The Christmas Story in Nukna

This Christmas was an extra special one for the Nukna people, as many of them heard the Christmas story from Luke chapter 2 in their own heart language for the first time! Three Nukna men - Simendi, Emson and Hesingne – spent seven days trekking through the local jungle-clad mountains, traveling from village to village. Each evening as they arrived in a different village, they would call together the people for a special church service, during which the people heard the story of the first Christmas in their own language. In Komutu village, the church was packed to capacity, and many people had to stand outside and listen through the windows. In Sunde village, the people begged the three Nukna men to stay for a few more days so they could hear more of God's word in their own language. They ended up holding a second church service that next morning before they set out again on the trail. In one village, a group of old men approached Simendi after hearing the Christmas story read in Nukna, and said to him, "When we hear God's talk in our own language, it is so clear! We hear it and it's like it's written on our stomachs, where it will stay until the day we die." Praise God with us that the people are so eager to hear God's word in their own language! Pray for us and our Nukna co-workers as we continue to work on the translation of Mark and Luke.

What Else is New?

- Christy led a group of 70 Papua New Guinean children at a Vacation Bible School held in Januarry at the translation center in Ukarumpa.
- We recently spent a week in Cairns, Australia where Matt received training in Scripture typesetting. This training will enable us to prepare the book of Mark for publication, hopefully sometime in the next year.
- In March we will attend our organization's biennial conference and take part in seeking God's will for the future of Bible translation work in PNG.
- Our family will be returning to live in Hamelengan village for seven weeks beginning in mid-April.
- Last month marked ten years since we first arrived in Papua New Guinea!







Giving

By Mail: Make a check payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators, and include a separate note indicating it's for us (account #283707). Mail to Wycliffe Bible Translators, PO Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200.

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Contact Us

Matt and Christy Taylor SIL Box 1 (288) Ukarumpa EHP 444 Papua New Guinea

m-c.taylor@sil.org.pg matt_taylor@sil.org www.taylormissions.com

