



Dear friends,

After thirteen (!!) years of writing newsletters with a similar format, I have made a major change this month, going to an e-mail based letter. I have created this letter you are holding for those who need a printed copy.

Translation Progress Update

2017 was an interesting year for the Ikizu team. The good news is that they successfully drafted a pretty long book, Matthew, had consultant checks for a couple of epistles, and worked with me to improve their drafts of the Peters and Jude.

The bad news is that they had planned to do more than this. However, one of the translators, Rukia, has been experiencing some major health concerns, so she has missed quite a bit of work time. Just last week she was able to travel to a reputable hospital, and she is being treated for an infection in her leg and foot. This is a hopeful report after months of decline and no diagnosis. Please pray for healing for her.

Having at least two translators is very important, as it's not appropriate to expect one person to make final decisions without a co-worker's input. It's hard to make decisions by oneself on questions like, "What exactly is the difference between these two Ikizu words?" or "Which one of these options sounds best in Ikizu?" or "Do you think an Ikizu person who had never heard this story before would understand why they did this?" So until Rukia is able to return to work, it will be difficult to complete each stage of translation, as there are a few lingering issues at each step awaiting her input.

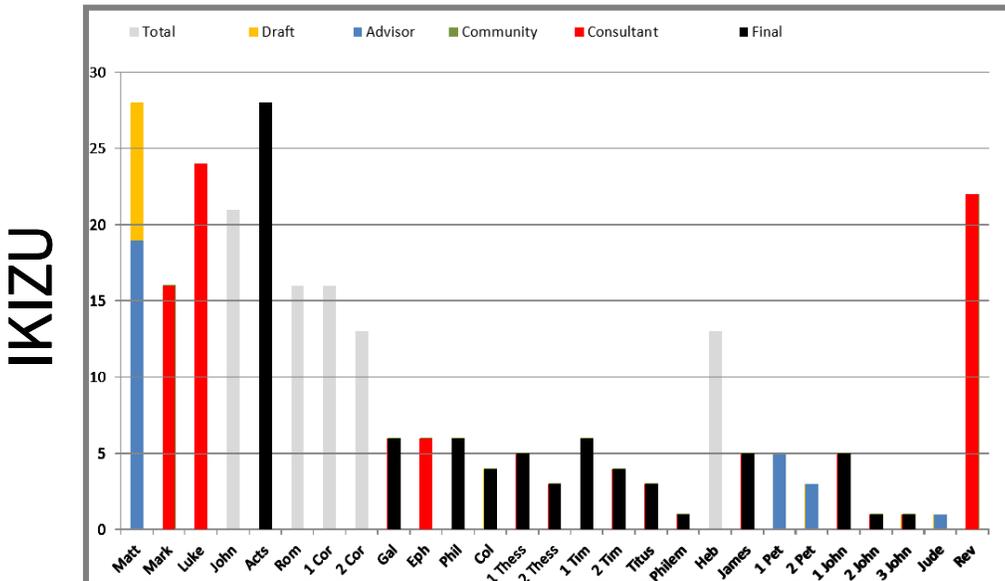
Yellow means the translators have complete their initial draft, but I haven't started my work on it yet.

Blue means I've checked the initial draft for accuracy, clarity, and naturalness and worked through revisions with the translators.

