



Software Training

This past April, 24 people from 5 different countries (Botswana, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Tanzania, and the US) came to Addis Ababa for a week-long training on a new piece of software called Rev79.

Rev79 (named after the Bible verse) is management software for Bible Translation projects. It will help teams in the field keep track of goals, activities, and schedules. It will help those who manage and coordinate those projects to stay one step ahead to make sure teams have what they need to do their work.

It will also make it much easier for us (Lutheran Bible Translators) to keep you (our supporters and prayer partners) informed and up-to-date with the many ministry efforts going on around the world.

Janine worked tirelessly to make this training a success, making sure everything — from airport taxis to whiteboard markers, from travel stipends to lunch money, and from backup internet to a trained facilitator from Cameroon — was in place to make this venture a success.



Pastor Getachew is the Bible Translation Coordinator for Southwest Synod, which supports seven projects

Consultant Checking

In Ethiopia, Chris’ main job is to serve as a translation consultant. A consultant’s role is to sit with a Bible translation team at the end of each book and conduct a thorough check of every verse in that book, carefully comparing it to the original Greek or Hebrew to make sure that the translation is accurate and faithful.

As you might imagine, this is difficult work that takes a lot of time and effort. A recent check of the book of Numbers took three weeks, as Chris and the team poured over the text verse by verse. But before work with the team even started, Chris had already spent another three weeks reviewing the translation, so that he was prepared with linguistic and exegetical questions.

And of course the team had also worked hard on drafting, team check and reviewing — all to make sure the message of Scripture comes through clearly and accurately for God’s people.



Janine demonstrates the quarterly reporting feature of Rev79 to Bible Translation field workers

“Mercy”

What do you think of when you hear the word *mercy*? Honestly, I hear my Grandma Perkins, who used it as an exclamation when she heard something outlandish (usually her grandsons’ latest shenanigans).

If grace is getting something we don’t deserve — God’s forgiving love in Christ — then you could think of mercy as *not* getting a bad thing that we *do* deserve. Our sins deserve punishment from God, and mercy is the withholding of that punishment or consequence.

The Opo language translates *mercy* as “God’s cold heart.” This sounds strange to English speakers — how can God’s loving heart be “cold” to us?

Well, in Opo, a “hot heart” is angry, full of wrath. So if God has a “cold heart” towards us, he is patient, forgiving, not succumbing to retaliation or retribution. God’s “cold heart” does not give us the punishment we deserve for our sin, because Jesus took it for us.

This is Good News in any language!



The goal of a consultant check is to make sure that meaning has not been added, subtracted, or changed from the original.



Success! The “students” and facilitators of April’s Rev79 training workshop

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Thanks for successful partnerships as Janine works with different translation teams
- For Sean and for good communication
- For future consulting work, including the Opo language books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians in July

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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