

The Rutara

A Worn-Out Book

For a long time, translators George and Beera Nashar wanted to start a Sunday school program for the Rutara children in the church they regularly attend. Last year during Christmas holidays, they held a contest for the local kids. They felt encouraged by the response, so they announced they'd start Sunday school the following week.

Every week since then, they've been reading from the Rutara Gospel of Mark with the children. One Sunday as George was teaching about the feeding of the 5,000 in chapter 6, a little boy deliberately interrupted the lesson.

"*That story is in this book!*" he beamed, holding up a tattered edition of an old *New Readers Series* booklet the team had translated some time ago. Several of his companions nodded, indicating their understanding as well.

The boys loved the *New Readers Series*—booklets full of pictures containing Old Testament stories and New Testament stories about Jesus in a simplified, easy-to-read form—so the team has started using the five-part series exclusively for Sunday school in that village. Nothing encourages a translator more than a worn-out book!

- **Pray that these children will grow in faith and in their love for God's Word in their language. They're the future leaders of the Rutara church.**

Four "T Books" Nearing Publication

The translators proofread 1 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus one last time, as planned, and now they're at the printers! The team hopes they'll be ready to distribute soon. These books will be especially helpful in equipping Christian leaders in the Rutara churches.

Translation Step 6: Proofread

The translation is carefully proofread prior to publication.

- **Praise God that 1 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus are at the printing stage. Ask God to use them in significant ways among the Rutara believers.**



- **Location: Restricted access area, South Asia**
- **Number of speakers: 200,000**
- **Project Goal: New Testament with Old Testament portions**
- **Year Project began: 1995 with Seed Company sponsorship in 2005**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2016**

- **Please pray that nothing would distract George and Beera as they focus on their translation task.**
- **Pray for Beera with her ongoing arthritis issues and the associated skin disorder. This is painful and can be discouraging and distracting.**
- **Pray for the Nashars' daughter, who is away at boarding school and struggles with homesickness. This too can cause sadness for her parents, who are very concerned for her wellbeing.**



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Getting James Ready for the Consultant

As George and Beera wrap up their revision of the book of James after village testing, they're about ready to back-translate it from Rutara into English for a consultant's input.

Training Vital to the Cause of Christ

The Nashars traveled to visit the training institute of their mission to evaluate the language-learning skills of the new Christian workers they'd taught last year. Although this took time away from their translation, it's valuable to the cause of Christ to assist their mission with training new recruits. This kind of partnership on the field is vital to preparing those who will help implement the translated Scriptures.

A Good Legacy

The Apostle Paul told Timothy, *"Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have confessed so well before many witnesses. And I charge you before God, who gives life to all, and before Christ Jesus, who gave a good testimony before Pontius Pilate, that you obey this command without wavering. Then no one can find fault with you from now until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again"* (1 Timothy 6:11b-14).

This advice from Paul assured Timothy a legacy of faith. It applies to every believer in every generation and in every culture.

- **Pray that the team can concentrate on preparing James for the consultant-checking step in coming months.**
- **Praise God for those who are being trained to serve Him in South Asia. Ask the Lord to bless their language-learning efforts and to strengthen them as they prepare for their field assignments.**
- **Please pray that the Rutara literacy teachers will continually be motivated to teach and to learn.**
- **Pray that God will engrave this legacy of faith on the hearts of the Rutara people as they read the book of 1 Timothy in their language for the first time. Pray that the Lord will freshly impress it on each of our hearts as well.**

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