



NDOP | Cameroon

SUMMER 2024 UPDATE

Graduates of a recent Oral Bible Storytelling workshop smile. Through your support, community members are equipped to share Bible stories in oral cultures. (L) Daniel, an Ndop Cluster team member, proudly holds a completed Bamunka New Testament. Praise God! (R)



STORIES OF IMPACT

An exciting update on the Bangolan New Testament

A wonderful progress point from the past six months is that the very last verse of the Bangolan New Testament was translated! Bangolan translators have been working since 2013 to see God’s Word in their language. They have persevered despite challenges, even after one of their fellow translators passed away last year. Thank you for making this progress possible.

Much work remains before the Bangolan receive their published Bibles, but we praise God for this milestone. For now, the team is focusing on reviews. Last quarter, a group of Bangolan speakers were trained as reviewers of translated Scripture. Eighteen people participated! On the second day of the course, they were given the opportunity to begin reviewing the book of John in their language. When asked about their experience, their testimonies were very encouraging.

Emmanuel, a Bangolan church elder and literacy teacher, shared: *“It has been a wonderful experience for me being involved in doing review. I have realized that there is a big need for literacy. If the Bible is translated and people are not able to read it, it won’t help them. . . I have realized that my literacy work will not only help people become literate in my mother tongue but it is a form of discipleship. It will help them read the Bible in their mother tongue and then know God better!”*

As Emmanuel shared these thoughts, the whole group made a commitment to start a literacy class in their community. A Scripture-based literacy class was launched just a couple months later. Hallelujah!

Another participant, named Philomene, shared: *“I am so excited to be involved in the review work. What excites me the most is that as the Word of God is being read; I hear it directly and clearly. I struggle to understand the Word of God in English but as it was being read in the mother tongue, I understood it better. As the book was read, I heard it in a deeper way than I have heard it before.”*

The ‘Luke’ film’s impact on a man

A key part of the Ndop Bible translation initiative is the adaptation of Scripture narratives into movies. The ‘JESUS’, Gospel of Luke and Acts movies have made translated Scriptures come alive for Ndop people. Last quarter, a Bambilang man named Abram* ran into an Ndop team member. He shared that he had wiped all content from his personal SD card to make room for the ‘Luke’ film after it was projected in his village in 2015! At the time, Abram was a practicing Muslim.

Abram shared, *“Thank you for the film about God. You gave me years back. From it, I have learned the way to life, and I am closer to God in ways you cannot understand. My children are already going to church with my wife because of the preaching from that film. My children took that film with them to school outside of the village. . . it will help them. Having seen it as a great treasure, I want to buy [more copies] for myself and my wife.”*

God is at work in Abram’s life, largely through the ‘Luke’ film. Please pray that the Gospel would continue to take root in Abram’s heart, and among his family members.



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **Made progress on New Testament drafting goals in Ndop languages:**
 - Three New Testaments have been published.
 - Two other New Testament drafts are finished.
 - Three more New Testament drafts are near completion. The Bamali translation is 89.4% drafted and the other two are over 97%.
 - Two New Testament drafts are at earlier stages: Babessi is 41% drafted and Baba is 38% drafted. These are being done by adaptation from Bamunka and Bambalang (respectively) and will be finished by the end of this year.
- **Distributed copies of the finished Bamunka New Testament.** The project coordinator shares about delivering the first copies to two translation team members: *“Taking pictures of these two men holding the New Testament was wonderful. Their smiles told of their joy.”*
- **Held showings of the Gospel of Luke film in Ndop languages and worked on Scripture films.** The team worked on visual accounts of Scripture in Bamessing, Bamali and Bamunka.
- **Trained mother-tongue translators.** A “Principles of Bible translation” course was offered to Ndop translators, as well as a training for reviewers.
- **Promoted Scripture engagement.** This included audio recordings of the Gospel of Mark in Bangolan, Oral Bible Storytelling training and Scripture engagement workshops. 10 individuals from three language groups participated in a course about using translated Scripture in their churches.
- **Celebrated an ongoing successful school year for multilingual education (MLE) schools in the Ndop Plain.** This included replacing worn-out printed copies of reading materials for children.
- **Gathered Ndop cluster personnel for a spiritual retreat.** The retreat’s theme was “Jesus’ values in parables” and team members were encouraged to reflect these values in their work.
- **Finished audio recordings of the Bambalang New Testament.** This is especially meaningful for individuals who cannot read.



UPCOMING GOALS

- Complete drafts and reviews of all remaining Ndop language New Testaments.
- Teach a Scripture Engagement training course in Bafanji, Bamunka and Bambalang villages. This will equip believers for the use and study of the translated New Testament.
- Determine next steps to improve multilingual education schools in the Ndop Plain. Challenges include very large class sizes and few trained teachers.
- Equip more believers in the Ndop Plain to do Oral Bible Storytelling.
- Continue to train literacy teachers. Political upheaval in the Northwest of Cameroon has slowed progress.
- Make progress on Scripture apps in Ndop languages. Last quarter, video links to the Gospel of Luke and Acts films were added on seven apps.



PRAY WITH US

- For an end to the conflict in Cameroon. May God protect and bring peace to Ndop team members in the crisis zone, as well as their families.
- For protection from delays and spiritual attacks as team members complete translations and reviews of the New Testament.
- For the success of literacy programs in the Ndop Plain. May God raise up more leaders to help teach literacy.
- That Scripture Engagement activities would continue to inspire people to study God’s Word and incorporate its teachings into their lives.
- That inter-church committees would grow and have a greater impact for God’s Kingdom in Ndop communities.
- For countless testimonies of transformed lives as access to God’s Word increases in the region.