

CELEBRATE

Spring 2020 Biannual Report





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Thanks to partners like you, Jesus Film Project® embarked on Mission 865[™]—the commitment to translate *IESUS* into every language with 50,000 or more native speakers at the start of 2010. On February 2 of that year, the Jesus Film Project Master Studio completed its first Mission 865 version of the IESUS film, Basketto, for approximately 92,600 speakers in Ethiopia.

Precisely 10 years into this mission, your partnership has fostered the completion of 472 Mission 865 versions—54.6% of the 865-language goal. Those 472 languages represent at least **261,897,664** people who now have a film presenting the gospel in their heart language.

And only God knows how many millions of those people have now heard the gospel in their heart language and accepted Christ as their Savior. In addition to nearly all versions of *IESUS* being available for free viewing at jesusfilm.org/watch, copies of the film in these languages continue to circulate on DVDs, USB drives and other digital devices.

Cru[®] and its partners use many versions of JESUS in evangelistic and church-planting projects around the world. This includes material from some of the Mission 865 language versions completed in 2010. The stories in this report celebrate the continued use of those original Mission 865 versions in recent years—a reflection of the perpetual and eternal impact of your giving.

Thank you for generously supporting Jesus Film Project's development of Mission 865 versions for missionaries across the globe. Your partnership has helped accelerate production of Mission 865 versions of the JESUS film sixfold, keeping the mission on track for completion in 2025.

"And now we are here to bring you this Good News. The promise was made to our ancestors, and God has now fulfilled it for us, their descendants, by raising Jesus. ..."

ACTS 13:32-33 **New Living Translation**



STATISTICS

Reaching Goals and Milestones

2010 Languages Completed

2011 Languages Completed

2012 Languages Completed

2013 Languages Completed

2014 Languages Completed

2015 Languages Completed

2016 Languages Completed

2017 Languages Completed

2018 Languages Completed

2019 Languages Completed

2020 Languages Completed AND COUNTING!

As of February 3, 2020 Languages Remaining

Precisely 10 years into this mission, your partnership has fostered the completion of 472 language versions which is

54.6% OF MISSION 865

languages completed.

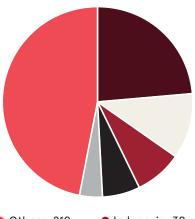
Those 472 languages represent at least

261,897,664 PEOPLE

who now have a film presenting the gospel in their heart language.

WHERE HAS **MISSION 865 GONE?**

In the first 10 years of Mission 865, Jesus Film Project and its partners completed 472 language versions of the *IESUS* film from the list of Mission 865 languages.

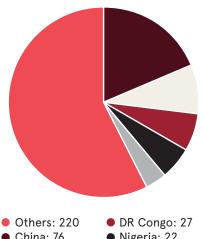


Others: 210 India: 117 Nigeria: 55

Indonesia: 39 ■ Tanzania: 31 Philippines: 20

WHERE IS **MISSION 865 GOING?**

By 2025, Jesus Film Project plans to complete JESUS versions for the remaining 393 language groups currently lacking the film in their heart language. We are on track to complete all 865 languages on the Mission 865 list by 2025, so that native speakers would have a video depiction of the gospel story in their mother tongue.



 China: 76 Indonesia: 33 Nigeria: 22 Ethiopia: 15



STORY ABOUT THE FUR LANGUAGE

"This Is the Truth!"

s she cleaned the home of her employer, Fatima's* earbuds held a precious secret. She listened intently to the audio from *JESUS* in the Fur language, the words of life feeding into her ears.

Omer, the homeowner, was curious and asked to listen.

Fatima hesitated, unsure how Omer, a follower of the majority religion, would react. But she trusted the Lord. She handed the audio to her boss so he could hear the world's greatest story.

After listening, he immediately wanted to know where to learn more about what he'd just heard.

The next day Omer went to the address Fatima gave him. He explained the situation to the ministry workers—that he'd learned the story about Jesus and now needed to know more. Omer left with two Christian books: The Case for Christ and More Than a Carpenter. A short time later he returned, having read them.

"This is the truth!" he said, admitting that his religion had missed something and asking more questions about the books.

Like many others in North Africa, if Omer publicly proclaims faith in Christ, he and his family could lose everything—even their lives.

Today Omer continues studying in secret, forever changed by the greatest story the world has ever known.

*Some identifying details may have been changed for confidentiality.

