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Olson Family Newsletter

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Special Edition: When John 3:16 comes to life



Sospeter answered the phone, and we exchanged greetings. I could tell there was some excitement in his voice. This was a week that we had long awaited---the week we would translate John 3:16 into the Kerewe language. I could hardly wait to ask Sospeter,

A: "Can you tell me about translating John 3:16?"



Sospeter Makene
who is translating the
book of John

Sospeter: "I was a bit nervous! So I decided to take my time. When I came to translate it, I knew how important this verse would be. So I started by calling other Kerewe speakers on the phone, and I collected their advice. Then I called my fellow translator, Samweli Mahendeka to ask for his advice also. He said 'Before you send me your draft, let me also translate it, and we can compare.'

I was again nervous to see what would happen next. But once I received his copy, I saw that we had an almost perfect match! This was a great encouragement, and it set my nerves to rest a little."

A: How did you feel when you had finished?

Sospeter: "I was truly overjoyed to see John 3:16 on paper. 'God so loved the world'. I started to pray. I prayed that the Kerewe would see how much God loves them. Truly God's love for us is so great. A humanity who didn't know Him, who didn't seek Him. He entered our darkness and sent His beloved Son.

I know when the Kerewe see this great measure of love, they will respond. It's my continual prayer for them."

Sospeter summarized well how our office is feeling during this time. We are thrilled that the Kerewe will hear in a new way how great God's love is toward them. We see the newly translated sections of the Gospels and our hearts are full of hope.

We really couldn't do this without your help. Translation is team effort. Even as Sospeter needed the help of the community and the fellow translators' to draft this important verse, we also your ongoing help and prayer to continue translating the Bible for the Kerewe.

Our four-month support average has dropped to 88%. Please consider a year-end gift to Bible Translation to help us finish the year in the black. Thank you for your ongoing prayer.

- Andrew and Alexis Olson

Tanzania, East Africa.

www.theyneedtheBible.org

