

Give Thanks!

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November 2005 – This is the time of year we pause to give thanks to God for the harvest He provides and all his goodness to us. We have much to be thankful for. He has given us life, and salvation, and his word, and everything we need. Isaiah 55:10-11 says, “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” (NIV)

We give thanks now especially for providing **Scriptures in the Gullah language!** The Gullah New Testament has just come off the press. This is the fulfillment of a dream of many people, for the past 26 years. It has been a privilege for us to be part of the Sea Island translation project for the past three years.

Paul Letta Ta Dem Een Colosse

Colossians

1 A, Paul, wa God pick fa be a postle ob Jedes Christ, an Timothy, we Christian broda.

2 We da write ta God people een Colosse, we bredren wa true ta God cause dey come fa be one wid Christ.

We da aks God we Fada fa bless oona an gii oona peace een oona haat.

We Tell God Tankya Wen We Pray fa Oona

3 All de time wen we pray fa oona, we tell God de Fada ob we Lawd Jedes Christ tankya. **4** We tank um cause we yeh how oona trus een Jedes Christ an how oona lob all God people. **5** Cause wen dey tell oona de true wod, de Good Nyews, oona yeh say God da keep safe een heaben wa oona da wait fa. An wen ya know fa sho dat ya gwine git wa ya da wait fa, datmek ya trus een Jedes Christ fa true an lob God people. **6** De Good Nyews da spread all oba de wol, an e da grow an git mo an mo people fa bleebe an do good, jes like a fruit tree da beh good crop. Same way so, fom de day wen dat Good Nyews reach oona, oona yeh an ondastan fa true how God show e blessin pon oona. **7** Oona laan dis fom Epaphras, wa we lob an wa da do

Chapter 1

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother,

2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ, which are at Colosse; Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for



There has been a lot of celebrating going on around here lately in connection with the completion of the Gullah New Testament. At the JAARS Center in Waxhaw, NC, we had a day of celebration where the members of the Sea Island Translation team shed tears as they were presented with copies of the printed Gullah New Testament to hold in their hands for the first time. Then a week later we released the Gullah New Testament to the public as part of the annual Heritage Days Festival at the Penn Center on St. Helena Island, SC.

It has been a blessing to work with the Sea Island Translation team and see the final form of the Gullah translation taking shape, and then see it printed by the American Bible Society, and then presented to the Gullah population, where it has gotten an enthusiastic response.



Kimberly, Michael, Lynn, David, Mark

Thank you for partnering with us in God's service.

David and Lynn Frank



Opening the shipment of Gullah New Testaments



Gullah celebration at JAARS November 5



Gullah translators presented with New Testaments



Prayer of dedication



Emory Campbell



Ardell Greene



Vernetta Canteen



De Gullah Singers



Gullah translation in the news



Give thanks!

Reports have gone out about the Gullah New Testament in local and regional newspapers, and now nationally in an Associated Press article.