Pastor Israeli and his fellow Gorowa translators are humbled and amazed by what God has done in just one year.

“How could it be true?” Pastor Israeli wondered. He had been involved in translation work some time ago, with a different organization, and it had taken two years to translate a single hymn. But now, through the Mobilized Assistance Supporting Translation (MAST) method, he and his team were able to translate the entire Gorowa New Testament in 12 months! Thank you, God.

“I never believed my team could do this work because we’re all ordinary Christians,” Pastor Israeli says. “This is a miracle to me.”

Indeed, God works through “ordinary” Christians on a regular basis, but His work is nothing short of extraordinary. In fact, Pastor Israeli’s team was one of two Tanzanian teams from a recent MAST event to complete their New Testament within a year. And a third team needed just a few more months to complete their text.

Thank you for allowing God to work through you, too. With your faithful prayers and support, you are partnering with Pastor Israel and other believers in Tanzania like the Sawfa (bottom photos) who completed their New Testament in 2015.

MAST: Translating Scripture With Speed and Accuracy

MAST (Mobilized Assistance Supporting Translation) is the breakthrough Bible translation strategy that equips teams of local believers to translate the Scriptures side by side. With MAST in place, God’s Word is being translated both quickly and accurately.
Unity Replaces Division to Reach Nigeria With God’s Translated Word

“I’ve never seen this many denominational leaders together at one place, at one time.”

When it comes to the body of Christ, Satan wants nothing more than to divide and conquer. In the case of Bible translation, it’s no different—and Nigeria is a prime example. Not long ago, division was at the heart of Bible translation efforts among varying groups in this country. Different denominations had different ideas about how to get the job done and, as a result, collaboration was difficult.

Working with our translation partner in Nigeria, it became clear that for Scripture to reach every language in the nation, it would have to be with the cooperation of the Nigerian church as a whole. To that end, a MAST translation training event was held with over 100 participants—church leaders from numerous denominations, all gathering to advance Bible translation. Even the state governor (bottom left), who is a follower of Christ, stated on national television that Bible translation has the possibility to promote peace in their nation. And he got involved by sending a representative to the training.

As the training event got underway, it quickly became clear that God was moving powerfully. “I’ve never seen this many denominational leaders together at one place, at one time,” said a participating pastor. The best part is that they were all working together as one to pursue a common goal of translating the Scriptures into all 230 of their country’s languages.

We praise God that already 26 New Testaments have been completed! But with hundreds of Nigerian people groups still waiting for God’s Word in their heart language, the work has only just begun. Thank you for your continued prayers and support, and for all you do to help reach the lost with God’s translated Word.

PRAYER WATCH

FEBRUARY 9–10
Pray for Bible translation in Nigeria—that all 230-plus Nigerian languages soon will have Scripture.

FEBRUARY 11–12
Please pray for continued unity among the Nigerian churches so that God’s Word will be translated in the oral language communities.

FEBRUARY 13–14
Pray for the 26 language groups that now have the New Testament. Pray they will read and study and become strong followers of Jesus.

FEBRUARY 15–16
Ask God to lead believers to witness to Boko Haram and that many will choose to follow Jesus—the only hope for peace in Nigeria.

God is raising up His people to serve in leadership positions to quicken the translation of His Holy Word.