

# Green - White - Green

#104

Tessaro Newsletter

January 2023

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Thanksgiving for the opportunity to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ as we look forward to His return.
- Thanksgiving for faithful partners who help us get God's word into the hands and hearts of people around the world.
- Thanksgiving for various translation teams making progress.
- Thanksgiving for a trial edition of Esther in the Kukele language.
- Prayers for Karen and John David as they work on homeschool and making new foods from scratch.
- Prayers for peaceful elections here.

### Correspondence

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### Contributions

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*Please do not send any  
contributions to Nigeria*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings from Jos in central Nigeria. This time of year we easily remember that we have a lot to be thankful for. We are grateful for the various language teams we work with, for our LBT International Associates here, Rev. Kierien Ekpong and Rev. Linus Otronyi, and for other staff as well as students in the Linguistics and Bible Translation Department in the Theological College of Northern Nigeria. And we would like to thank you for your prayers, concern, and support to keep us here.

## 2 SAMUEL

We are spending a couple of weeks going through part of 2 Samuel with the Tarok translation team. It is a pleasure to work with this talented team from part of Plateau State here in Nigeria. When we were going through 1 Samuel, similarities between Samuel and Jesus were apparent. The same can be said about King David in 2 Samuel.

We have also enjoyed looking at the many things God's people experienced: God blessed his people, and when they fell into sin by turning to other things, He called them back to himself. The books of First and Second Samuel demonstrate that trusting in things other than God is like trying to stand on mist or fog instead of on a solid rock.



*Karen with the Tarok team*

## COLORFUL EXPRESSIONS

The Tarok language is quite colorful, with interesting idiomatic expressions. In 2 Samuel we read about "children of the wind" (irresponsible people). A woman also said, "I have two bodies" (I am pregnant). We read that "the sword does not choose people" (loosely: anyone can die in war) and "fight strongly so that you eat the city" (fight strongly so that you capture the city). Some people were "speaking under the ear" (whispering), and a particular person had "bad wisdom" (craftiness).



### A BORROWED WORD



It seems that most languages borrow words from other languages. While preparing in advance, the Tarok word “adiga” came up. We did not know the meaning of that word until it was read. The context was speaking of hard work with a variety of tools. The Tarok reader clearly said something like “digger”—which is the name given here to a tool used to work the ground.

### MWAGHAVUL GIFT OF THANKS ➡

Following our work with the Mwaghavul team on Job, Ecclesiastes, and Hosea, the books were printed and presented during the Mwaghavul Day celebration. Many Mwaghavul people are good farmers. After the celebration part of the team dropped off a big bag of potatoes to say thanks.



### KUKELE ESTHER

The Kukele translation team also prepared an Old Testament book to be printed: Esther. While we were checking the book with the team, it was striking to note how God saved his people through the courage of Queen Esther while they were living away from home. May God continue to give his people faith and courage!



*Kukele Esther with Karen,  
John David, and Flame the cat*



*Preparing treats for the  
holidays, including cream  
cheese for cheesecake!*



### THANKS!

We are grateful to be here, and grateful for your partnership. May God continue to bless you in 2023 and beyond!

God's blessings,

*Chuck + Karen Tessaro*



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