

The Big Five



Nigeria has long been a country with a significant number of languages still waiting for Bible translation to begin. These countries or regions, often referred to as the 'Big Five,' include East Asia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, and the global Deaf community.

Just two years ago, around 250 languages in Nigeria still needed Bible translation to start. However, as of July 2024, **Nigeria has officially been removed from the Big Five list!**

Traditionally, Bible translation has been spearheaded by dedicated translation agencies. However, a significant shift is occurring today as local churches worldwide are increasingly taking the lead and assuming ownership of the translation process themselves.

As Johnstone Ndunde, area director of Wycliffe's strategic partner, SIL Anglo-Lusophone Africa, put it, "Bible translation as a sacred task doesn't need to divide the Church, but to bring the Church together."

What's happening in Nigeria is a powerful example of this movement: God is calling church leaders to take up the mantle of Bible translation and work together. Discover how this translation work is fostering unity among these communities and churches.

In this short video you will see how the Nigerian church was called by God to begin a Bible translation in every Nigerian language needing one. Together with partners like Wycliffe Bible Translators, Nigeria- one of the "Big Five" has now accomplished Vision 2025!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

<https://youtu.be/VDQ7FO8kdOE>

“What’s happening is a move of God,” said Jackson Vusaka, who also serves as a Bible translation leader in Anglophone and Lusophone Africa.”

“We’re fulfilling what we’ve always desired: that Bible translation be a ministry of the church.”

“Previously we’ve known that Bible translation has been the work of Bible agencies and that they’d take the lead in terms of resourcing and in terms of getting the work done. But of late we’ve seen God even touching the hearts of churches. ... Church leaders are saying, ‘God has called us to do Bible translation. We don’t know how that’s going to look or how it’s going to be, but we know that God has called us and we want to do it!’”

Hummingbird



You might remember when Kathy encountered a hummingbird in 2019. Our family had recently returned from serving in Oaxaca, Mexico. In answer to the prayer, “If you want me to continue serving with Wycliffe, bring the bird back” a hummingbird hovered inches away from Kathy’s nose until Byron shooed it away. We had no idea that around that same time Global Partnerships, a multi organizational collaborative platform in the Bible translation movement with a desire to see organizations participate and explore new ways of cooperating with one another and working together interdependently, was developing a new tool called Hummingbird, which would eventually allow for real time prayers from the field. In Kathy’s new role as Prayer Information Facilitator, she receives a report each morning from the Hummingbird program with prayer requests from Bible Translation

partners around the world. Hummingbird is bringing daily prayer requests literally right in front of Kathy's nose each morning!!!!!!

1,890,204,079 is the total population we serve through 2,037 active language projects.



"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Rev. 7:9-10, ESV)

God bless you,
Byron and Kathy Pirolo

Byron Pirolo +1 520 609 9637

Kathy Pirolo +1 520 603 7887

Partner in prayer or finances

Online: www.wycliffe.org/partner/everytribe

By Mail:

Wycliffe Bible Translators

P.O. Box 628200

Orlando, FL 35862-8200

(Checks should be made payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators with a separate note saying "Preference for the ministry of Byron and Kathy Pirolo Account # 229198")