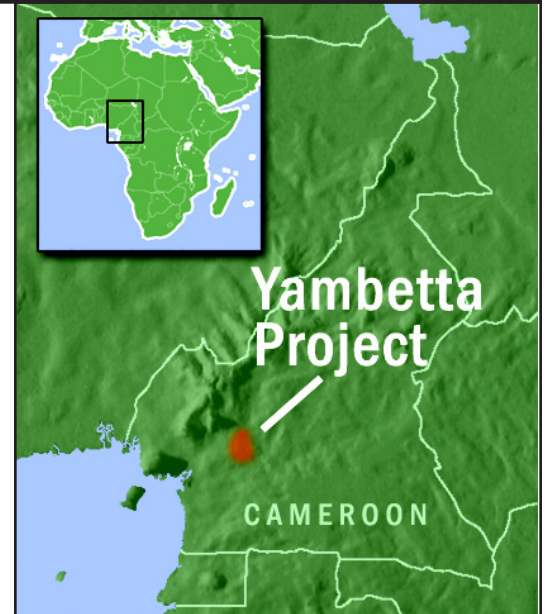
And now, because of the power of the Bible and because of this man's stand, members of both families are beginning to visit and be friendly with each other.

Youth Literacy Movement

Ever since the Passion narrative was read at Easter in the Yambetta language, stunning the audience and capturing their attention, church leader Abbot is focused on promoting mother-tongue Scripture use. He hopes every Yambetta man and woman will one day read the Bible in their own language. But most don't yet read.

At a recent church youth meeting, Abbot made an appeal to the young men and women — learn to read and write in Yambetta and then read the Scriptures. The young group collectively decided to sign

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- Location: Cameroon, Africa
- Number of Speakers: 8,000
- Year Project Began: 2009
- Expected Completion Date: 2014

- Pray that these new students will learn quickly to read their mother tongue and will spread their newfound enthusiasm.





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up for a literacy class and asked a local teacher to start a special class for their group. In spite of his other responsibilities, the teacher gladly agreed.

When he asked the young people the reason for their sudden motivation, they explained that there was more to it than just the request of their church leader. They said they understand the Word of God better when it's read in Yambetta, and they want to be able to read it for themselves.

Progress Report

Recently, work began on 1 Corinthians. The team met with consultant Patricia to study the history, theology and word meanings of the first four chapters. Now they're prepared to begin drafting¹ the book. They also reviewed Acts, revised² and community tested³ Philippians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians and four chapters of Ephesians. Now Philippians and 1 and 2 Thessalonians have been handed over for a consultant check⁵, while Luke 4-7 was just returned with the consultant's stamp of approval.

Miraculous Interventions

If any member of the team doubted God's hand on the project before, those concerns have surely melted away. In the last few months, the Lord's miraculous intervention has been clear.

A few months ago, an important team member, Pascal, became very sick. Though he couldn't even get out of bed, he still wanted work to continue. So he invited the team to work in his home. They were alarmed when they realized how sick he was, and during the morning devotional they prayed for his healing. They went on with work, unsure if their prayer had been answered. The next morning they received the good news: just after the team left Pascal's house, his strength came back, the pain disappeared and he was healed! Inspired by this miracle, team members now meet once a month for prayer and Bible study, outside of their usual morning devotionals.

Not long after, God's hand of protection became apparent once more. During a violent wind storm, a large branch ripped through the roof of the translation office, creating a gaping hole. Then the rain came, but the walls held firm and no work was destroyed.

- **Pray that the team's work will continue efficiently. Ask the Lord to guide them to the best way to produce a DVD of parables and the Passion narrative.**
- **Thank the Lord for His miraculous interventions! Pray for His continued protection over each member of the team.**

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.

YAMBETTA NT PROJECT UPDATE—2

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