



SEPIK REGION PRAYER CALENDAR December 2016 – January 2017

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Papua New Guinea



*A bimonthly guide to praying for Bible translation and language development
in the Sepik Region of Papua New Guinea (PNG)*

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December 2016

1-2 SPES team members have been involved in some **Oral Bible Translation** meetings this week. Pray for wisdom to know if and how this method of translation can help the language groups where the SPES team is working.

3-4 Pray for **Josech and Micah** as they finish editing Romans by skype with **Pirkko Luoma** currently in Finland. Pray for strength and good attention to detail. Pray for good participation for the **Urim** village and church checking of John's gospel as well.

5-6 Pray for the approximately 330 people who speak the **Elepi** language in the East Sepik Province. They have no Scripture in their language yet.

7-8 Praise for the completion of the audio recording of Acts, Philippians, Colossians, Titus and James in the **Kalpm** dialect of the **Urim** language. Pray that the SD cards would be well received and that this avenue would increase Scripture usage.

9-10 Praise for the **Urat** adult literacy teacher training that took place in the East Sepik led by **Mara Iyama** BTA in early November. Eleven participants graduated.

11-12 Pray for **SPES team** members as they continue visiting language communities in the **Nuku** area regarding a new **Oral Bible Storytelling (OBS)** cluster starting in 2017. Pray for safety in the challenging travels as well as productive discussions with all the appropriate people.

13-14 Pray for **Paul and Helen Simaure**, recent Bible school graduates, as they take up new work among the **Abau** people. Pray for wisdom and strength as they encourage more Bible usage and help develop additional materials for reading.

15-16 Pray for the approximately 370 people who speak the **Urapmin** language in the Sandaun Province. They have no Scripture in their language yet.

17-18 Praise for good participation at the 2017 **Kwomtari** language program planning meeting. Pray that the co-translators, **Joseph, Thomas, Raimon, and Didicus**, will be diligent to follow through with their commitments. **Murray and Carol Honsberger** are very encouraged by their testimonies of how God has been changing their lives as they work on translation.

19-20 Praise for the good skype connection for **Carl Campbell** as he worked remotely from the US with **Yade co-translator Boaz** in October and November. Praise for the good progress made on the translation work and for the extra unplanned work that was accomplished.

21-22 Pray for the approximately 430 people who speak the **Ayi** language in the Sandaun Province. They have no Scripture in their language yet.

23-24 Pray for Christmas outreaches being held in the **Malinguat** area. Pray that God's Word would come with power and that lives would be changed.

25-26 As we celebrate Christmas in PNG, give thanks with us for the language groups that will hear the Christmas story in their language for the first time this year. Pray that God's Word will make an impact wherever those seeds are sown.

27-28 Pray for rest and refreshment for the missionaries over the Christmas holidays. For many, it has been a full year with many challenges. Pray for renewed joy to begin a new year.

29-30 Pray for pastors throughout the region who are feeling stretched and discouraged. Many have little support from their congregations as well as not having much help with the work.

31 Pray for the approximately 325 speakers of the **Yis** language who live in the Sandaun Province. They have no written Scripture in their language.

January 2017

1-2 As 2017 begins, pray for more workers to help accomplish the task that is ready to be done in the Sepik. The jobs are many and varied, pray that people would listen to God's prompting in their lives.

3-4 Pray for good travels for **Arjen Lock** as he plans to visit the **Abau** people in January 2017. Pray for a productive trip as he hopes to help get some new work started and coordinate a teacher-in-service course.

5-6 Pray for **OBS trainers** as they travel to Wewak to begin preparations for the next OBS course. Pray for wisdom for **Sam Smucker** as he continues to prepare the trainers to do more of the work on their own.

7-8 Pray for the approximately 700 speakers of the **Wogamusin** language who live in the East Sepik Province. They have no Scripture in their language yet.

9-10 Pray for **OBS participants** traveling by truck, plane, and hiking to the next course in Wewak. Pray that nothing will detain them from coming and that they will be able to learn the last stories so they can be shared and taught to others as well.

11-12 Pray for many students home for school holidays. Pray that God would use these young believers to challenge others to walk closely with God.

13-14 Pray that God will bring all the necessary details together for the **Kwomtari Oral Bible Storytelling workshops** to begin in May 2017, which includes the **Yale, Nai, Kwomtari, and Baibai** languages. Baibai has had no previous translation or language work done. OBS would be a means to generate greater interest in God's Word and vernacular scripture use where there is already translation work in progress.

15-16 A new school year begins in PNG in February. Many families, Christian workers and pastors are trying to find the needed school fees so that their kids can get an education. Pray for God's provision for each of these needs.

17-18 Pray for the approximately 230 speakers of the **Walio** language who live in the East Sepik Province. They have no Scripture in their language at this time.

19-20 Pray for the **YWAM Mercy Ship** based out of Wewak and taking medical care into remote parts of the Sepik until February. Pray for wisdom to correctly diagnose and treat the medical situations they see. Pray for the teams doing outreaches in different villages as well.

21-22 Pray for protection and strength for **Malinguat** co-translators as they are bombarded with many outside struggles. Pray that they can lead their families closer to God and find balance among the things vying for their attention.

23-24 Pray for a good completion to the last **Lumi OBS course** in Wewak. Pray for good understanding regarding possible next steps of work for these groups. Pray for wisdom as some new trainers are picked to help existing trainers continue the OBS work in PNG.

25-26 Pray for **Samaritan Aviation** as they continue to meet medical needs in the remote areas of the Sepik. Pray for safety in flying and that people will come to Christ as their physical needs are being met.

27-28 Pray for the approximately 520 speakers of the **Siliput** language who live in the Sandaun Province. They have no Scripture in their language at this time.

29-30 Pray for the literacy teacher graduates as they begin fluency classes and classes for illiterates in February 2017 in five different **Urat** villages. These classes will help Urat people to read their New Testament that was dedicated in July 2016.

31 Pray for wisdom and direction for the **SPES team** as they look at long term plans for the project, understanding that each language group's needs are different. Creativity and discernment are needed.
