

# Taylor Tidings

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 with the Nukna people  
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## ***'God's Word has come to us!'***

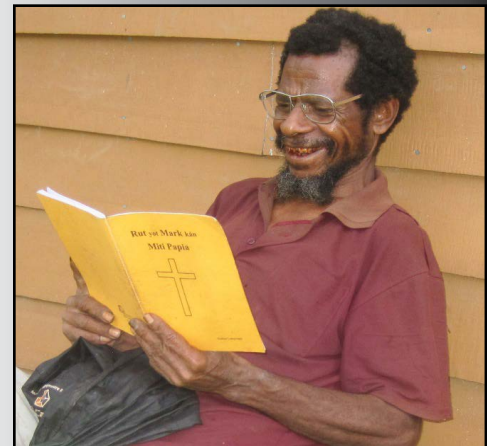
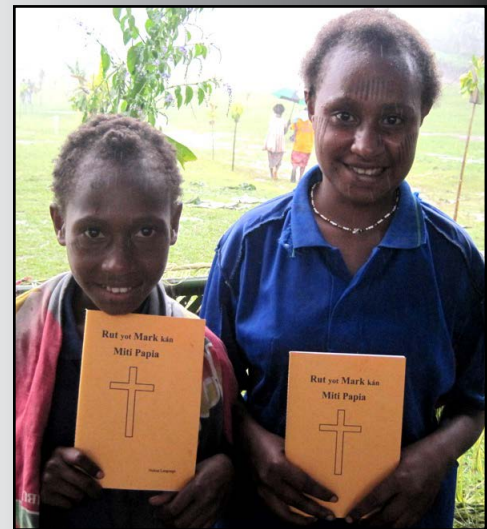
Excitement filled the air as crowds gathered from all over the Nukna language area. Palm branches and flowers decorated the grounds, and the beat of drums filled the air. Young men dressed in traditional sing-sing attire danced and sang out in the local language: 'God's Word has come to us! God's Word has come to us! Let's welcome it and find true life!'

The morning of April 7th, 2014, dawned bright and sunny for the dedication of the first published Scripture in the Nukna language. Though heavy rains would begin falling before noon - quite typical in that part of PNG - they couldn't put a damper on the excitement of the Nukna people at being able to read the printed version or listen to the audio version of the books of Ruth and Mark in their own heart language.

Along with multiple singing and dancing groups, the dedication program also included a multi-denominational worship service, speeches by local church and civic leaders (and Matt), prayers of blessing by two local pastors, an offering taken up to support the Nukna Bible translation program (the first time the local church has ever done this) and a celebratory feast.

In the village church service the following Sunday, instead of reading that morning's text in the pidgin trade language, which is difficult for people to understand, the people were excited to hear it read in their own Nukna language. In the weeks following the dedication, people were eager to give a hand to the continuing translation work, as we tested and revised the translation of the book of Luke. At times we had over forty people participating in these 'village checks'!

Join us as we praise our great God, that the Nukna people, for the first time in history, have a portion of His Word in their own language! Pray with us that through these books, the Holy Spirit would produce much fruit in the lives of the Nukna people, and that God would continue to bless the translation work as we look forward to completing the book of Luke after our upcoming furlough, as well as the ongoing work on Acts, Genesis, Jonah and Galatians.



## Revising Acts and a Stateside furlough

Three Nukna men - Emson, Simendi and Bakeri - will fly to the translation center at Ukarumpa, where we presently are, to work with us for two weeks as we begin revising the first draft of the book of Acts.

Three weeks after they return to their villages, our family will board a plane and begin our journey back to the United States. Seven flights later, we will touch down in California on July 3rd, after a four years' absence in Papua New Guinea. While we are of course grateful for each moment of these last four years, we are also eagerly anticipating returning to our other home - seeing friends and family, including finally seeing nephews, and one niece, whom we've never met; reconnecting with you, our partners in ministry; and sharing about what God's been doing here in PNG. We can't wait to touch base with you - it's been far too long!

As we undergo this major transition, we covet your prayers. In addition to the everyday busy-ness of life, we'll be packing up our house here in Ukarumpa, saying goodbye to friends (some of whom we may never see again this side of heaven), negotiating international air travel with five young children, and attempting to settle back into an American culture that we've been out of for a long time, and, for some of our children, that they've never lived in before. We plan to be in the U.S. for one year, from July 2014 to July 2015, and we'll be based on the Central Coast of California. Let's find a time to get together - we're really looking forward to it!

## Nukna Scripture on the AudiBible

In addition to the printed version of Ruth and Mark, we also recorded the texts of these two books (see our last prayer letter) and loaded the recordings onto audio players called AudiBibles. These players have been designed for a remote village setting. In addition to their ruggedness, they have a solar panel built into the back so that people can keep them powered in an area where electricity is not available. At the dedication we were blindsided by the popularity of and demand for these AudiBibles. Even though we set their selling price at five times the price of the printed books, the audio players outsold the books 7 to 1! While many Nukna people do know how to read, their culture is an oral culture, and so people prefer hearing to reading.

When the AudiBibles on hand sold out in minutes, we quickly put in an order for more, and now this second batch has also nearly sold out already! Because the average Nukna man or woman does not have the means to pay full price for an AudiBible, we have been selling them far below cost. While we are thrilled that we needed to order these extra audio players, the additional cost has been unexpected. If you'd like to help us with this need, you can give (see below) with a note saying, "for Nukna AudiBibles". We need \$1260 to cover the cost of these AudiBibles for the Nukna people.



## 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.

**Online:** Go to <http://www.wycliffe.org/Partnership.aspx?mid=F97C6E> Please note: 2.7% of gifts made by credit or debit card will be charged to our account as a transaction fee.



## Contact Us

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## top to bottom:

- 1) village checking the Nukna translation of Luke
- 2) ready to fly back to Ukarumpa
- 3) play time at the village river
- 4-5) Nukna people listening to the book of Mark on their new AudiBibles