

The Beans'Talk: Update from Mark and Patti Bean

Translating all of God's Word for five different groups of Quechua speakers in central Peru



Waiting

This past week we met a woman who has seen a Bible in a different Quechua than what she speaks. She couldn't figure it out. She asked: *"When can I buy a whole Bible in my language?"*

Beyond the green boxes

In order to complete these five Bibles, there is more to do beyond coloring the boxes dark green on the chart. There are currently 1300+ outstanding issues to address. We've actually been working on this list, but at the same time, adding new questions. So, there hasn't been much forward progress.

- Some of these issues are fairly straightforward and their answers forthcoming.

For example, Mark sometimes notes a verse that needs to be improved. Other times, he sees that a team uses one Quechua word for something and other times another word. For consistency within books, he'll find out which one they prefer.

- Other issues are more complicated.

Examples in this category are key terms for biblical concepts. These are terms that don't exist in Quechua like *purity*, *glory*, *sacrifice*, *fellowship offering*, and *kingdom*. A paraphrase can be cumbersome. A made-up term will have no meaning until it is taught. A term borrowed from Spanish can be misunderstood, too, until people learn what it means. Now it is time to nail down our decisions, choose a final form for each key term and be sure that it is used consistently.

- Still other issues are very complicated.

An example in this category is the issue of how to spell. This is actually a tangle of issues influenced by politics, emotions, science and history. When the New Testaments were published in 2003, we chose an alphabet that closely resembles the way Spanish is used, so that what kids learn in school would apply to Quechua. Now, there are more rumblings that Quechua needs to look different. There will be critics of whatever solution we end up using.

Beyond the outstanding questions

In addition to resolving outstanding questions, we also need to prepare extra-biblical helps in Quechua like:

- An introduction to the Bible
- Book introductions
- Glossary
- Check/add more cross references
- Check /add footnotes

Plus, we have two sets of two weeks planned to meet with church leaders from the five different Quechua language areas. We have questions for them and will be reading through selected passages together.

Beyond the end of the year

Our goal is to have all this done by the end of the year. Several of you have asked, what's the plan after that? Lord willing, we will head to the U.S. the end of January to work on preparing the five Bibles for publication. Once we get everything clean and turned over to layout specialists, we will be busy checking proofs.

When the Bibles finally get printed, we look forward to some big dedication events in Peru! We also want to develop other Quechua materials and help church leaders read and teach from their new Quechua Bibles. Retirement? Not yet!

Praises and Prayer Requests

- ⇒ **Praise:** Yes, Mark (just barely) finished Isaiah and made it through Jeremiah chapter 36.
- ⇒ **Prayer:** A new translation workshop just began on Monday. It will run through June 5th. On the first morning we learned that one team member won't be coming. Another man, planning to arrive a day late, lost an extra day due to heavy snowfall on the road. Another is sick with bronchitis. **Pray** for good health and good progress.

Pressing forward, straining towards the goal,

Mark + Patti

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This chart shows OT and NT **final revision progress** for all five participating Quechua languages. **Stage One:** NT material revised and ready for a workshop. **Stage Two:** revised by the workshop. **Stage Three:** checked by Mark. **Grayed out:** OT books not revised during a workshop, but Mark still needs to check. **Stage Four:** final read-through (& recording of key OT passages.) Our goal: everything colored dark green by December 31, 2015.

GEN	EXO	LEV	NUM	DEU	JOS	JDG	RUT	1SA	2SA	1KI	2KI	1CH	2CH
EZR	NEH	EST	JOB	PSA	PRO	ECC	SNG	ISA	JER	LAM	EZK	DAN	HOS
JOL	AMO	OBA	JON	MIC	NAM	HAB	ZEP	HAG	ZEC	MAL	MAT	MRK	LUK
JHN	ACT	ROM	1CO	2CO	GAL	EPH	PHP	COL	1TH	2TH	1TI	2TI	TIT
PHM	HEB	JAS	1PE	2PE	1JN	2JN	3JN	JUD	REV	ISSUES (1,300+ issues to resolve)			