



# Themne

## Literacy and Scripture Engagement

The Themne New Testament has been available for a number of years. Because of low literacy rates, many people showed limited interest in Scripture.

Lutheran Bible Translators' missionaries who have served as translation and Scripture engagement advisors among the Themne say, "We have seen firsthand the impact of literacy in language communities in Sierra Leone. We want to see the Bible in Themne, but it won't have a powerful effect without people reading and preaching from it."

The preliminary introduction of a literacy program in some Themne churches has made a definite impact. Seeing others successfully learn to read and write led to an increased interest in learning among the Themne community and a desire to read the Bible in their own language.

In conjunction with The Institute for Sierra Leonean Languages (TISLL), the Themne literacy committee will expand the number of classes and availability of Scripture materials. This will increase readership in the church, helping people to better interact with and understand the Bible. Lay preachers will be able to use the Themne New Testament. People will place higher value on Themne Scripture materials. People will come to faith.

## Goals

- Develop and print teaching and learning materials to expand literacy programs.
- Hold workshops for teacher training and Scripture engagement.

## Impact

- Churches are incorporating literacy programs in their church activities.
- An increasing number of Themne people are interacting with God's Word.



### COUNTRY

Sierra Leone

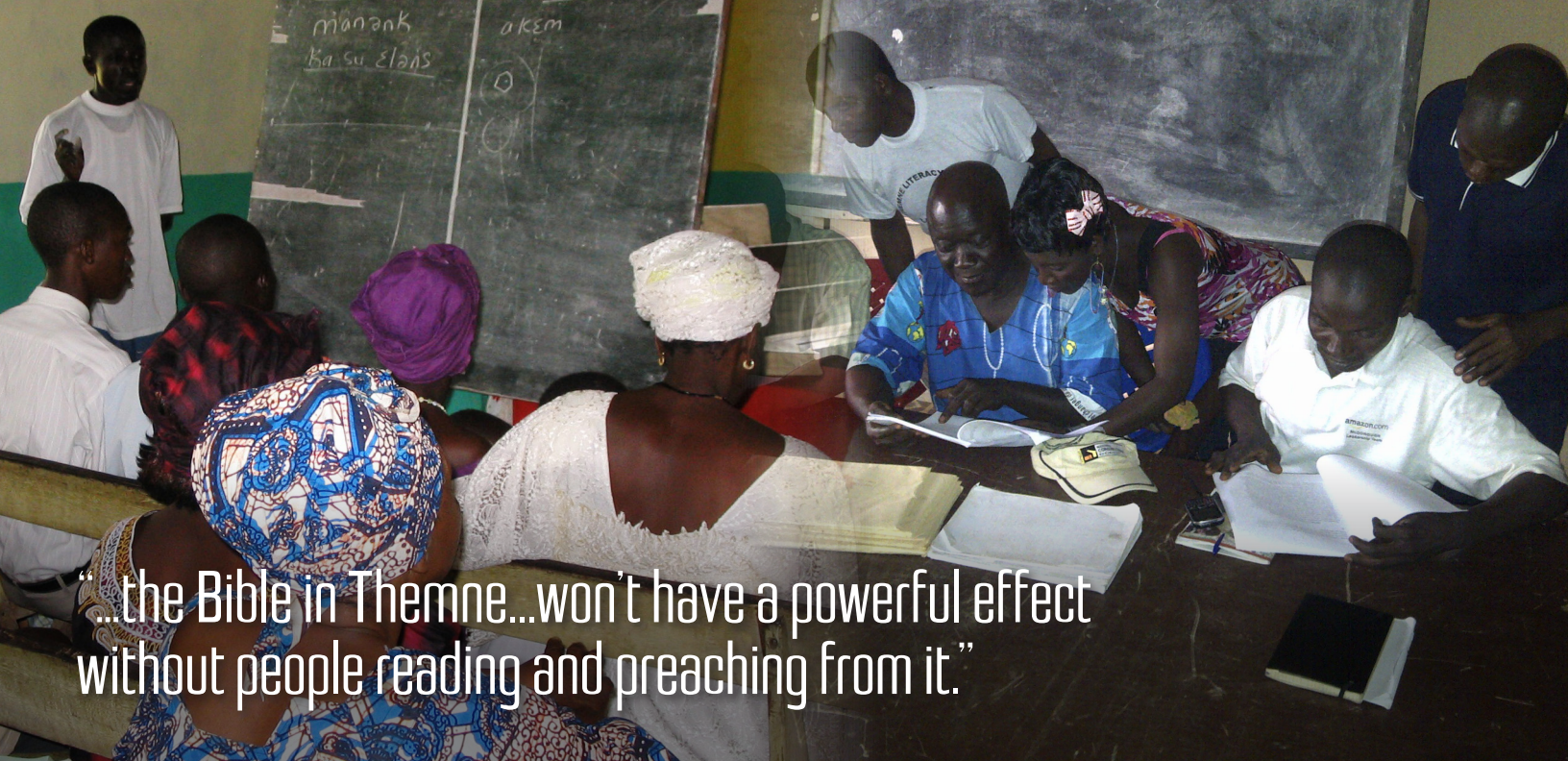
### PARTNER

The Institute for Sierra Leonean Languages

### POPULATION

1,540,000





“...the Bible in Themne...won’t have a powerful effect without people reading and preaching from it.”

## Pray

- Pray for those planning, implementing and supervising new and existing literacy classes.
- Pray that more churches will use Themne Scripture during worship.
- Pray that more Themne speakers will participate in and support the literacy program.

## Give

The Themne people are discovering the joy of having Scripture in their language. Increased literacy leads to greater understanding of God’s Word and more people coming to faith.

Kere gbo nesà nu ƆMARKI,  
ɔwa worəkà kɔ nu rə  
kəbɔthlane yi ɛmerà ɛnu be;  
tə kə yi kàlā nu ɛmerà ka  
mātáy məkabane áme ɔ po  
yɔnà nu-e.

—1 Samuel 12:24

Call Lutheran Bible Translators at **660-225-0810** or visit **[lbt.org/project/themne-literacy](http://lbt.org/project/themne-literacy)** to make your commitment to the Themne language community today.



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