

Pioneer

Bible Translators



Praying for Papua New Guinea: Lower Ramu Project (LRP)

*May all the kings of the
earth praise you, O Lord,
when they hear the
words of your mouth.
May they sing of the
ways of the Lord, for the
glory of the Lord is
great.*

Psalms 138: 4-5

So many languages. So many people. So little time. It's overwhelming to see the need for Bible translation just in this one province (Madang) of this one country (PNG) where God has placed the PBT-PNG Branch. But in seeing the need we also get to see God provide through resources, people, and ideas.

Several years ago one of these ideas began to form and is now the Lower Ramu Project (LRP). Throughout the past few decades of Bible translation we have learned how important it is to involve the local people in the translation process. Teaching community members the principles of translation allows them to translate Scriptures into their own language quicker and more accurately than an outsider could. Training them in Biblical studies so that the translation is sound provides unique opportunities for discipleship. By involving the

community so heavily in the work along the way, the final work is more readily accepted and is therefore more likely to be used.

LRP will engage four language groups that currently do not have the Bible in their language (see map below). Each community will organize boards made up of their leaders. Those community boards will then identify individuals to participate in PBT-run courses teaching translation principles using the Gospel of Mark. At the behest of each community board, PBT will also run Scripture Use and literacy workshops in each language area for the wider community.

This is a new approach to translation for our branch. We are excited to see God move in these groups through LRP and ask that you would join us by covering it with prayer.

Where are they from???

Experienced national translators from other language development programs (like Mbore) will be working alongside PBT personnel in this project. They will be advisors to the translation students coming from the Marangis, Bosmun, Kayan, and Abu language groups.



Please be praying for:

- * the leadership of LRP as they make scheduling decisions;
- * the communities participating in LRP as they choose individuals to make up the community boards;
- * the community boards as they think about organizing Scripture Use and literacy events that will take place in their language area;
- * the community boards as they begin to identify potential candidates to learn about translating the Bible;
- * God to reveal Himself to the Lower Ramu people groups through this project.