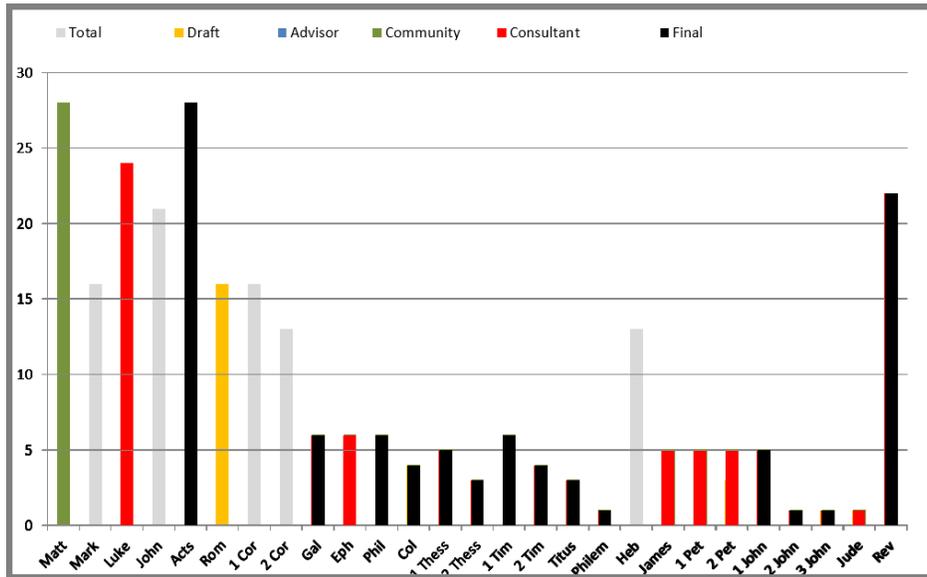
Green means the draft has been taken to the local community for their input and feedback.

Red means a highly-qualified translation consultant has done a thorough accuracy check.

Black means means I have done a "final" check for consistency, spelling, and other important details. I used quotes around "final" because we're always making small adjustments to previously translated material as we learn and grow in our craft over the years. Until it's published, it can be changed!

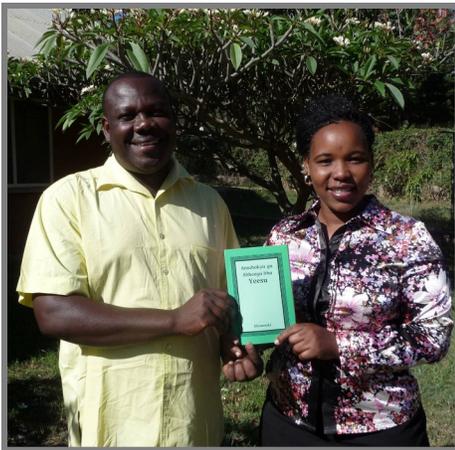


ZANAKI



The Zanaki team met their annual goals for 2017, which included working all the way through Matthew with me, having consultant checks of Galatians, Colossians, the Peters, Jude, and Revelation. Another big project was the comic-strip style book "Jesus Messiah," which is not on this chart.

As you can see by the yellow bars on the chart, the Zanaki translators have been drafting quite a bit of new material recently. My current to-do list has this item on top: "Check Zanaki Romans." Yikes! I'm not usually intimidated by my job, but Romans does make me a little nervous. Every book has its challenges, some expected and some which catch me by surprise (who knew that those lists of good and bad characteristics in Titus and 2 Timothy would be so complicated?). However, I have a feeling that the frequency of challenges might be higher in Romans than it has been in other books. Please pray for wisdom for the translators and me as we work together to make this book as clear and accurate as possible.



Shem and Hami, the Zanaki translators, are holding the book of Acts. The publication process for this book had quite a few delays and we had to change printers midway, but the books are now available to the Zanaki people. Praise the Lord!

I have recently been able to add a few more hours of work each week. Please pray that I will be diligent with my time and be able to keep up with the translators.

Please pray for me as I embark into the adventure of Romans!

In Christ's love,

Michelle Sandeen



For financial partnership:

- ◆ **In the US:** Make contributions payable to Wycliffe Associates and include a separate note saying, "Preference for the ministry of Michelle Sandeen, account M10788." Send to Wycliffe Associates, P.O. Box 620143, Orlando, FL 32862.
- ◆ To give online from the US, go to <https://give.wycliffeassociates.org/p-1345-michelle-sandeen.aspx>.
- ◆ **In Canada:** Send cheques to The Great Commission Foundation, P.O. Box 14006, Abbotsford, BC V2T 0B4. On the memo line, write Wycliffe Associates—Michelle Sandeen #565-4.
- ◆ To give online from Canada, go to <https://53997.thankyou4caring.org/wycliffe-associates-donation-page>.