Region: North Africa Language Version: Fur

Number of Speakers: 501,800

Religion: >99% Islam, <1% Christian

Film Completion Date: April 21, 2010

"The people of one city will say to the people of another, 'Come with us to Jerusalem to ask the Lord to bless us. Let's worship the Lord of Heaven's Armies. I'm determined to go.'"

ZECHARIAH 8:21

New Living Translation

STORY ABOUT THE BALANTA-NAGA LANGUAGE

Walking by Faith, **Healed in Sight**

alima had terrible pain in her right eye. Even so, the 10-year-old joined a group headed to a local showing of JESUS translated into Balanta-Naga.

She saw scenes of Christ's compassion for the sick and suffering as He healed people who called out to Him. At the end the local church leaders showing the film asked if anyone would like to dedicate their lives to Jesus. Halima accepted Him as her Savior and asked for prayer—and her eye pain immediately disappeared!



"Then He said, 'I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven."

> **MATTHEW 18:3-4 New Living Translation**

Country: Guinea-Bissau

Language Version: Balanta-Naga

Number of Speakers: 50,000

Religion: 93% Ethnic Religions;

7% Christianity

Film Completion Date: June 24, 2010

From Movie to Movement

- As Cru staff showed this version of JESUS in Guinea-Bissau, they also trained church planters to generate spiritual movements. One trainee, a farmer named Ricardo, started Bible studies in four villages right after the training. In time these studies grew into four large churches, from which church planters then trained and planted even more churches!
- During just one project in 2015 and 2016, Cru leaders in Guinea-Bissau used Balanta-Naga and other versions of JESUS to help plant 73 churches, with the largest congregation at 98 members and counting. These churches have continued to grow, as well as prepare members to plant even more churches.



STORY ABOUT A HEART LANGUAGE OF THE HOLY LAND

Teens Learn to Share the Word

mel was teaching a small group of two Muslim-background families, including four teenagers. Amel noticed the teens would often confuse what they had heard about God and biblical stories in their school with what she was teaching them in this small group.

At the next small group meeting, the teens talked about the creation story as they had learned about it in school. Amel seized this opportunity to explain the stories biblically from Creation through the Resurrection in a manner they could understand and embrace: using the *IESUS* film as a resource.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, Amel explained the good news. The four teens grasped the entire gospel for the first time! The explanation allowed them to easily recall the information and no longer confuse biblical truth with other claims about the Bible. With this newfound understanding, the teens committed to sharing parts of the stories with their friends!

Region: Middle East

Language Version: Heart Language

of the Holy Land

Number of Speakers: 6.2 million

Religion: 95% Islam; 2% Ethnic Religions; 2% Other; 1% Christianity

Film Completion Date: May 25, 2010

"Jesus said to the people who believed in Him, You are truly My disciples if you remain faithful to My teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

> **JOHN 8:31-32** New Living Translation

How You Can Pray

- Praise God for the 472 Mission 865 versions completed in the mission's first 10 years!
 Pray for those who continue to work on the remaining 393 Mission 865 versions. Ask God for completion of all 67 Mission 865 versions planned for 2020.
- Thank God for inspiring seekers like Omer through everyday interactions with courageous believers like Fatima. Pray every Christian has abundant, safe opportunities to talk about Jesus with nonbelievers.
- Thank God for miracles like the healing of Halima's eye.

 Ask the Lord for big miracles around the world, such as all of West Africa coming to know and follow Him.
- Pray for the Holy Land teens and others learning the truth about God's Word for the first time. Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire them to share that truth with others.
- Pray for spiritual movements to evolve from all Mission 865 versions of *JESUS*—just like in Guinea-Bissau. Pray every speaker of every language gets the chance to say yes to Christ.

Thank You

From the first 11 Mission 865 versions completed in 2010 through the seven versions completed in early 2020, language groups in 68 countries gained a film depicting Christ's life, death and resurrection in their heart language. For many of them, *JESUS* remains their only recorded translation of the gospel.

Your gift fuels this mission to provide a translation of *JESUS* to every known language group of 50,000 speakers or more. Many people among these groups are unlikely to ever hear about Christ until they see His story on screen.

Whether you invested in the first 10 years of Mission 865 or recently joined in partnership with Jesus Film Project vision to complete the vision by 2025, thank you for supporting these gospel-sharing films. Because of your generosity, millions rejoice around the world as they hear the world's greatest story, walk by faith in it and learn to share it with others.



"This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace."

COLOSSIANS 1:6New Living Translation



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