



Lutheran Bible  
Translators

# Proclaim to Every Nation

The Plugers in Ethiopia

Spring 2024

## Travel and Training

The past few months have been a whirlwind of trips, training, and visitors.

In January, Chris traveled west to the town of Asosa, home of the South Gumuz translation team. There he helped the team learn how to use a feature of the Paratext translation software that helps them produce a “back translation” — a way for a consultant, like Chris, to understand the translation well enough to make sure it is as accurate as possible to the original Hebrew source text. The South Gumuz team is working on the Old Testament and will be ready for a check on the book of Exodus soon.

We also hosted visitors from Lutheran Bible Translators. One group was our regional directors, who were able to witness firsthand how God is blessing the work in Ethiopia.

The other group was from our marketing and development office. They came with a video team and captured some amazing interviews, activities, and scenery. The most amazing event they witnessed was the dedication of the full Bible in the Konso language — a project 19 years in the making. You can watch the Konso dedication video at the [LBT YouTube channel](#).

Janine also traveled to Kenya for her own training. She, along with other area coordinators



and translation leaders, is learning about software called Rev79, which will make it easier for teams to make plans, coordinate activities, and write reports. This will help everyone to align weekly activities with long-range goals, and also help LBT to make sure that teams have what they need before they need it, so work can continue uninterrupted.

You may have already guessed that the name Rev79 comes from that great vision in Revelation 7:9 — “After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, **from every nation, tribe, people and language**, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.” Join us in praying that this awesome day will come soon!



## Key Terms

One of the many things to pay attention to in a translation of the Bible are the “key terms.” It is extremely important to be accurate and consistent with the “Big Words” in the Bible. But this is easier said than done.

One issue is that the meaning of a word in one language doesn’t always line up exactly with any one word in the other language. For example, the English word “love” is much broader than any of its Greek counterparts. This means there are at least four different Greek words that represent some aspect of what we call “love” in English. And vice-versa — ask your pastor how many ways the Greek word *sarx* can be translated in English, depending on the context!

Another challenge is that sometimes there just isn’t a single word in a language to cover an important Biblical idea. The Karama language has no word for “temptation.” So the translators are using a phrase: “What can push [a person] to do sin.” The tool pictured below helps the whole team stay accurate and consistent with key terms across the Bible.

Chris just helped the Karama team complete a key term check on Mark, the first NT book they have translated. We pray this lays a good foundation for translation of future books, so the word of God can be accurate, beautiful, and clear for the Karama people!

Checking the word for “Covenant” in Karama

Term	Category	English	Counts	Found	Renderings (KNT)
δίακονος	Beings	servant deaco...	2/2	✓	Hojjat* Tajaajil*
διάνοια	Miscellaneous	mind; understa...	1/1	✓	Qalbi*
διαθήκη	Rituals	covenant	1/1	✓	Kak*
διακονέω	Attributes	serve, care for... covenant - the verbal content of an agreement between two persons or parties specifying reciprocal benefits and responsibilities			Tajaajil* Ga...

  

KNT	ESVUS16	Amh05	HEB/GRK
<b>Kak*</b>			
<p>✓ MRK 14:24</p> <p>Inni, "Kun dhiiga kiyya, ka walii galtee namaa fi Waaqa edduu jirtu <b>kakuun</b> cimsuuf nama</p>	<p>✗ And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.</p>	<p>✗ አንዲህም አላቸው፡- “ይህ ስለ ሰዎች የሚረሰ የቃል ኪዳን ደሚ ነው።</p>	<p>✗ και εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Τοῦτό ἐστιν τὸ αἷμά μου τῆς διαθήκης τὸ ἐκχυννόμενον ὑπὲρ πολλῶν.</p>

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- For peace and security in Ethiopia
- For students graduating from the Bible Translation course in June
- For Sean’s visit at the end of the month!

## CONTACT

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Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to **proclaim** to those who live on the earth—  
**to every nation, tribe, language and people.**

—Revelation 14:6