



THE BAEGUU PEOPLE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

On 25 March 2018, the Baeggu New Testament was launched - more than 50 years after Erastus wondered if it would be possible to have God's Holy Word in his own language.

On March 25th, Martha had the privilege of attending the launch of the Baeggu New Testament. The Baeggu translator, Erastus and wife Lois, were among our first friends in the Solomon Islands when we arrived 20 years ago, so it was exciting to witness this event.

More than 50 years ago, when Erastus was about 10 years old, he held his first Bible - in King James English. He didn't know a word of English and he wondered if it would be possible to have God's holy Word translated into Baeggu. He dismissed that idea, thinking that perhaps Bibles were written in English because it was such a *pure* language and Baeggu wasn't good enough.

Years later, when he was a Bible school student in Papua New Guinea, Erastus heard a guest lecturer talk about the ministry of Bible

translation. Again he wondered if there could be a Bible in his own language.

When he returned to the Solomon islands, he did become involved in Bible translation as a translator working on the Pijin New Testament. Later he received more training and became the first Solomon Islander to become a Bible translation consultant.

After helping to get the Bible translated into a number of other languages, Erastus finally had the opportunity to translate the New Testament into Baeggu. He worked with a team for 7 years to finally achieve his dream of having a Bible in his own Baeggu language.

We thank God for Erastus and his hard work in giving God's word to his people. At times like this, we think we have the best job in the world!



Unexpected

On the way back from the launch, Martha fell and broke her wrist. We are thankful for the fine medical help she has received here in the country. These volunteer Australian doctors, who are a part of our fellowship group, set the arm and were a great blessing!



Praise & Prayer

- Praise for God's Word in Baegu
- We thank God for the past 5 years in the Solomon Islands
- Pray for a good transition with the interim director and God's choice for the next director of our Group in the Solomon Islands
- Pray for good renters for our house in the Solomon Islands
- Pray for a good time of settling in as we head to Dallas
- Pray for good family times as we reunite with Emily and Sarah
- Pray for complete healing of Martha's broken arm
- Times of rest, relaxation and restoration as we return to the USA for furlough

Back to the USA

We left the USA in 2013 for a 2 year field term. The 2 years have turned into 5 fulfilling years, which have included many exciting highlights.

We have seen more Solomon Islanders have access to God's Word in their own languages. Bible translation ministries have been started in languages that have been waiting to have Scripture. The Jesus Film has been translated and distributed in several languages. Audio recordings of Scripture have been produced and distributed. Phone apps have been developed to give Solomon Islanders easy access to God's word in a language they understand. New team members have been recruited to join the ministry here, which will enable work to continue for years to come.

While we haven't done all these things ourselves, our service as administrators has enabled this work to continue to grow. It's been our privilege to be involved in this ministry.

Not surprisingly after five years, we're feeling tired. It's time to go spend time with our daughters and extended families. And we want to visit our friends and supporters and share about the good things that have been happening in the Solomons.



We will be leaving the Solomon Islands on June 16 and flying to Dallas. We will move back into our house there and we plan on renting out our house here. We appreciate your prayers as we endeavor to finish well here and reconnect with families and friends in the USA.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:	FINANCES & OUR MINISTRY:	CONTACT US:
<p>Financial Gifts: Wycliffe Bible Translators PO Box 628200 Orlando, FL 32862 (mark 'with preference for the ministry of Tim & Martha Matzke')</p> <p>Online: Wycliffe</p>	<p>While we are living in the USA we will still be depending on the financial support we receive through Wycliffe. We welcome opportunities to share about our ministry. Please contact us if you are interested.</p>	<p>tim@matzkemission.com</p> <p>martha@matzkemission.com</p> <p>US Address: 514 Longworth Blvd. Duncanville, TX 75116 USA</p>