

HOWE THINGS ARE .

Hello! So I'm copying someone else's great idea: Quotes collected from people about reading or hearing the Bible in their own language...

"It makes me feel like I've spent my whole life seeing the Bible by moonlight, seeing the shapes and shadows of things, but not the details of what is really there. Now it's as if someone has turned a great spotlight on the scriptures, and for the first time in my life I can see clearly what is in the Bible." -- Kupang Malay speaker (Indonesia)

"This is incredible! For years I've misunderstood this text in Spanish and actually preached it wrong! As I read it now in Pokomchi, it suddenly makes so much sense!"
(Guatemala)

"When I read it in the mother tongue, it sounded like the voice of God himself."

"We didn't really understand God's talk before, but now, in our language, it goes up into our insides and speaks straight to our hearts with power."

"When I read God's Word in my own Gwahatike language, it's very nice. It's better than reading it in English or Pidgin. The Word of God in my own language is personal. It doesn't sound strange or foreign." (Papua New Guinea)

"This Amele translation speaks to my insides, not just my skin." (Papua New Guinea)

"I didn't know Jesus Christ could speak Zapotec." (Mexico)

"See. I've been telling you Jesus spoke Kom." -- Kom speaker to another Kom speaker during intermission of the Jesus film (Cameroon, West Africa)

"There are deep things here that nobody ever told me about! How glad I am to be able to read this for myself (in Yacouba)" (Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa)

"When we read the English Bible, it's like trying to eat the husk of the coconut, but you (the translator) have husked and opened the coconut. Now we can eat the actual meat." (Soloman Islands)

"Now that I can read the New Testament in my own language, I know that you foreigners didn't make it all up. This is God's Word."

"Reading the Scripture in another language is like eating a banana with the skin on. Now the scripture in my language is satisfying... like a sweet banana. I can't get enough of it." (Asia)

"I tasted and it (the Kayapo Scripture) was good. I went back for a bigger piece." (Brazil)

"Having the Scriptures in the national language was like eating soup with a fork – Having the New Testament in my own language is like eating soup with a spoon."

"I didn't know Jesus understood my language. I didn't know I could pray to Him in Kisi." (Liberia, West Africa)

Today at work I had to call one of those help desks with the "press '1' for.. press '2' for...." and I ended up needing to get them more information and so had to call back and start all over again with a new person ... and while I was being all sad about how long this was taking and I still don't know if they actually understand the problem and I may yet have to call back and start all over again *again*... I think I forgot that it's about Bible translation.

But more often than I forget, I remember that what I'm doing helps make Bible translation happen. And the Bible is something to be passionate about because it's God's message. The fact that God reveals himself plus how he reveals himself --- things to get enthused over... but the best thing: God himself.

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